



# BRAZIL'S BATTLE WITH CLIMATE DISASTERS: A GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION

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Brazil, a country known for its rich biodiversity and vast natural landscapes, is increasingly grappling with the devastating effects of climate disasters. Over the years, the nation has witnessed a significant rise in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, driven largely by climate change and environmental degradation. From severe droughts to catastrophic floods, these disasters are taking a heavy toll on Brazil's ecosystems, economy, and its people.

One of the most pressing concerns is the alarming rate of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth." The loss of forest cover has disrupted regional rainfall patterns, contributing to prolonged droughts that threaten water supplies, agriculture, and hydroelectric power generation. These droughts have far-reaching implications, not only for the livelihoods of local communities but also for Brazil's broader economic stability, as agriculture forms a cornerstone of its economy.

Flooding, another major climate disaster, has become increasingly common in Brazil, particularly in densely populated urban areas

like São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Intense and unpredictable rainfall, exacerbated by poor urban planning and inadequate drainage systems, leads to deadly floods and landslides. These events result in loss of life, displacement of families, and extensive damage to infrastructure. Vulnerable communities, often residing in informal settlements on steep hillsides, bear the brunt of these disasters, highlighting the stark social inequalities in the country.

Coastal regions in Brazil are also facing significant threats due to rising sea levels and stronger storms. Coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion are jeopardizing ecosystems, fisheries, and the livelihoods of millions who depend on marine resources. Small island communities and traditional fishing villages are particularly at risk, underscoring the urgent need for adaptive strategies and community resilience-building.

The impact of these climate disasters is not limited to the immediate aftermath; they have cascading effects on public health, food security, and economic development. Outbreaks of waterborne diseases, disruptions to food production, and the economic burden of

recovery efforts are challenges that Brazil must confront alongside the increasing frequency of these disasters.

Despite these challenges, Brazil has opportunities to mitigate the effects of climate disasters through targeted policies and sustainable practices. Strengthening environmental protections, promoting reforestation, and transitioning to renewable energy sources are essential steps toward building resilience. International cooperation and funding for climate adaptation projects can also play a crucial role in supporting Brazil's efforts to safeguard its environment and communities.

As Brazil navigates the complexities of climate change, the stakes are high not just for the nation but for the planet as a whole. The Amazon rainforest, coastal ecosystems, and rich biodiversity that Brazil hosts are vital components of the global environment. The need for decisive action to address climate disasters in Brazil is not just a national imperative but a global responsibility.

## BRAZIL



CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2021

### Per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below G20 average

GHG emissions (incl. land use) per capita (tCO<sub>2</sub>e/capita)<sup>2</sup> in 2018



*Climate Action Tracker, 2021; Gütschow, et al., 2021; United Nations, 2019*