

## DEVASTATING FIRE IN ZAMORA

On 24 June 2022, one of the largest fires ever seen in Spain broke out in Zamora, Castilla y León. This led to the burning of 50,000 hectares and the death of a great deal of flora and fauna.

In the summer of 2022, the situation changed dramatically for the citizens of Zamora when one of the largest fires in Spanish history broke out. Many surrounding villages were affected and at least 1,000 families were left homeless. Houses, streets, buildings... were reduced to ashes. Fortunately, there were no human casualties, but the consequences of this fire will affect people in the future, as the atmosphere was polluted and many fields were burned, resulting in reduced harvests and economic problems, as the government will have to pay a generous sum of money to rebuild the affected areas. In addition, many animals have died in the fires, while others have lost their habitat and food.

Experts say there is no doubt that this fire was one of the consequences of climate change. It causes an increase in temperature, which leads to water stress, that is, an enormous lack of rainfall, resulting in very dry and flammable climates. The flora in these areas burns easily, causing huge fires, such as the one in Zamora last summer.

It's true that the climate in inland Spain has always been extreme, with very hot summers and very cold winters. In recent years, however, these extreme temperatures have increased considerably. Last summer we had up to 45 degrees in the summer and -10 degrees in the winter! We have to stop climate change!

"Climate change is a fact that is happening today, and if we do not find solutions now, we will suffer the consequences in the future," claim some biologists.

For this reason, some experts are trying to control the climate change, reducing the production of factories, promoting public transport to reduce the gas emissions, replacing non-renewable energy resources with renewable ones... However, one of the best measures to stop climate change is social awareness of this factor and its current and future consequences.



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