Current trends and concerns in environmental science

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Introduction. Environmental science is a dynamic one. Scientists' concerns are constantly changing, which depends on the evolution of the health of the planet's ecosystems. There are some priorities. Based on the observation of the dynamics of environmental science, we want to summarize these concerns of scientists and volunteers in this very short article.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation. Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change continue to be a major focus (Zhang et al 2021). This includes policies, technologies, and strategies to transition towards renewable energy sources, increase energy efficiency, and implement sustainable transportation solutions.

Biodiversity conservation and restoration. Conservation of biodiversity and restoration of ecosystems have gained prominence (Kemppinen et al 2020). This includes efforts to protect endangered species, establish protected areas, and restore degraded habitats.

Circular economy and sustainable resource management. The concept of a circular economy, which aims to minimize waste and make the most of resources, is gaining traction. This involves recycling, reusing, and reducing waste in various industries (Van Fan et al 2019).

Plastic pollution and waste management. Addressing plastic pollution has become a global concern. There's an emphasis on reducing single-use plastics, improving recycling infrastructure, and promoting sustainable packaging alternatives (Rajmohan et al 2019).

Water resource management. Sustainable management of water resources is crucial, particularly in regions facing water scarcity (Abd Ellah 2020). This involves strategies for efficient use of water, conservation, and pollution control.

Environmental justice and equity. The environmental justice movement is gaining momentum, advocating for fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to environmental laws, regulations, and policies (Polk & Diver 2020; Rastegari et al 2023).

Green technologies and innovation. There is a focus on developing and implementing innovative technologies to address environmental challenges (Liu et al 2020). This includes advances in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and clean transportation.

Urban sustainability and resilience. With increasing urbanization, there is a growing emphasis on creating sustainable, resilient cities (Davidson et al 2019). This involves urban planning, green infrastructure, and strategies to mitigate urban heat islands.

Policy and governance. International agreements and policies continue to play a crucial role in addressing global environmental issues (Petrescu et al 2020). For instance, agreements like the Paris Agreement on climate change set targets for nations to work towards.

One Health approach. This approach recognizes the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health (Mackenzie & Jeggo 2019). It emphasizes the need for interdisciplinary collaboration to address complex global health challenges.

Conflict of interest. The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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