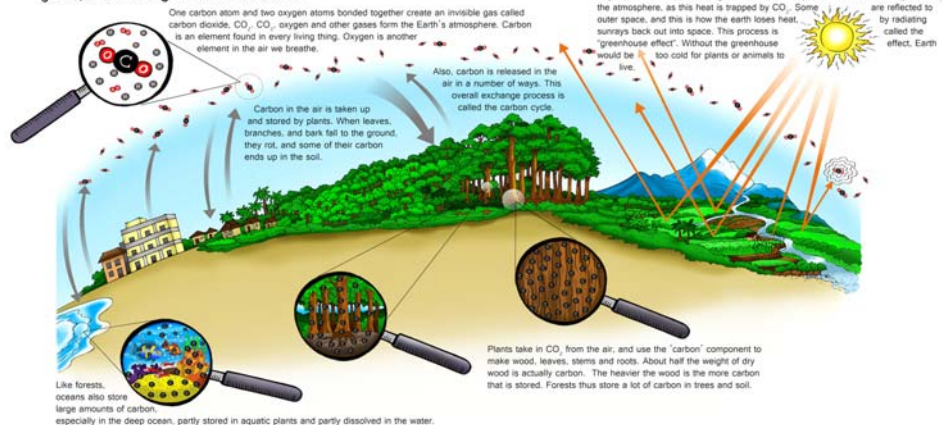
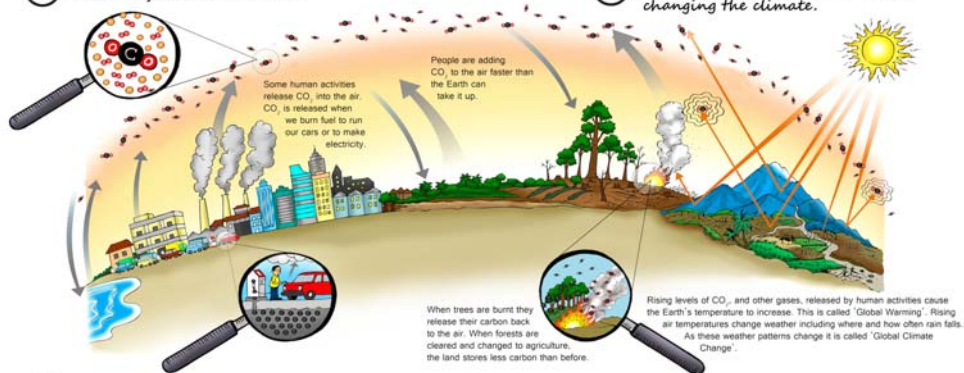


WHAT IS CARBON? WHY SHOULD WE BE WORRIED?

- ① Carbon is naturally all around us. Our air naturally contains different gases, including carbon dioxide.



- ③ Human activities increase the amount of carbon in the air.



- ⑤ What do these changes mean?



Rising temperatures

The hottest days of the year may become hotter because of rising global temperatures. Hot regions will have more extreme droughts and wildfires. Hurricanes and other tropical storms thrive over warm ocean water, so we may see more of them. As ocean temperatures increase, storms may become more violent.



Changing rainfall and seasons

We may see changes in where, when and how much rain falls, causing too much rain in some places and not enough in others. As temperatures rise, seasons may become harder to predict and floods and droughts may become more extreme.



More crop failure

The production of many agricultural crops in tropical regions may dwindle, because of lower rainfall and hotter temperatures. This will have major impacts on food availability. Diseases and crop pests may come to thrive in areas where farmers have never faced them before. Droughts, floods and storms may cause additional problems.



Rising sea levels

Rising global temperatures cause water, currently frozen in ice caps and glaciers, to melt. This water causes the ocean water level to rise. Many low-lying and coastal areas will flood, and small islands may completely disappear.

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Acknowledgement for their contribution to the project: the PMRV team, Silberman Science Alliance and Douglas Sheil
For financial support: United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)