

2022/16/PR

### **IPCC PRESS RELEASE**

25 April 2022

### IPCC advances work on the Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Cycle

GENEVA, 25 Apr – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) opened a four-day-long meeting of experts on Monday in Dublin, Ireland, to advance preparations of the Synthesis Report, the final product of its Sixth Assessment Cycle.

The Members of the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team are meeting from 25-28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to continue drafting the Synthesis Report, which brings together the key findings of the three Working Group contributions to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) and the Special Reports prepared by the IPCC in this assessment cycle.

The meeting follows the release of the three Working Group contributions to the Sixth Assessment Report, <u>Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis</u>, by IPCC Working Group I in August 2021; <u>Climate Change 2022: Impacts</u>, <u>Adaptation and Vulnerability</u>, by Working Group II in March 2022; and <u>Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change</u>, by Working Group III in April 2022.

With the Synthesis Report, to be finalized in September 2022, the Sixth Assessment Report will provide policymakers with the most comprehensive assessment of scientific information related to climate change in the IPCC's history. The previous IPCC assessment report was published in 2013/2014.

"The Synthesis Report will be vital to informing policymakers when they meet in Egypt for the next Conference of the Parties," said IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee. "It will summarize the most authoritative assessment yet of climate change and give policymakers options for how to prevent and adapt to climate change."

The meeting is the third official gathering of the Sixth Assessment Report Core Writing Team, and the first time that the Synthesis Report authors are meeting in person, having worked remotely from the start, over hundreds of virtual hours, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Synthesis Report underwent an internal review from 31 May to 25 July 2021. The authors then completed the First Order Draft of the Synthesis Report, which underwent a Government and Expert Review from 10 January to 20 March 2022. In this third official meeting, the authors are considering the 10,424 comments received on the First Order Draft from 360 reviewers.

The Synthesis Report will integrate the three most recent IPCC Special Reports on *Global Warming* of 1.5°C, *Climate Change and Land*, and *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, as well as the contents of the three Working Group contributions to the Sixth Assessment Report: Working Group I – The Physical Science Basis, Working Group II – Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, and Working Group III– Mitigation of Climate Change.

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Notes for editors

#### **About the IPCC**

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide political leaders with periodic scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. In the same year the UN General Assembly endorsed the action by the WMO and UNEP in jointly establishing the IPCC. It has 195 member states.

Thousands of people from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC. For the assessment reports, IPCC scientists volunteer their time to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks.

The IPCC has three working groups: Working Group I, dealing with the physical science basis of climate change; Working Group II, dealing with impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and Working Group III, dealing with the mitigation of climate change. It also has a Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that develops methodologies for measuring emissions and removals.

IPCC assessments provide governments, at all levels, with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC assessments are a key input into the international negotiations to tackle climate change. IPCC reports are drafted and reviewed in several stages, thus guaranteeing objectivity and transparency.

## **About the Sixth Assessment Cycle**

Comprehensive scientific assessment reports are published every 6 to 7 years; the latest, the <u>Fifth Assessment Report</u>, was completed in 2014 and provided the main scientific input to the Paris Agreement.

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a <u>Sixth Assessment Report</u> (AR6). At its 42nd Session in October 2015 it elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. At its 43rd Session in April 2016, it decided to produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report and AR6.

The IPCC also publishes special reports on more specific issues between assessment reports.

Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius 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 was launched in October 2018.

<u>Climate Change and Land</u>, an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems was launched in August 2019, and the <u>Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate</u> was released in September 2019.

In May 2019 the IPCC released the <u>2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</u>, an update to the methodology used by governments to estimate their greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

The contributions of the three IPCC Working Groups to the Sixth Assessment Report are currently under preparation. The concluding Synthesis Report is due in 2022.

# **About the Synthesis Report**

The agreed outline of the AR6 Synthesis Report can be found <a href="here">here</a> (Decision 10, page 24). Information about the Core Writing Team is available <a href="here">here</a>.

The Draft SYR Longer Report under preparation is composed of four sections - Introduction, Current Status and Trends, Long-Term Climate and Development Futures and Near-Term Responses in a Changing Climate. The Core Writing Team is also working on key messages that each section can deliver, and cross-section topics.

For more information please visit www.ipcc.ch.

The website includes <u>outreach materials</u> including videos about the IPCC and video recordings from <u>outreach events</u> conducted as webinars or live-streamed events.

Most videos published by the IPCC can be found on the IPCC YouTube channel.