

## Media Briefing, Monday 2 October 2017

### IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate First Lead Author Meeting

#### Background Information

From 2 to 6 October, around 100 participants from over 30 countries will be at the Tanoa International Hotel and Convention Centre for the First Lead Author Meeting of the *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*.

At the 43rd Session of the IPCC (Nairobi, Kenya, 11–13 April 2016), the Panel decided to prepare a Special Report on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere. The Special Report is being developed under the joint scientific leadership of Working Groups I and II and supported by the Working Group II Technical Support Unit (TSU). Following an extensive scoping process, the outline for the Special Report was agreed by the IPCC Panel at its 45th Session (Guadalajara, Mexico, 28–31 April 2017). The Special Report is scheduled for completion in September 2019.

The First Lead Author Meeting, hosted by the Government of Fiji and the University of the South Pacific, will bring together experts from the IPCC Working Group I (the physical science basis) and Working Group II (impacts, adaptation and vulnerability) communities, including scientists from the ocean and cryosphere communities who have been selected by the Working Group I and II Bureaus to serve as Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors on the Report. The Authors are meeting in Fiji to begin drafting the six chapters of the Special Report.

The IPCC, which was established by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization in 1988, is the leading body for the assessment of climate change. 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.

The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report was published in 2013 and 2014 and is available from [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch). The IPCC has already begun work on its Sixth Assessment Report, scheduled for completion in 2021–2022.

In addition to the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, the IPCC has agreed to prepare two other special reports during this assessment cycle:

- *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*, to be completed in October 2018; and
- *Climate Change and Land, an IPCC Special Report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems*, to be completed in August 2019.