

**THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE IPCC  
Abu Dhabi, 10-13 May 2011**

IPCC-XXXIII/Doc. 3  
(I.IV.2011)  
Agenda Item: 10.1  
ENGLISH ONLY

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**Working Group II contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report**

(Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the IPCC Working Group II)

**PROGRESS REPORT**  
IPCC Working Group II Contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5)

## **1. Background**

In the archive prepared for IPCC-XXXI (Bali, Indonesia • 26-29 October 2009), refer to WG-II: 9<sup>th</sup>/Doc.3 for the WGII AR5 implementation plan and a description of supporting activities helping frame and guide the early stages of the assessment cycle. WG-II: 9<sup>th</sup>/Inf.3 provides background information regarding construct of the WGII AR5 outline, and IPCC-XXXI/Doc.20,Rev.1 provides the complete outline adopted by the Ninth Session of IPCC Working Group II. IPCC-XXXII/Doc.11 – prepared for delegates attending the Busan, Republic of Korea, Panel session (11-14 October 2010) – describes the coordination efforts across working groups as the assessment ramped up and the WGII AR5 author nomination/selection processes. That progress report also provided in-depth statistical summaries to convey WGII Bureau efforts to engage appropriate expertise to address effectively the approved outline; to ensure representation of the full range of scientific opinion; and to meet targets for gender, regional, and “young” and “new” scientist participation. IPCC-XXXII/Doc.11 closed by capturing schedule and budget adjustments, and appended the list of confirmed writing team members. Refer to <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/AR5/ar5.html>> for a description of all WGII AR5 activities since project inception and a short synthesis of the topics above.

## **2. Progress since IPCC-XXXII (Busan, Republic of Korea • 11-14 October 2010)**

### Coordination Highlights

The WGII Co-Chairs and Technical Support Unit (TSU) have worked closely with sister Working Groups to plan and execute a very ambitious schedule of expert meetings and workshops in support of AR5 development. See Section 4 for the complete FY2011 schedule (corresponding to the WGII TSU budget cycle, 1 October – 30 September), and to <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/meetings/>> for the full slate of WGII commitments.

The WGII TSU administers a travel fund to facilitate participation of non-Federal U.S. scientists in IPCC assessment activities and meetings of the Ozone Science and Effects Panels for the Montreal Protocol. To give a sense of the volume of work IPCC-wide in FY2011, the budget provides for 14 expert meetings, two SREX Lead Authors Meetings, two WGI AR5 Lead Authors Meetings, one WGII AR5 Lead Authors Meeting, one WGIII Lead Authors Meeting, and several others (SRREN, ozone panel).

Section 4 lists the AR5 meetings for which WGII plays a lead role. Brief write-ups on the expert meetings (and summary reports if relevant) can be found at : <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/meetings/EMs/index.html>>, workshops at <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/meetings/workshops/index.html>>, and cross-WG consultations at <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/meetings/CGCs/index.html>>.

Reports on Scenario Development and Coordination with the Scientific Community, the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA), and for the following joint meetings are provided under separate cover:

- Joint WGII / WGIII Workshop on Socioeconomic Scenarios for Climate Change Impact and Response Assessments – Berlin, Germany (1-3 November 2010)

- Joint WGI / WGII Workshop on Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biology and Ecosystems – Okinawa, Japan (17-19 January 2011)
- Joint WGII / WGIII Expert Meeting on Human Settlement, Water, Energy and Transport Infrastructure - Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies – Calcutta, India (22-24 March 2011)
- IPCC Expert Meeting on Geoengineering – Lima, Peru (20-22 June 2011)
- Joint WGII / WGIII Expert Meeting on Economic Analysis, Costing Methods, and Ethics – Lima, Peru (23-25 June 2011)

This document describes planning and implementation of the meetings that directly support the WGII AR5 drafting process – that is, the series of regional expert meetings and WGII AR5 Lead Authors Meetings – as well as the tools and methods developed by the WGII TSU to streamline workflow.

### WGII AR5 Regional Expert Meetings

To support ‘Part B: Regional Aspects’ of the WGII AR5 (see <<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/AR5/ar5-outline.html>>), four regional expert meetings were approved at IPCC-XXX (Antalya, Turkey • 21-23 April 2009), and the requested number of Trust Fund-supported scientists doubled from 50 to 100 at IPCC-XXXI. These meetings provide formal mentoring of developing country authors to more fully contribute to the AR5, targeting regions most in need:

- Asia Regional Expert Meeting – Dhaka, Bangladesh (16-18 March 2011)
- South/Central America Regional Expert Meeting – São José dos Campos, Brazil (11-13 April 2011)
- Small Island Developing States Regional Expert Meeting – Belize City, Belize (27-29 April 2011)
- Least Developed Countries and Africa Regional Expert Meeting – Accra, Ghana (9-11 August 2011)

A science steering group (SSG) was formed in August 2010, and a series of teleconferences conducted to generate a strawman agenda to be tailored for each meeting, depending on assembled experts and needs of the region. In general terms, the SSG intends for the regional expert meetings to allow participants to identify relevant literature; to build capacity of writing teams, by presenting opportunities for regional authors with prior IPCC experience to interact with first-time authors on key aspects of the assessment process; and to engage regional scientists not affiliated with the IPCC whose work can inform the assessment effort.

Local hosts have been identified for respective events, and plans well advanced for the first three regional meetings (allocated Trust Fund slots in brackets): Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) [30], National Institute for Space Research (INPE) [25], Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) [20]; and University of Ghana (START node) [25].

The WGII TSU secured external funding (CDN\$100,000) from the International Development Research Center (IDRC) to facilitate participation of additional developing country scientists, a minimum of six per regional meeting. This capacity-building exercise allows identification and participation of emerging scientists with the goal of entraining them in future IPCC assessment cycles, as well as early involvement and retention of Contributing Author candidates. This grant is overseen by the WGII TSU and administered by the Carnegie Institute of Washington (CIW) contracting department.

## WGII AR5 Lead Authors Meetings

The First Lead Authors Meeting (LAM1) took place at the Tsukuba International Conference Center (Tsukuba, Japan) from 11-14 January 2011. Discussions with Japanese Government officials were initiated in early 2010, in an effort to achieve efficiencies by dovetailing LAM1 with the Joint WGI/WGII Workshop on Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biology and Ecosystems (Okinawa, Japan • 17-19 January 2011). An MOU formalizing the arrangement was sent by the WGII Co-Chairs to Mr. Yutaka Matsuzawa (Director, Office for Global Environment Research, Ministry of the Environment Japan) on 19 August 2010. The National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) served as the local host, with Dr. Yukihiro Nojiri the principal point-of-contact. Plenary sessions were devoted to process and operational issues, roles of writing team members, and inter- and intra-working group crosscutting themes such as the new scenarios process, “reasons for concern”, detection and attribution of observed impacts, and the increased emphasis on adaption. The LAM1 agenda can be provided upon request. During the extensive time devoted to chapter breakouts, WGII Bureau members conducted chapter-specific bias and conflict-of-interest (COI) discussions. A write-up of these discussions was provided to the Task Groups evaluating InterAcademy Council (IAC) recommendations for IPCC reform. LAM1 had 256 participants, consisting of WGII AR5 Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors (CLA/LAs), WGII Bureau members, IPCC officials (including the IPCC Chair and Secretary), and WGII TSU staff.

The Second Lead Authors Meeting is confirmed for San Francisco, California, USA, from 12-15 December 2011. The WGII TSU serves the dual role of organizing entity and local host via its administering organization, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR). Contracts are being put in place with hotels and other vendors, and logistics disseminated to writing teams on 18 March 2011. The WGII TSU is providing as much lead-time as possible given the extended time frame for processing visa applications. The U.S. Department of State has offered assistance with this process.

Venues for the Third and Fourth Lead Authors Meetings have yet to be finalized, though firm offers have been made, with commitments being formalized before host entities/nations announced.

## WGII Technology Resources

A password-protected Author Portal was launched on 17 August 2010 to provide an array of tools to CLA/LAs in support of the assessment process – including, but not limited to, draft repositories, WebEx teleconferencing and document sharing, reference management, non-journal-based literature collection and archival, and e-publication access for developing country authors. This closed web site serves as the primary means of communicating logistics to writing team members. Guest access can be provided to delegates upon request.

WGII TSU also built custom tools to facilitate the assessment process including the AR5 nominations system itself and more secure and enhanced review sites.

## **3. Process Issues**

Since IPCC-XXXI, the following writing team developments occurred:

- On 5 November 2010, Susanne Moser (USA) resigned her role as Lead Author for Chapter 5, Coastal Systems and Low-Lying Areas.

- On 13 November 2010, Zbigniew Kundzewicz (Poland) accepted the WGII Bureau solicitation to fill the vacant role of Review Editor of Chapter 3, Freshwater Resources.
- On 16 November 2010, Virginia Burkett (USA) accepted the WGII Bureau solicitation to serve as Coordinating Lead Author of Chapter 1, Point of Departure, replacing Gary Yohe (USA) who then made a lateral move to fill the vacant role of Coordinating Lead Author of Chapter 18, Detection and Attribution of Observed Impacts.
- With the endorsement of the WGII Bureau at WGII AR5 LAM1 (11-14 January 2011), Benjamin Preston (USA) was elevated from the role of Lead Author to that of Coordinating Lead Author for Chapter 16, Adaptation Opportunities, Constraints, and Limits.
- On 20 January 2011, Barry Smit (Canada) resigned his role as Lead Author for Chapter 26, North America.
- On 21 February 2011, Carlos Gay-Garcia (Mexico) resigned his role as Lead Author for Chapter 26, North America.
- On 24 February 2011, with the endorsement of the IPCC Focal Point for the Government of Canada, Debra Davidson (Canada) accepted the WGII Bureau solicitation to serve as Lead Author for Chapter 26, North America.
- On 15 March 2011, Jose Marengo (Peru) accepted the WGII Bureau solicitation to serve as Coordinating Lead Author for Chapter 27, Central and South America, a vacancy that came about when Carlos Nobre (Brazil) sought a less time-consuming role as Lead Author due to time commitments associated with a high-level appointment in the Ministry of Science and Technology.

#### **4. Work Plan and Budget**

The work plan for FY2011 (1 October 2010 – 30 September 2011) follows, including review periods and internal WGII TSU deadlines. A complete listing of WGII commitments – both for the AR5 and the Special Report on “Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation” (SREX) – can be found at <http://ipcc-wg2.gov/meetings/>. There are no budget modifications requested from that presented by WGII in IPCC-XXXII/Doc.3 and approved in Busan.

##### **11-14 January 2011**

WGII AR5 First Lead Authors Meeting - Tsukuba, Japan

##### **17 January - 4 July 2011 (24 weeks)**

WGII AR5 Zero-Order Drafts prepared, then to WGII TSU

##### **17-19 January 2011**

WGI / WGII Workshop on Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biology and Ecosystems - Okinawa, Japan

##### **16-18 March 2011**

Asia Regional Expert Meeting – Dhaka, Bangladesh

##### **22-24 March 2011**

WGII / WGIII Expert Meeting on Human Settlement, Water, Energy and Transport Infrastructure – Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies – Calcutta, India

##### **11-13 April 2011**

South and Central America Regional Expert Meeting – São José dos Campos, Brazil

**27-29 April 2011**

Small Island States Regional Expert Meeting – Belize City, Belize

**20-22 June 2011**

WGI / WGII / WGIII Expert Meeting on Geoengineering – Lima, Peru

**23-25 June 2011**

WGII / WGIII Expert Meeting on Economic Analysis, Costing Methods, and Ethics – Lima, Peru

**6-22 July 2011**

WGII TSU consolidates and distributes WGII AR5 0-Order Draft

**25 July - 21 September 2011**

WGII AR5 Informal Peer Review

**9-11 August 2011**

Least Developed Countries and Africa Regional Expert Meeting – Accra, Ghana

**21 September - 7 October 2011**

Informal Peer Review comments collated and distributed