“The completion of the Ilisu Dam in 2016 will have had positive impacts on Turkey and its neighbouring countries”.

I agree with this statement to some extent. The Ilisu dam is being built in turkey on the Tigris river and will be used for a number of things from water sports to generating electricity

Turkey wants to build the Ilisu dam for a number of reasons for example more drinking water and the ability to generate massive amounts of electricity up to 2% of turkey’s electricity. However, by creating this dam and 11 billion cubic metre reservoir it causes many towns to become submerged including 10,000-year-old buildings in Hasankeyf. Another danger from the reservoir is that it may encourage waterborne diseases like malaria into the region. Overall, the dam is positive for turkey because it will make them lots of money and increase tourism.

The dam also presents problems for Iraq because the damn will reduce the quantity and quality of the water downstream which could put the livelihoods of farmers and fishers at risk. Another problem for Iraq is that pollution from fertilisers and pesticides will increase downstream which could cause other sickness and could affect the natural wildlife in the area.

The global benefits are that turkey will be better suited to trade crops with other countries and help support them with food. The dam will also help to make energy available to everyone whilst also not polluting the environment with fossil fuels. However the region where the dam will be will cause thousands of ancient historical artefacts to become submerged so we won’t be able to learn as much about our history in the Middle East. Overall, I think that the global impacts are positive because this will help give people food and also provide them cheap electricity.

 In conclusion I think if I were turkey I would want the dam to be built but if I were Iraq I would not. However, overall the dam would provide extra food, extra money from tourism and cheap electricity. So it could more be beneficial on a global scale