

Shah Fahad · Mirza Hasanuzzaman
Mukhtar Alam · Hidayat Ullah
Muhammad Saeed · Imtiaz Ali Khan
Muhammad Adnan *Editors*

Environment, Climate, Plant and Vegetation Growth



Springer

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ISBN 978-3-030-49731-6

ISBN 978-3-030-49732-3 (eBook)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-49732-3>

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This Springer imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Switzerland AG
The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

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Abbreviations

Cd	Cadmium
EGTA	Ethylene glycol tetraacetic acid
CDTA	Cyclohexanediaminetetraacetic acid
OC	Organic carbon
ABA	Abscisic acid
AQPs	Aquaporins
SAR	Systemic acquired resistance
ISR	Induced systemic resistance
P	Phosphorus
Pi	Inorganic phosphate
AR5	Assessment Report
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
IPPC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
GHG	Greenhouse gases
N	Nitrogen
CEC	Cation-exchange capacity
SOM	Soil organic matter
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
USSL	United States Salinity Laboratory
FC	Field capacity
Ca	Calcium
Mg	Magnesium
PO ₄ ³⁻	Phosphate ions
Al	Aluminum
Fe	Iron
Mo	Molybdenum
K	Potassium
S	Sulphur
PGPR	Plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria
ACC	Aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid
ECe	Electrical conductivity of the saturated soil extracts

ST	Salt tolerance
APX	Ascorbate peroxidase
DHAR	Dehydroascorbate reductase
MDHAR	Monodehydroascorbate reductase
AsA	Ascorbate
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
MAS	Marker assisted selection
N ₂ O	Nitrous oxide
CH ₄	Methane
PFCs	Perflorocarbons
HFCs	Hydrofluorocarbons
SF ₆	Sulfur hexafluoride
SOC	Soil organic carbon
N ₂ O	Nitrous oxide
DCFC	Direct carbon fuel cells
MFC	Microbial fuel cell
Cu	Copper
US-EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
UNNC	United News Centre report
UNISDR AF	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction – Regional Office for Africa
UNEP	United Nation Environmental Programme
UN	United Nations
SOD	Superoxide dismutase
POX	Peroxidase
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
Pb	Lead
IBSRAM	International Board for Soil Research and Management;
GR	Glutathione reductase
GSH	Glutathione
GLASOD	The Global Assessment of Soil Degradation;
VLP	Virus-like particles
NSIDC	National Snow and Ice Data Centre
GCC	Global climate change
ITS	Internal Transcribed Spacer
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
NCBI	National Center for Biotechnology Information
BGI	Beijing Genomics Institute
MEGA	Molecular evolutionary genetic analysis
BNF	Biological nitrogen fixation
PGPR	Common plant growth promoting rhizobacteria
NSF	National Science Foundation
ENSA	Engineering Nitrogen Symbiosis for Africa
BBSRC	Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

NUE	Nitrogen use efficiency
ICAR	Indian Council of Agriculture Research
FACE	Free Air Carbon dioxide Enrichment
AM	Arbuscular mycorrhizas
KSA	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
ECiw	Electrical conductivity
SAR	Sodium Adsorption Ratio
SARadj.	Adj. Sodium Adsorption Ratio
SSP	Exchangeable Sodium Percentage
RSC	Residual Sodium Carbonate
CSLF	Carbon Sequestration and Leadership Forum
CCS	C capture and storage
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
GIS	Geographic information system
PS	Salinity Potential
TMA	Tripartite moving average
IHRA	Identical halves rainfall average
TDI	Total dissolved ions
NDVI	Normalized difference vegetation index
SSP	Soluble Sodium Percentage
VG	Vector generation
CSLF	Carbon Sequestration and Leadership Forum

Chapter 1

Carbon Cycle in Response to Global Warming



Iqra Mehmood, Amna Bari, Shakeel Irshad, Fatima Khalid, Sehrish Liaqat, Hamza Anjum, and Shah Fahad 

Abstract Global warming is a crucial problem in the whole world since the nineteenth century. There are several reasons responsible for global warming. Most considerable from them are anthropogenic activities. Through a variety of human activities, greenhouse gases are continuously released into the atmosphere which resulted in raised Earth temperature. Various greenhouse gases are emitted into the atmosphere. Most common of them are CO₂, methane, nitrous oxide, SO₂, and ozone. CO₂ emission usually occurred naturally by plants in dark, through human respiration and the natural carbon cycle. But, due to anthropogenic activities, the significant amounts of CO₂ are released into the atmosphere which is above the normal threshold limit. High concentrations of CO₂ caused Global Warming. Global warming, in turn, disrupts natural carbon cycle which releases more CO₂ into the environment. Thus, this cycle is continuously running with disastrous effect on the natural earth's environment. Natural carbon cycle normally occurred by the degradation of SOC (soil organic carbon) by a variety of microbes and other chemical reactions which then released CO₂ in the atmosphere. But, due to the decline of organic carbon in the soil, a huge amount of CO₂ is being released into the environment. This process has disastrous effects on not only humans but also on plants and

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S. Fahad et al. (eds.), *Environment, Climate, Plant and Vegetation Growth*,
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-49732-3_1

other wildlife. This chapter reveals the effects of global warming on the natural carbon cycle which is the prime concern of today's studies.

Keywords Climate change · Greenhouse emission gases · Methane, nitrous oxide · Temperature

1.1 Introduction

Carbon is one of the most important elements of the periodic table. In nature, the major Carbon reservoirs are atmosphere, ocean, plant, soil and fossil fuels. Carbon keeps flowing among these reservoirs. If Carbon concentration is disturbed in one reservoir it automatically affects the carbon concentration of other reservoirs. Higher carbon concentration in the atmosphere results in an increase in the global temperature. However, Carbon is not the enemy as it is very essential for life on earth. It is necessary for soil health. Photosynthesis is driven by CO₂. The micro-organisms play an important part in converting the carbon compounds into stable, life-giving organic compounds (McDonough 2016). The processes of decomposition and fossil fuel combustion releases the CO₂ into the atmosphere again. The increased CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere has increased as a result of deforestation, industrialization, transportation and current human lifestyle which resulted in a global climate shift (Adnan et al. 2018; Akram et al. 2018a, b; Aziz et al. 2017; Habib ur et al. 2017; Hafiz et al. 2016, 2019; Kamran et al. 2017; Muhammad et al. 2019; Sajjad et al. 2019; Saud et al. 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017; Shah et al. 2013; Qamar-ur et al. 2017; Wajid et al. 2017; Yang et al. 2017; Zahida et al. 2017; Fahad and Bano 2012; Fahad et al. 2013, 2014a, b, 2015a, b, 2016a, b, c, d, 2017, 2018, 2019a, b).

In 2013, IPPC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) reported an increase in the global mean surface temperature of 0.8 °C from 1880 to 2012 with an increase of about 0.72 °C from 1951 to 2012. Global warming is a major problem which is leading to climate change in most of the countries throughout the world. The crucial factors responsible for global warming include disastrous human activities. Changes in the environment now exceeded the limits of natural divergence. Human activities lead to the release of greenhouse gases in the environment through a variety of sources which ultimately increase the environment's temperature, commonly known as global warming (Wheeler and Watts 2018). Species are now forced to pass through more rigorous selection pressures and will require more adaptation to persist in the environment which will ultimately affect the evolution of the organisms (Monroe et al. 2018a). It has been estimated that at the end of the current century there will an increase of 3 °C in temperature if the current trends continue. Efforts are now being made to somehow limit the global warming around 1.5 °C above pre-industrialization but serious efforts are required to do so (Monroe 2018b). Scientists have now accumulated experimental evidence to prove human involvement in global climate change like ozone depletion, pollution, etc. (Santer et al. 2018). The

ozone layer has an important role in maintaining the normal temperature of the ecosystem. The continuous release of greenhouse gases above certain limits depleted the ozone layer which ultimately leads to the global warming (Santer et al. 2018). This chapter aims to provide insights about natural Carbon cycle and its response to global warming.

1.2 The Carbon Cycle

The biogeochemical cycle through which carbon is exchanged among carbon reservoirs like biosphere, pedosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere of the Earth is called the Carbon Cycle (Fig. 1.1). In nature, carbon is the main component of the biological compounds as well as the minerals e.g. limestone. The carbon is among the important cycles on the earth which make it sustainable for life. It provides a description of the carbon recycling, re-usage, sequestration and release from the sinks.

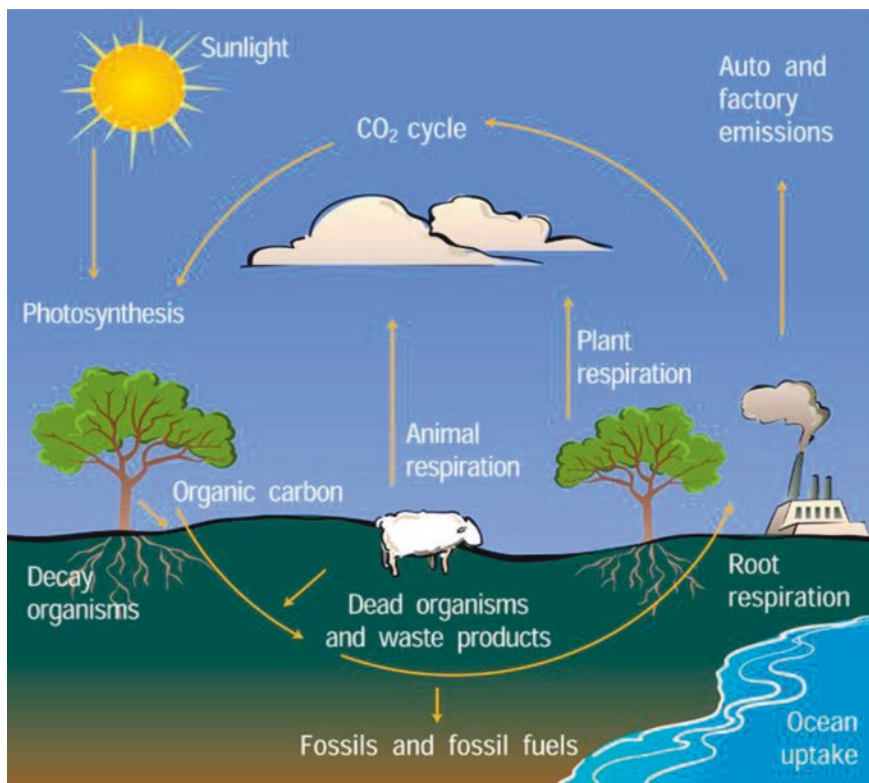


Fig. 1.1 Global Carbon Cycle

Overall, there are five carbon pools: the aquatic pool is the huge one among pedologic, geologic, atmospheric and biotic pools (Fig. 1.2). All these pools are connected with each other and carbon flow between them.

Carbon dioxide concentration was low in atmosphere before industrial development. One study revealed that CO₂ concentration was approximately 280 ppm before industrial development. After industrial development, in 2008 concentration raised up to 384 ppm (Tans et al. 1990). Human activities and isolation of CO₂ from sea water and land have 50% contribution in increased level of CO₂ (Menon et al. 2007; Raupach et al. 2007). Inland waters have major role in CO₂ emissions. Inland water includes natural ponds, rivers, streams, wetlands and reservoirs. No doubt they cover only 1% of earth but they have significant contribution in CO₂ emissions as compared to terrestrial and marine ecosystem (Richey et al. 2002; Cole et al. 2007; Tranvik et al. 2009; Battin et al. 2008; Harris et al. 2012). 0.6 pg carbon buried inside water inland per year (Richey et al. 2002). It is equal to 20% of carbon which is thought to be buried inside soil and terrestrial ecosystem. Carbon buried inside sediments over thousands of years (Richey et al. 2002; Einsele et al. 2001). Some stable carbon buried inside sediments may reach lithosphere. Due to deficiency of oxygen in inland water as compared to oceans inhibits decomposition of sedimentary carbon and further its emission into atmosphere. This whole process is well presented in (Fig. 1.3). Organic carbon mobility from terrestrial ecosystems to inland water resources is an attention grabbing situation which is responsible for climate change (Battin et al. 2009). To understand carbon seclusion primary step is to find out where this process occurs. After this it is necessary to understand processes that maintain and enhance it. For instance, when soil erosion occur it create a path by which carbon move from land to inland water resources. However, reservoirs, sea water maintain their sediments and bounded carbon (Richey et al. 2002; Battin et al. 2008). They also block carbon movement from water to other inland

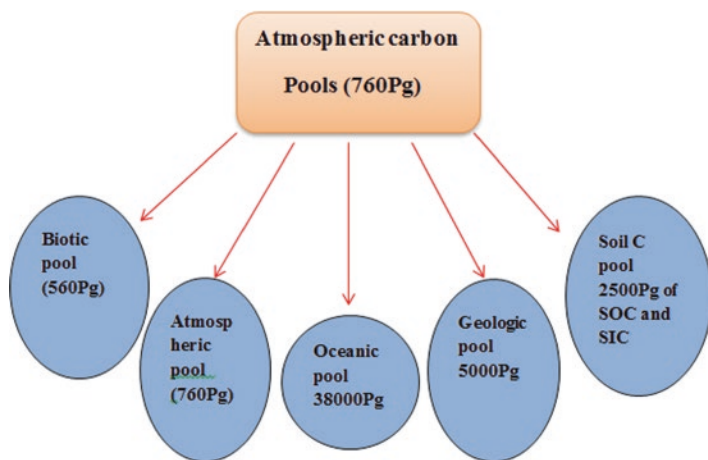


Fig. 1.2 Five worldwide carbon pools. Biotic, Atmospheric, Aquatic, Geologic and Pedologic