

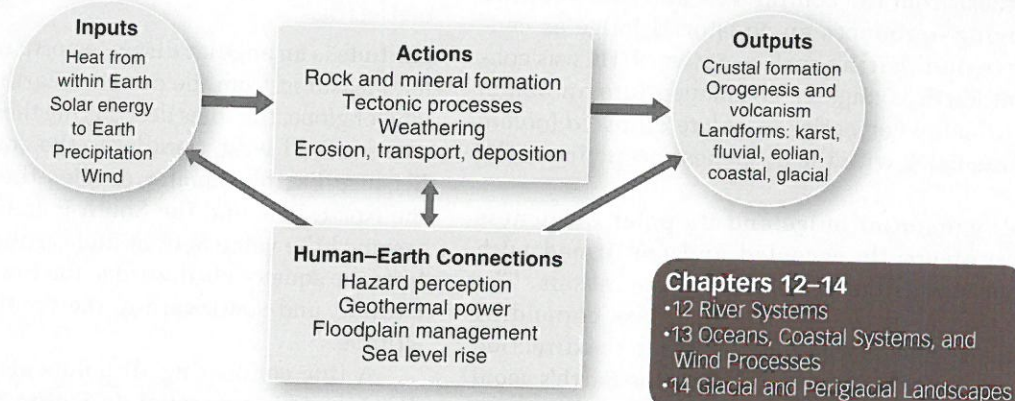


Part III The Earth-Atmosphere Interface

Earth's surface is shaped by internal processes that build, warp, and break Earth's crust and by external processes that carve, shape, and wear down the landscape.

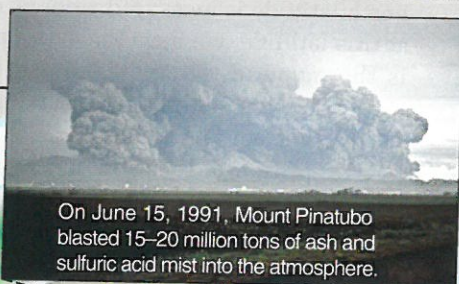
Chapters 9–11

- 9 The Dynamic Planet
- 10 Tectonics, Earthquakes, and Volcanism
- 11 Weathering, Karst Landscapes, and Mass Movement



Chapters 12–14

- 12 River Systems
- 13 Oceans, Coastal Systems, and Wind Processes
- 14 Glacial and Periglacial Landscapes

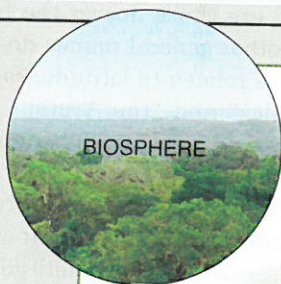


Winds spread the ash cloud westward

15° N 120° E

Effects on Earth systems:

Diffuse sunlight increases, causing a slight enhancement of photosynthesis and plant growth

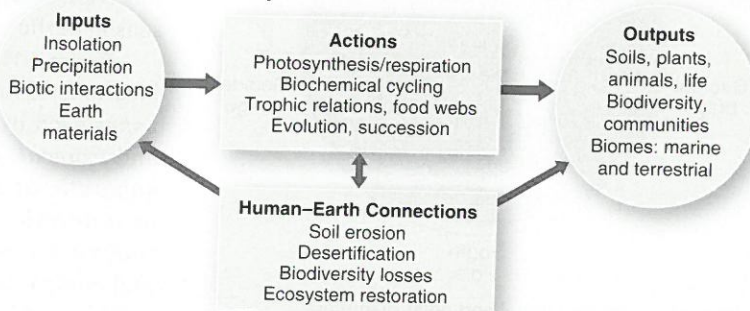


Part IV Soils, Ecosystems, and Biomes

Solar energy powers the biosphere through photosynthesis, in which plants and algae convert sunlight into food. Soil is the essential link between plants, the lithosphere, and the rest of Earth's physical systems.

Chapters 15–17

- 15 The Geography of Soils
- 16 Ecosystem Essentials
- 17 Terrestrial Biomes
- Human–Earth Interactions: All chapters



GEOquiz

1. Explain: Which spheres represent Earth's abiotic environment? How are these spheres distinct from one another?

2. Summarize: What were the overall effects of the Mount Pinatubo eruption on Earth's systems?