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Submitted at 10:05

Day 24 Biodiversity

Reflection on Biodiversity

There is hope. There are so many different people trying to inform and make a difference and the best part is that it is working!! I really enjoy the idea of the doomsday seed vault and saving all those different types of plants. I do not think that I really registered how fast climate change is happening and that nature really cannot keep up. We are slowly killing off variety by only relying on the most demanded crops that people or other countries want. There is so much variety in different plants and we are not using that information to our advantage and instead of putting different plants at risk of going extinct.

Biodiversity does not only pertain to different plant types but also to the same plant type only different alterations of it. There are 200,000 different varieties of rice, each different variety is prepared for different disasters and climate types. By using these different variations we can actually help prevent nutrients from leaving the soil as quickly as it does when the same crop is planted over and over again in the same field. This can also help by keeping the ground covered longer which helps prevent the soil from losing carbon dioxide and is proven to be an answer to stopping climate change.

There is also the perspective of animal biodiversity. Africa is the last continent on Earth where most of the animals live freely. This means that it has a large variety of animals that directly impact the environment. Sadly those numbers are dwindling due to poaching, climate change, and agriculture. Animals can help so much with the climate and having a diverse population of different animals creates a balance, predator, and prey. To much prey and the plant population goes down rapidly.

Finally, biodiversity does not just affect plants on land but also under water. Since seafood is such a huge part of so many peoples diets worldwide keeping the water a healthy green means that they can continue to eat. Coral reefs are being destroyed and the beauty of the ocean disappearing. Fish rely on the seaweed and reefs for places to live and find food.

All in all supporting projects like saving coral reefs and preventing poaching can help save the planet. We should focus on animals but we cannot forget about the plants and what a huge part they play. Plants also help the soil which can help stop climate change which is a goal for saving nature.

<https://www.yellowstone.org/what-we-do/wolf-project/> - My favorite park is Yellowstone. I have only gone there once but it is an experience I will never forget. I really enjoy this article and that it shows how adding one variable can change a whole eco-system.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tgNamjTRkk> - This is a great shorter video on what exactly biodiversity is, why we need it and what it affects. I really think this video covers all the details well and in a short amount of time.