

GLOBE PROGRAM
Globe Virtual Conference

WATER MAKE PEOPLE DIE

Colegio French – Banfield – Argentina

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ABSTRACT

This research is about the causes of the floods in the Argentinean city of La Plata during 2nd April, and if those causes are related to climate change. I could not find enough evidence to prove that relation. On the contrary, most of the evidence pointed the lack of actions of the government as the main cause of the floods.

I am interested in investigating the floods caused by rains, and if the rains that cause those floods have to do with climate change. Rain occurs when water droplets formed within the clouds gain too much weight to float in the air. The droplet size depends not only on temperature but also on humidity and convection currents. On 2nd April the Argentinean cities of La Plata and Buenos Aires were affected by rains. The consequence of this was flooding in some areas of the city such as Saavedra, Belgrano, Santa Rita, Villa Devoto and Villa Pueyrredón.

In La Plata, the most affected neighborhoods were Tolosa, Villa Elvira, La Roma, Ringuet and El Carmen.

My hypothesis is that this rains might have been caused by climate change. Climate Change, and not Global Warming. If the way of dealing with the environment doesn't change, we can expect increases in temperature of between 0.2 and 0.6 °C in ten years and increase in rainfall of between 3 to 10% by 2050, decrease in daytime temperatures and rising sea levels.

My research question is: What were the causes of flooding in La Plata?

The climate catastrophe that befell the city of Buenos Aires, greater Buenos Aires, the city of La Plata and other locations inside the country had tragic consequences because of the lack of infrastructure and works to help to prevent or mitigate the heavy rains. Official figures and budget analyzes are lapidary. During 2012 capital expenditures, included those intended for road works and infrastructure were one of the adjustment variables of public budgets. In the last ten years, there were at least four major floods in La Plata due to heavy rains. There were also studies and work plans that were not completed.

As regards population, the city of La Plata passed through a building fever in the last ten years increasing its population considerably.

Conclusion

After doing my research, I conclude that the causes of floods in La Plata have to do more with the action of men than to climate change. I did not find enough evidence to contrast my hypothesis.

Bibliography

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