

WGI FIRST ORDER DRAFT MINI GUIDE FOR THE EXPERT REVIEWERS

Reviews are an essential part of the IPCC process, they ensure the highest standards of scientific excellence, clarity and balance, and encompass as wide a range of views, expertise and geographical representation as possible.

The WGI First Order Draft Review will run from 10 August to 2 October 2026. Registrations will open on 6 July 2026.

To register: <https://apps.ipcc.ch/comments/ar7wg1/register.php?q=fod>

To access the review portal: <https://apps.ipcc.ch/comments/ar7wg1/>

Why become an Expert Reviewer?

- ✓ Reviewers contribute to shaping the content of the report, gain new scientific knowledge, broaden their scope, and gain useful experience of IPCC process. They do not go unnoticed;
- ✓ Some reviewers can sometimes become invited to contribute in the Chapters as Contributing Authors in the next phase;
- ✓ Reviewing as soon as the First Order Draft gives greater opportunity to shape the report than at a later stage.

Can anyone be an Expert Reviewer?

- ✓ Reviewers need scientific, technical or socioeconomic expertise in one or more areas relevant to the report. Please refer to the [outline of the report](#) to see whether your expertise can contribute;
- ✓ For example, WGI covers a broad range of expertise in the understanding of different components of the Earth System (Atmosphere, Cryosphere, Land, Ocean), the cycles that link them (water cycle, energy cycle, biogeochemical cycle), and the different tools, methodologies, and knowledge systems mobilised to study these components and their interlinkages. Expertise covering the intersection of the physical science basis of climate change with impacts, adaptation and mitigation science is also highly valuable.

What kind of comments can I make?

- ✓ Reviewers can comment on a single paragraph, a section, an entire chapter or several chapters;
- ✓ The integrative nature of the report means topics are spread across multiple chapters – reviewers should think carefully whether their comment is or should be covered elsewhere;
- ✓ Review comments should focus on substantive issues. Constructive contributions are sought, for example suggestions on:
 - the structure, comprehensiveness and balance of the assessment;
 - overlaps, inconsistencies or gaps in the assessment, for example across different chapters or in relation to other IPCC reports;

- proposed revisions, providing specific text where possible with supporting evidence from the literature;
- relevant additional papers, providing full citations;
- shortening the text without loss of relevant information;
- flagging if a piece of text is written in review-style rather than assessment-style;
- improving the presentation of material graphically or through tables;
- whether the key findings in the Executive Summary are supported in the chapter text;
- whether the use of confidence/likelihood language is consistent with the evidence.

Comments on typographical and other copy-editing issues are not required at this stage, as the report will undergo professional copy-editing later.

If my first language is not English, can I make comments in my own language?

- ✓ Whilst the IPCC strives for regional balance, review comments must be provided in English, using one of the three commenting options provided by the review system.

Are there any limits or constraints I should keep in mind?

- ✓ The assessment may not go beyond the scope of the [outline of the report](#) approved by the IPCC;
- ✓ Authors are required to work within page length constraints and must present a concise assessment of current knowledge, not a full scientific review.

How will I know if my comments have been seen?

- ✓ Every comment receives a response. Once the report is published, all draft documents, reviewer comments and author responses are made publicly available on the IPCC website.

Will my name be listed in the report?

- ✓ All Expert Review comments, together with the author responses to those comments, will be made publicly available on an IPCC website after publication of the report. Review comments will not be anonymous;
- ✓ Expert Reviewers will be recognised for their contribution, with their name, affiliation and country of residence published in the Annex of Reviewers in the final WGI report.

Summary of key points

- ✓ Comments must be provided in English, using one of the three options in the review system;
- ✓ Focus on substantive issues - structure, gaps, evidence, clarity - not copy-editing;
- ✓ Stay within the scope of the approved outline;
- ✓ Your name and affiliation will be publicly listed in the published report;
- ✓ Every comment receives a response. Once the report is published, all draft documents, reviewer comments and author responses are made publicly available on the IPCC website.