Working Group III Fact Sheet

The Working Group III contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC assesses the options for mitigating climate change and their underlying technological, economic and institutional requirements. The report ‘Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change’ was developed by an international team of scientists who were selected in May 2010. It went through a multi-stage review process involving expert reviewers and governments. The report was presented to the IPCC member governments for approval and acceptance in April 2014.

The Report
- 1 Scoping Meeting
- 1 Summary for Policymakers
- 16 Chapters
- More than 1400 nominations from 85 countries
- 235 Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors and 38 Review Editors from 58 countries
- 176 Contributing Authors from 35 countries
- Close to 1200 scenarios of socioeconomic development analyzed
- Close to 10,000 references to literature

The First Order Draft Expert Review
- 1530 individuals registered
- 16,188 comments from 602 Expert Reviewers from 58 countries

The Second Order Draft Expert and Government Review
- 939 individuals registered
- 19,554 comments from 444 Expert Reviewers from 53 countries
- 24 Governments

The Final Government Distribution
- 2573 comments from 36 Governments on the Final Draft Summary for Policymakers

Total Reviews
- 38,315 comments
- 836 Expert Reviewers from 66 countries
- 37 Governments

The WGIII Approval Session
- 7-11 April 2014, Berlin, Germany
- The Summary for Policymakers was approved line-by-line and accepted by the Panel, which has 195 member Governments

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1 By authors’ nationality. If counted by authors’ affiliations, the number is 52 countries
2 By authors’ nationality. If counted by authors’ affiliations, the number is 29 countries
The IPCC’s Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) contains contributions from three Working Groups. Working Group I assesses the physical science basis of climate change. Working Group II assesses impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. Working Group III assesses options for the mitigation of climate change. The Synthesis Report draws on the assessments made by all three Working Groups.

The Working Group III contribution to the AR5 (WGIII AR5) has a Summary for Policymakers, a Technical Summary, 16 chapters, and three Annexes. The report assesses the options for mitigating climate change and their underlying technological, economic and institutional requirements. It transparently lays out risks, uncertainty and ethical foundations of climate change mitigation policies on the global, national and sub-national level, investigates mitigation measures for all major sectors and assesses investment and finance issues. The new report features an improved treatment of social, economic and ethical issues, and sustainable development.

The WGIII AR5 involved experts from around the world with expertise in the many different disciplines necessary to produce a comprehensive assessment of the mitigation of climate change according to the approved outline. There were 235 Lead Authors and 38 Review Editors. 176 additional experts were invited by the Lead Authors of the report to be Contributing Authors and to provide additional specific knowledge or expertise in a given area.

Lead Authors and Review Editors were selected for their scientific and technical expertise in relation to the approved chapter outlines for the WGIII AR5 from lists of experts nominated by governments and IPCC observer organisations. Regional and gender balance were also considered, as well as ensuring the involvement of experts who had not worked on IPCC assessments before.

The author teams assessed thousands of sources of information in the course of their work on WGIII AR5. Priority is given to peer-reviewed literature if available and the chapters contain close to 10,000 references.

Multiple stages of review are an essential part of the IPCC process. Both expert reviewers and governments are invited at different stages to comment on the scientific and technical assessment and the overall balance of the drafts. The review process includes worldwide participation, with hundreds of experts reviewing the accuracy and completeness of the scientific assessment contained in the drafts.

WGIII presented its contribution to the IPCC member governments for approval and acceptance in April 2014.