

ipcc

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Welcome

Jim Skea, IPCC Chair

ASSESSMENT CYCLE

WORKSHOPS ON ENGAGING DIVERSE KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND ON METHODS OF ASSESSMENT
10–12 FEBRUARY 2026 • READING, UNITED KINGDOM





IPCC is committed to enabling events at which everyone can participate in an **inclusive, respectful, harassment-free** and **safe** environment.

IPCC events, meetings and activities are guided by the **highest ethical and professional standards**.



All participants are expected to **conduct** themselves with **integrity** and in a manner that is **professional, respectful, harassment-free, inclusive, tolerant** and **responsible** towards all participants.

Social media policy

These workshops are closed meetings.

Please do not post on social media about the content of the discussions and workshops.

The rationale for the workshops

What IPCC is looking for

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The rationale

November 2024 to February 2025

Context | Challenges for scientific assessment processes

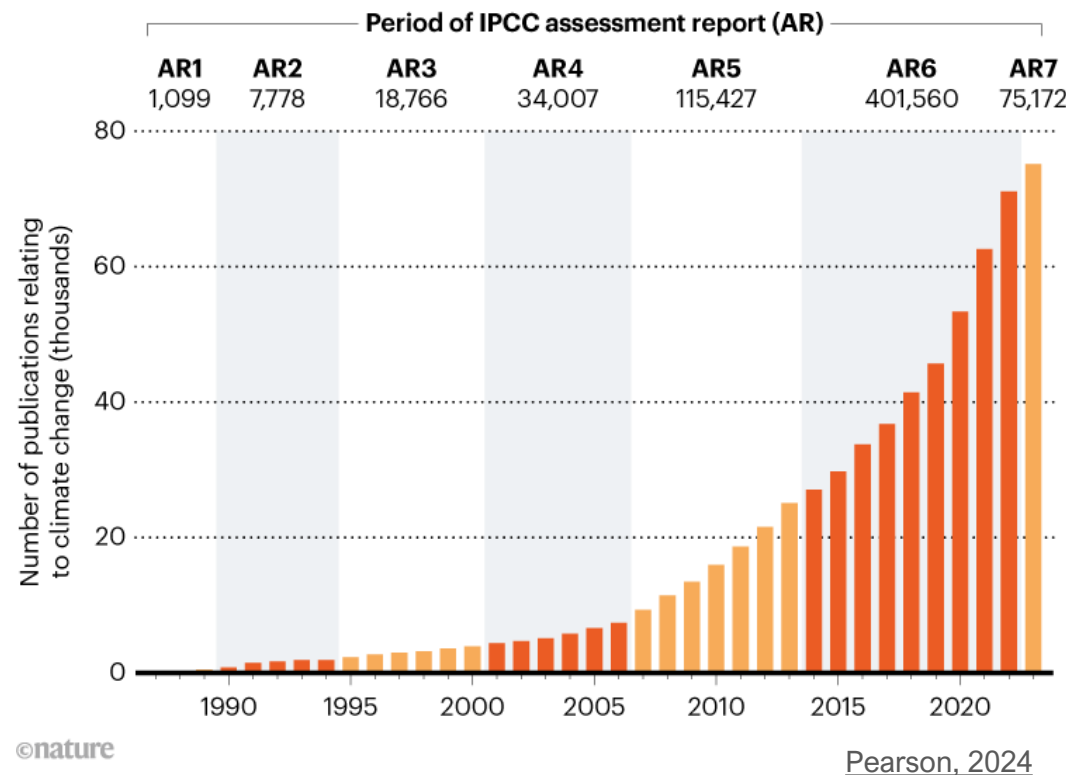
Exponentially growing volume of climate-related peer-reviewed literature

Growing volume of review comments

(30,000 for First Order Draft of the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities)*

Aspirations to engage, in line with IPCC procedures, with more diverse knowledge systems (Indigenous, local, practitioner, etc.)

* 13,000 comments at this stage for the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C in 2017



Initial proposal | **A single workshop with an intentionally broad scope**

- To consider what systems of knowledge can be accessed and assessed by the IPCC within the framework of existing principles and procedures
- To consider the means by which such knowledge systems can be assessed
- To consider the extent to which such means of synthesis and assessment may be conducted by the IPCC itself or by the knowledge holders and research communities that generate the literature on which the IPCC relies

Initial proposal | **Governments decided they wanted two separate workshops**

Countries called for the workshop to include and involve Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Knowledge (IK).

Suggestion to consult IPBES and the UNESCO, which have more experience with discussions on Indigenous Knowledge

IPBES: Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Initial proposal | **Solution**

Two separate workshops, but co-located to ensure coverage of linked challenges:

- 1. Engaging diverse knowledge systems**, including Indigenous Knowledge, local knowledge and practitioner knowledge
- 2. Methods of assessments** including coverage of artificial intelligence (AI) and large language models

Workshop | Engaging Diverse Knowledge Systems

- To address how **IK systems** could be accessed and assessed by the IPCC, in particular considering effective and equitable engagement of IK holders and building on experience built up in other fora as appropriate
- To address how **local knowledge** could be assessed by the IPCC, building on experience built up in other fora as appropriate
- To address how **practitioner knowledge** could be assessed by the IPCC, building on experience built up in other fora as appropriate
- To make recommendations for funding agencies as to how to support the engagement of knowledge holders in the IPCC programme of work

Workshop | **Methods of assessment**

- To make recommendations as to how **systematic review methods** could be applied within and outside IPCC assessments and how they could contribute to strengthening established assessment practices including uncertainty assessments
- To make recommendations to the IPCC, Bureau and authors as to how **new and extended methods of assessment** such as **AI** might be built into the IPCC programme of work
- To address how **ex-post evaluation evidence** could be assessed by the IPCC, building on experience built up in other fora as appropriate
- To identify precautionary measures or limitations that might be necessary to ensure adherence to IPCC's principles and procedures for the preparation of reports
- To make recommendations for scientific communities as to how new and extended methods could be used to develop literature which can more easily be assessed by the IPCC

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Development of the workshops

March 2025 to now

How the workshops were developed

A **Scientific Steering Committee (SSC)** covering both workshops established 24 individuals from within and outside IPCC • a subcommittee for each workshop

The **role of the SSC** has been to:

- To provide **advice to the IPCC Chair on participants** for each workshop
- To **prepare the agenda of each workshop**, including a mechanism to facilitate a conversation between the communities of experts of both workshops
- To **prepare the necessary documentation** to inform each workshop
- To **prepare a document describing the outcomes** of each workshop for transmission to the IPCC and for publication

Call for nominations of participants in the workshops

A call for nominations from Governments, IPCC observer organisations and IPCC Bureau members was issued on 4 June 2025 and opened for 6 weeks.

673 nominations were received for 76 available places
(100 minus 24 SSC members)

- Artificial intelligence
- Artificial intelligence applied in the climate field
- Ex-post evaluation in the academic sector applied to climate
- Ex-post evaluation in the academic sector outside climate
- Ex-post evaluation in the public sector
- Systematic review
- Indigenous Knowledge holders
- Other Indigenous Knowledge experts
- Practitioners with ex-post evaluation experience
- Other practitioners

How participants were selected

The SSC screened the nominations, with the help of members of the Chair's team and the IPCC Working Group Technical Support Units.

The selection was made with regard to **standard IPCC criteria** and **other criteria**.
First invitations were sent out on 23 October 2025.

Standard IPCC criteria

- Range of scientific, technical and socio-economic views and expertise
- Geographical representation (ensuring appropriate representation of experts from developing and developed countries and countries with economies in transition)
- Mixture of experts with and without previous experience in IPCC
- Gender balance

Other criteria

- Holders of relevant knowledge from outside academia
- For Indigenous Peoples, representation of different socio-cultural groups
- For assessment methods, representation of those without expertise in the climate domain

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Intended outcome of the workshops

Intended outcome 1 | **Actionable recommendations**

The recommendations can be for:

- the IPCC,
- different parts of the IPCC,
- external bodies.

We aim to **draft recommendations on Day 3 of the workshops** and have them available for a Bureau meeting on 26-27 February 2026 and a full Plenary Session on 24-27 March 2026.

Intended outcome 1 | **Actionable recommendations**

What does an actionable recommendation look like? (Scenarios workshop examples)

For IPCC, provide and ensure early planning and guidance. Planning should start early for coordination across WGs including processes for coordination and fostering the interaction of Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs) and sectoral modellers and other knowledge communities.

Recommendations for research funders on participation/representation. Increase the richness and the diversity of expertise in models and scenarios by engaging a wider variety of researchers/stakeholders from around the world throughout the research cycle (conceptualisation, implementation, dissemination).

Intended outcome 2 | **Workshop reports**

These must:

- indicate prominently at the beginning of the document that the activity was held pursuant to a decision of the relevant Working Group or the Panel but that such decision does not imply Working Group or Panel endorsement or approval of the proceedings or any recommendations or conclusions contained therein
- include a full list of participants
- indicate when and by whom they were prepared (prepared by the SSC)
- indicate whether and by whom they were reviewed prior to publication (by participants)
- acknowledge all sources of funding and other support

Intended outcome 2 | **Workshop reports**

They will:

- Include the recommendations
- Cover the selection process for participants
- Report the design and conduct of the workshops
- Report any divergences of view with an explanation of the different positions taken

The reports will take some time to compile. We will aim for about 2 months after the workshops.