

E-learning

Reviewing of draft IPCC Assessment Reports

Tuesday 5 June 2018 1-2 pm CEST / 11-12 am GMT



SOUTH
SOUTH
NORTH

Promoting sustainable development;
addressing climate change.



ClimateContact-Consultancy



Webinar 1: How does the IPCC Work?

Moderator:
Karen Morris, SSN



Presenters:
Leo Meyer, CC-C

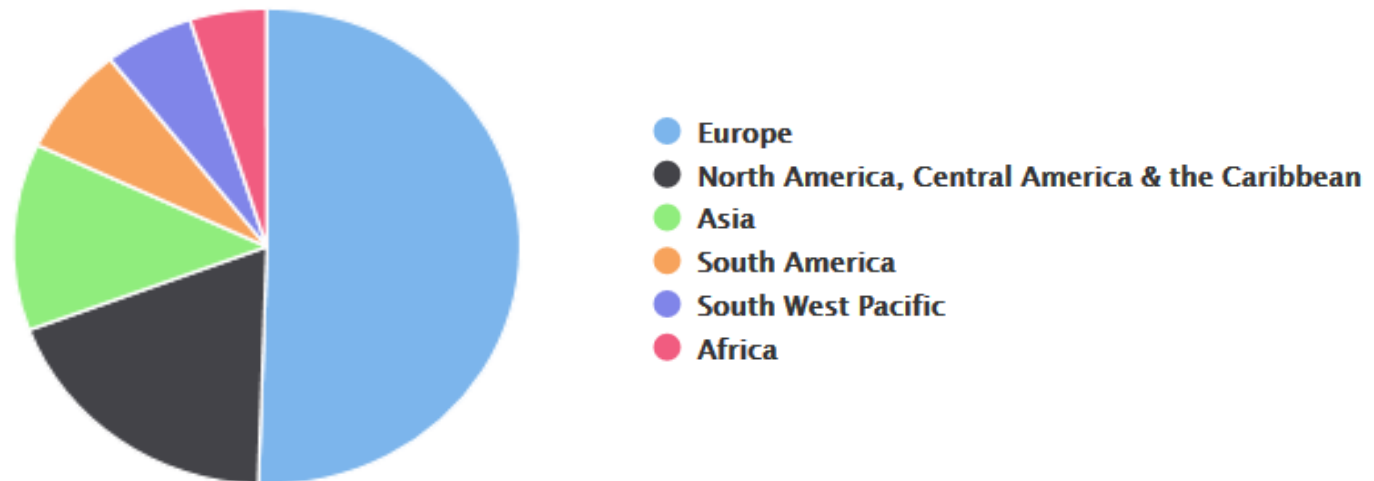


Prof. Jean-Pascal
van Ypersele, UCLouvain



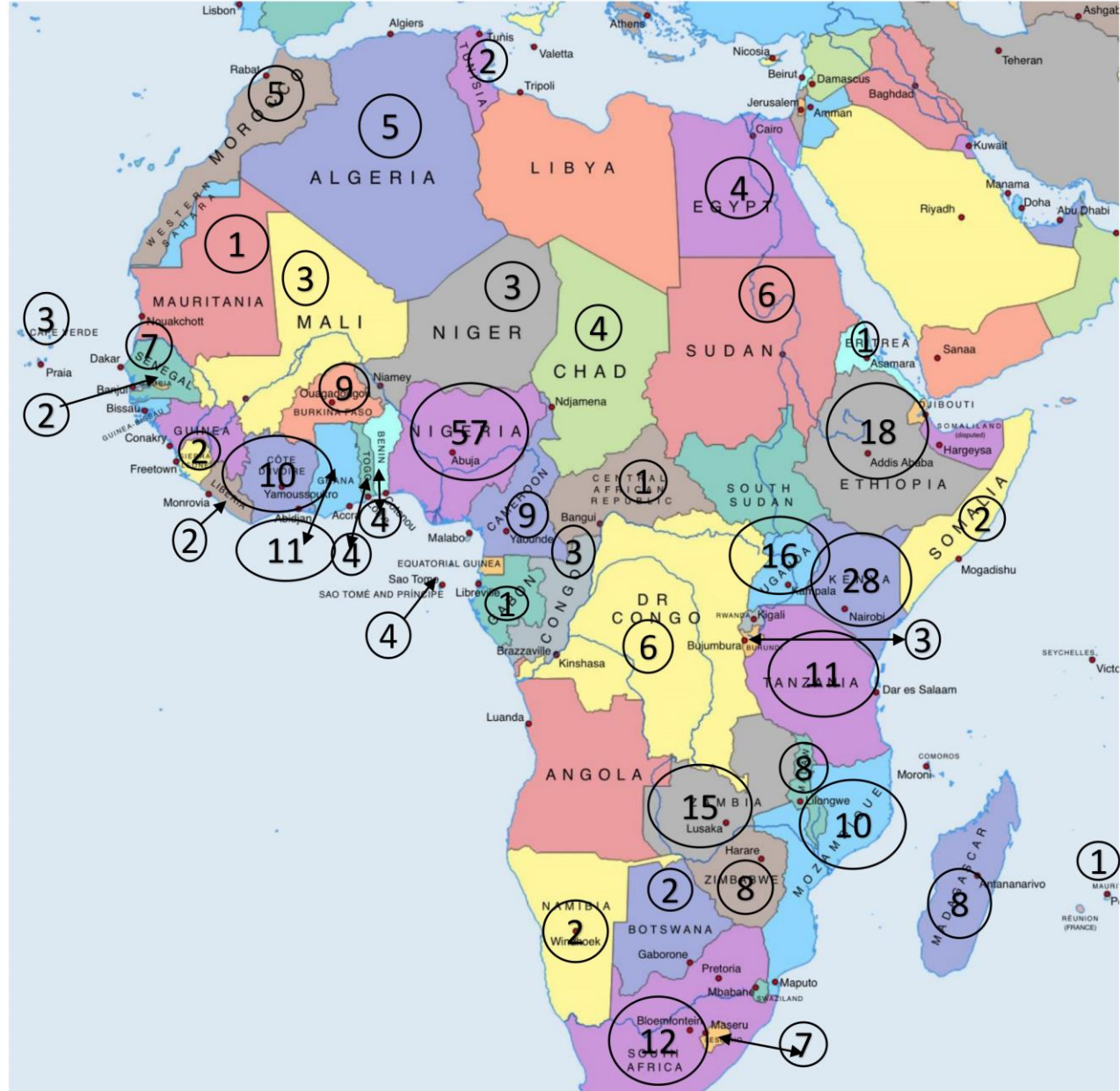
Expert Review First Order Draft (FOD) Aug-Sept 2017, Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C

How well were different regions represented in the FOD Expert Review?



- 489 Expert reviewers from 61 countries
- Almost 13,000 review comments
- 5% from Africa

Course Registrations Africa (based on citizenship)





Introducing the Course and Timeline

- 5 June: Webinar 1 - How does the IPCC work? General introduction, process
- 7 June: Webinar 2 - How to conduct an IPCC review (texts, graphs, mechanics)
- 5 – 15 June: Possibility to email questions on webinars 1 and 2 to info@southsouthnorth.org
- 19 June: Webinar 3 - questions and answers on previous Webinars; reviewing uncertainties and robustness of IPCC statements; specific issues for Africa
- 19- 22 June: Register for one-to-one feedback on draft review comments

IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

- Installed by UN through World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP, now known as 'UN Environment') in 1988
- Organises every 5-7 years a scientific assessment of published literature on climate change, its impacts, and its response options
- By teams of scientists from all continents
- Primarily to inform the policymakers of the UN member states

The Role of the IPCC is ...

“... to **assess** on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the **scientific, technical and socio-economic information** relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation.”

“IPCC reports should be **neutral with respect to policy**, although they may need to **deal objectively with scientific, technical and socio-economic factors** relevant to the application of particular policies.”

Principles Governing IPCC Work, paragraph 2

Source: <http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/ipcc-principles/ipcc-principles.pdf>

What IPCC is *not* – Common Misunderstandings

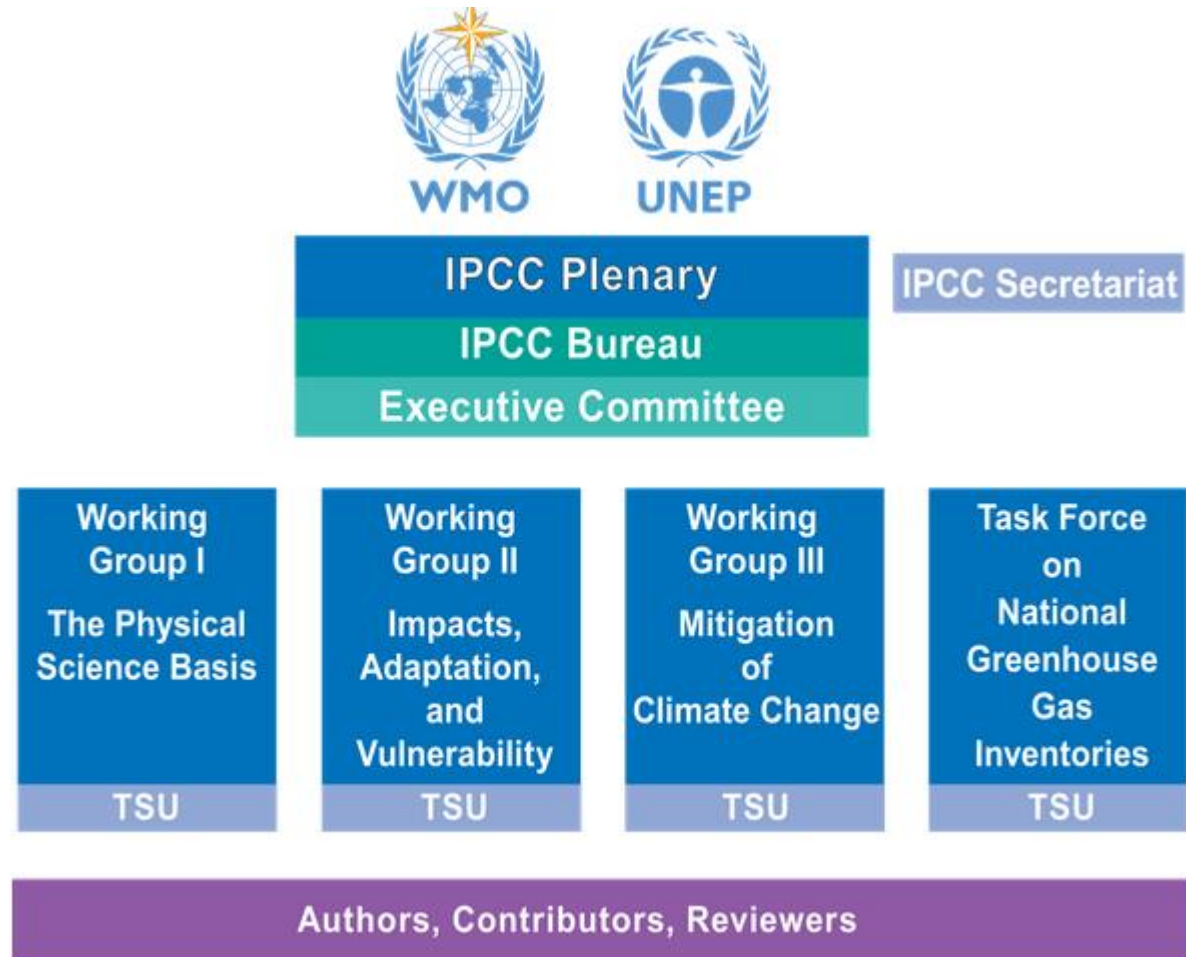
- IPCC does not do research for itself – it evaluates the key messages from scientific literature
- IPCC does not recommend what policymakers, civil society or private sector should do
- IPCC does not pay its authors; the Chair of IPCC is not their boss
- Individuals are not ‘members’ of the IPCC; only governments are members

Governance of the IPCC

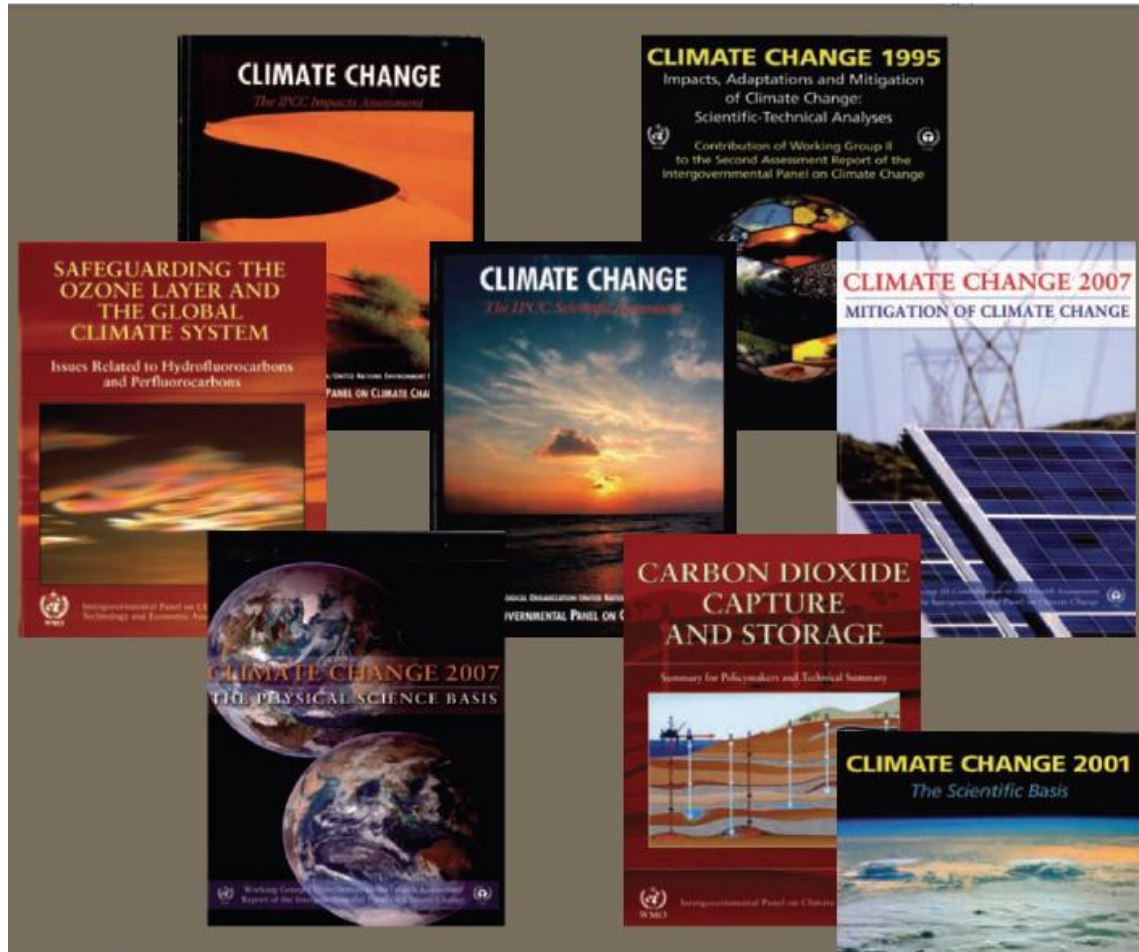
- Major decisions of the IPCC are taken by its members in plenary meetings: government representatives of 195 UN member states
 - Elects Chair and Vice-Chairs and other members of the Bureau
 - Determines which reports to make
 - Decides about their scope and outline
 - *Adopts* the end product and *approves* its summary
 - Determines the procedures used to produce the reports
- Work is managed by three Working Groups and a Task Force each with their own Co-Chairs and secretariats (Technical Support Units, TSU)



IPCC Structure



IPCC Main Products: 'Assessment Reports'



Assessment Reports: full assessment for each of the IPCC Working Groups

Special Reports: assessment of a specific theme

Other IPCC Activities and Achievements

Methodology Reports providing practical guidelines for the preparation of national greenhouse gas inventories



Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessment (TG-Data): facilitates distribution and application of climate change related data and scenarios)

Organizing expert meetings and workshops to facilitate discussion on topics relevant to the Assessment process



What is a 'Scientific Assessment' IPCC-style (1)?

- It addresses topics identified through a scoping process and agreed by the Plenary
- It draws key conclusions from the full span of available (mostly peer- reviewed) scientific literature
- It is written by a diverse group of qualified authors from all regions of the world– taking different views into account
- When appropriate, its findings are labelled with uncertainty qualifiers

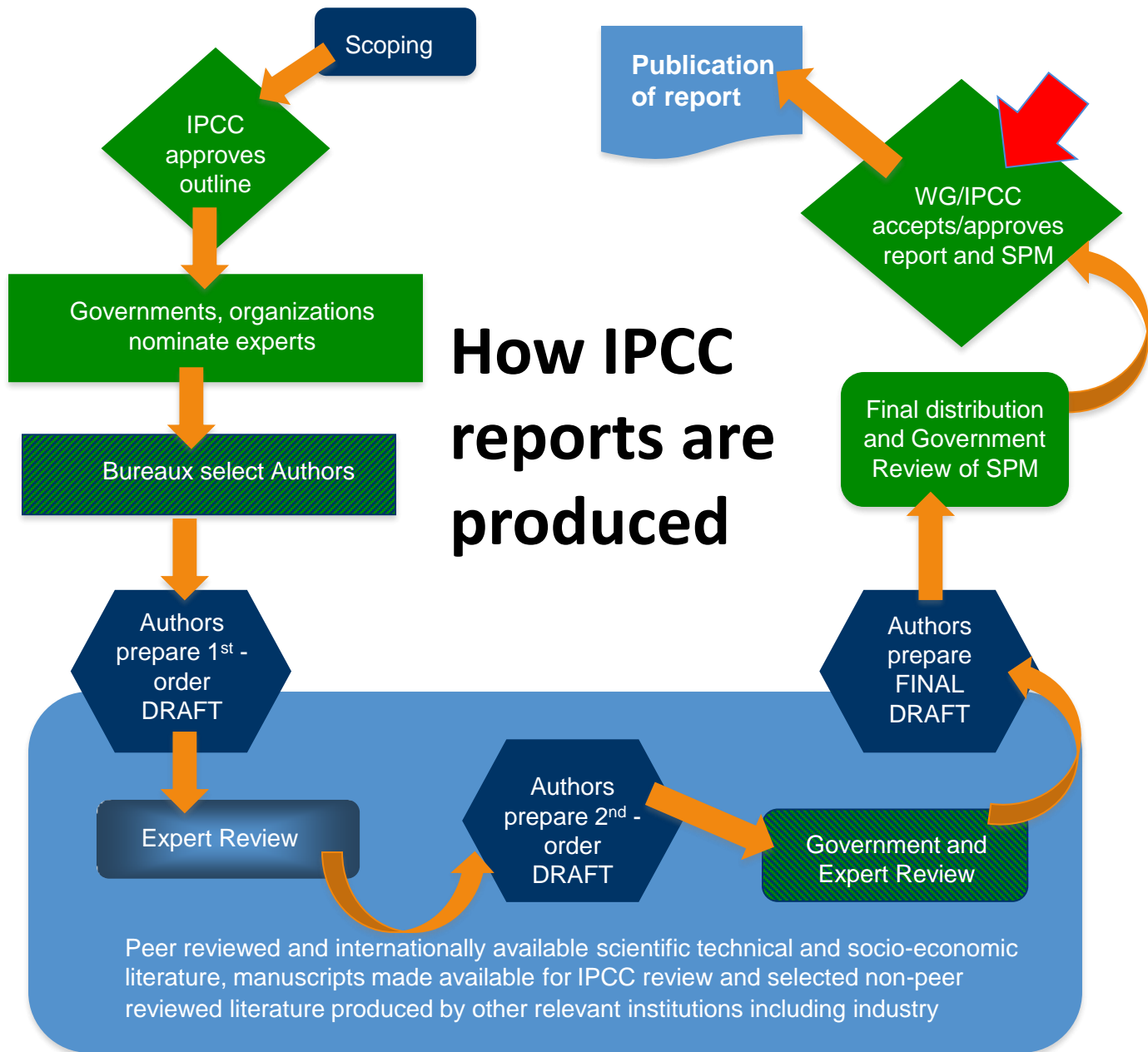
What is a 'Scientific Assessment' IPCC-style (2)?

'Policy relevant but not policy prescriptive'



'Deals objectively with science'



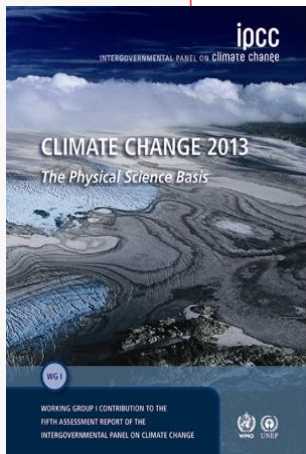


Summary for Policymakers (SPM)

- A report is accepted by the Panel as a whole, after it has approved its Summary for Policymakers
- Government representatives have to approve the SPM line by line!
- Proposals for changes have to be endorsed by the authors
- Full consensus on each and every detail is needed before approval, as there is no vote
- The option exists for a country to have a 'footnote' if it disagrees with the consensus



The Fifth Assessment Report (2013-2014)



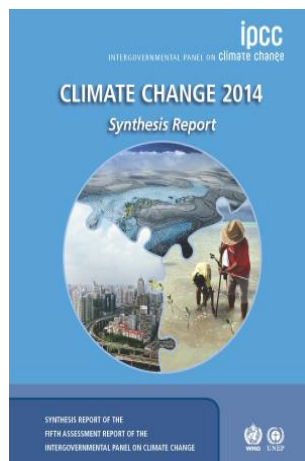
Working Group I
report:
The Physical
Science Basis



Working Group II
report:
Impacts, Adaptation
and Vulnerability



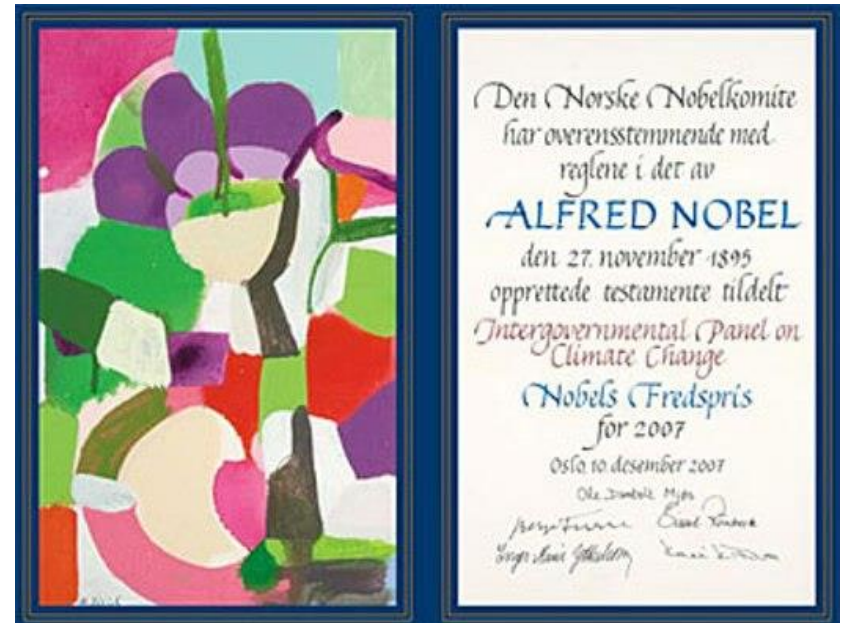
Working Group
III report:
Mitigation of
Climate Change



Synthesis
Report

The IPCC- and its Interactions with Society (1)

- Delivers the main scientific basis for the UNFCCC process and climate strategies and policies of many nations, companies, and civil society
- UNFCCC decides how the IPCC guidelines have to be used for national greenhouse gas inventories
- The IPCC has been rewarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 together with Al Gore....

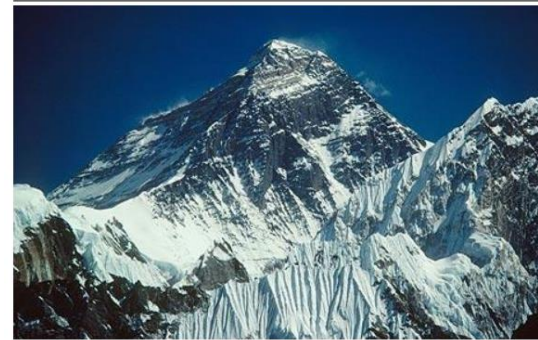


The IPCC - and its interaction with Society (2)

- but was also attacked, including by unjustified accusations of some of its authors in 2009: they were accused of manipulating temperature data. Several external enquiries proved these accusations to be baseless
- ...and heavily criticized in 2010 due to an error in one of the reports (about the speed of melting of Himalaya glaciers)

New errors in IPCC climate change report

The United Nations panel on climate change is facing fresh criticism today as The Sunday Telegraph reveals new factual errors and poor sources of evidence in its influential report to government leaders.



Climate Change
News » Earth »
Earth News »
Environment »
Global Warming »

In Climate Change



Bolivia's second
largest lake dries up

- ... The 2010 crisis has led to the improvement of the IPCC processes and procedures, including:
 - More precise rules for using literature sources
 - Enhanced role for Review Editors
 - Better communication
 - Protocol for adequate dealing with alleged errors

IPCC Provides Strong Basis for Global Climate Policy

- First Assessment 1990: Rio Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992 (UNFCCC)
- Second Assessment 1995: Kyoto Protocol 1997
- Third Assessment 2001: Ratification Kyoto in 2005 ; Adaptation and Mitigation work streams under UNFCCC
- Fourth Assessment 2007: Copenhagen Accord 2009 (2 degrees limit)
- Fifth Assessment 2014: Paris Agreement 2015 ('well below 2 degrees/1.5°C')
- (Sixth Assessment 2022: Global Stocktake in 2023)

Nations Unies Conférence sur les Changements Climatiques

COP21/CMP11

Paris, France



Timeline for the Forthcoming AR6 Reports

March 2018

Conference on
Cities

October 2018



September 2019



April 2021

The Physical
Science Basis

October 2021

Climate Change
Impacts,
Adaptation and
Vulnerability

April 2022

The IPCC
Synthesis Report

Talanoa
Dialogue
UNFCCC

Land Use



August 2019

2019 Refinement

May 2019

Mitigation
of
Climate Change

July 2021

Global Stocktake
2023
UNFCCC

* Dates are subject to a change

The Review Process: Key to Quality and Relevance of an IPCC Report

- (Zero-Order Draft: intern for authors only)
- First Order Draft: Expert review , 8 weeks
- Second Order Draft and First Draft of Summary for Policy Makers (SPM): simultaneous Government and Expert review, 8 weeks
- Final Draft: Government Review of the final draft SPM
- Authors must respond to all review comments –files made public after publication of the report
- Review Editors have to sign off the comment and response files before the SPM approval Session

Ongoing and Upcoming Reviews of IPCC Special Reports

Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere in a changing climate (SROCC); Expert review First Order Draft
4 May – 29 June 2018

Expert Review
First Order Draft
of the IPCC Special Report
on the Ocean and Cryosphere
in a Changing Climate (SROCC)

Register now!
http://bit.ly/srocc_fod_register

Review: May 4 – 29 June 2018

#SROCC @IPCC_CH



ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5° C (SR1.5); Final Government Review (for Governments only)
4 June – 29 July 2018

Global warming of 1.5°C

An IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty

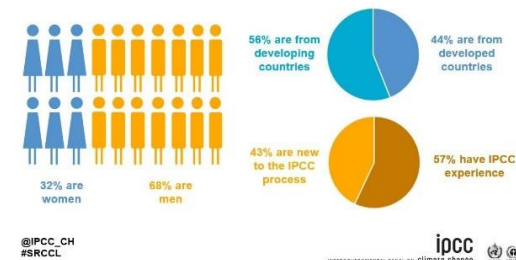
Thelma Krug
IPCC Vice-Chair

ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Special Report on Climate Change and Land (SRCCL); Expert Review First Order Draft
11 June – 5 August 2018

In 2019, climate experts from around the world will produce an IPCC special report on climate change and land (SRCCL)



Disclaimers

- *Future Climate for Africa (FCFA) can not be held liable for any action or decision taken by the IPCC; conversely, the IPCC can not be held liable for the content of this course- that is the responsibility of FCFA and the presenters.*
- *Participants can not derive any rights from this course with regard to the handling of review comments by the IPCC author teams.*

Thank you for your attention!

- *Now:* Q&As follow (15 minutes)
- *Later:* you may wish to send other questions **by 15 June** to info@southsouthnorth.org; these will be handled at the Webinar on 19 June.
- *Next webinar:* How to conduct an IPCC review, 7 June 2018 1-2 pm CEST/11 am -12 pm GMT.
- *Third webinar* will include: reviewing uncertainties and robustness of IPCC statements; specific issues for Africa, 19 June 2018 1-2 pm CEST/11 am -12 pm GMT.