

Globalisation and the Environment

<u>China – Environmental problems due to globalisation</u>

Pollution and health problems

- Beijing has frequent pollution alerts.
- 70% of lakes are polluted, exaggerating water shortages.
- Industrial towns where rates of cancer are so high are becoming known as 'cancer villages'.
- ¼ of water is so dangerously polluted it cannot even be used for industrial purposes.

Land degradation

• 40% of land is degraded.

Over-exploitation of resources

- China is abundant in oil and coal but cannot keep up with demand.
- China seeks additional resources worldwide.

Loss of biodiversity

Terrestrial vertebrates have declined by 50%

<u>Leicester – Impacts of deindustrialisation</u>

- In the 1920's, 30,000 were employed in textile mills.
 - o These mills attracted Indian and Pakistani families for extra workers.
- In the 1970's, the UK saw massive deindustrialisation due to overseas competition.

Dereliction

- Most of the land is contaminated from dyes, gas or coal.
- A lot of pre-industrial land has been abandoned.

Deprivation

- Areas of deprivation often coincide with previous industrial areas, containing large ethnic populations.
- These areas have a reputation for crime and are hard to turn around.

<u>Is Fairtrade always good? – Starbucks</u>

- 2009 Introduced Fairtrade coffee. Fairtrade helps farmers to have a better quality of life by giving them a fair price for the beans.
- 2014 Only 8.5% of the coffee beans were Fairtrade certified.
- 2015 Starbucks scored low by a review company called 'ethical consumer'





Where recycling helps the environment – Sweden

- Sweden recycles 99% of its waste and burns it.
 - o 32 power plants produce heat for 810,000 homes.
 - o However, burning rubbish does produce harmful gases.
- Citizens are encouraged to sort their waste at home.
- Recycling stations are no longer than 300 metres from any residential area.
- Pharmacists accept left-over medicine.

Where recycling hurts the environment

- Sometimes there is contamination in recycling.
 - o In Taiwan, recycled steel buildings sometimes give off gamma radiation due to contamination from another metal. This causes serious health issues.
- Pollution of the air
 - o Associated with burning rubbish and the trucks (Petrol/Diesel) that come to collect it.
- Chemicals used in paper recycling sometimes get into drinking water, causing health problems and damaging ecology.