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# PRESS RELEASE

## IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C

## Expert Review of the First Order Draft and start of the Third Lead Author Meeting

MALMÖ, Oct 23 – Nearly 500 experts from around the world took part in the recent review of the First Order Draft of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on *Global Warming of 1.5* °C (SR15). At a meeting in Malmö, Sweden, this week, the authors will work on addressing nearly 13,000 comments from expert reviewers in 61 countries as they prepare the Second Order Draft.

The Third Lead Author Meeting for the *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5* °C is being held in Malmð at the kind invitation of the Swedish government. The meeting is being hosted by the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) and taking place at MalmõMässan from 23-27 October 2017

This week's meeting marks the culmination of the first round of expert review of the draft report: Global Warming of 1.5°C: an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C 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.

#### Key statistics

- **Two thousand experts** from 124 different countries registered to be reviewers (based on citizenship)
- Overall, the First Order Draft of the Special Report on 1.5 °C attracted **12,895 review** comments.
- These comments came from 489 expert reviewers representing 61 different countries.
- Based on citizenship, half of expert reviewers were from Europe (51%). North America, Central America and the Caribbean accounted for a further 19%, Asia (13%), South America (7%), South West Pacific (6%) and Africa (5%).
- A third (31%) of expert reviewers were female, two thirds (69%) were male.
- Three quarters of reviewers (77%) were citizens of developed countries, 23% of developing countries.
- Chapter 3 on impacts of 1.5°C global warming on natural and human systems attracted the most review comments (3,894, 30% of total comments). See full breakdown below.



All IPCC reports go through two stages of formal review. Feedback received in the first round of expert review will be incorporated, as appropriate, by the authors into the Second Order Draft. The Second Order Draft will then be open for review by governments and experts around the world from 8 January to 25 February 2018. The final report is due to be finalized and made publicly available in October 2018.

"The Second Order Draft will include a first version of the Summary for Policymakers (SPM), which is a distillation of the most policy-relevant findings from each chapter. Governments have asked us for a very concise SPM this time (about 10 pages)," said Valérie Masson-Delmotte, WGI Co-Chair.

The IPCC's comprehensive review process ensures that the reports cover the most up-todate scientific, technical and socio-economic findings, and are representative of a broad range of independent expertise from developed and developing countries.

"An indicator of success for the IPCC process is the involvement of the scientists worldwide. Having about five times more expert reviewers than authors and nearly 13,000 comments is crucial. There is not a single section, table or figure that did not receive any comments," said Masson-Delmotte.



Of the 86 experts from 39 countries <u>selected</u> by the members of all three IPCC Working Groups in February to be authors of the Special Report on 1.5°C, 38% are women, 51% come from developing countries and economies in transition (based on citizenship) and 26% are new to the IPCC process.

The IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C is being prepared in response to an invitation from the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The report will be wide-ranging, assessing possible ways for limiting global warming to 1.5°C, as well as considering these issues in the broader context of sustainable development. More details are available on the <u>report page</u>.

The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C is part of the IPCC's sixth assessment cycle. This cycle will produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report on national greenhouse gas inventories and the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), consisting of contributions from Working Groups I, II and III and a Synthesis Report.

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#### Notes for editors

## What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. It has 195 member states.

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.

The IPCC assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed. It does not conduct its own research.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Only a dozen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

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 vulner ability; 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 Assessment Reports consist of contributions from each of the three working groups and a Synthesis Report. Special Reports undertake an assessment of cross-disciplinary issues that span more than one working group and are shorter and more focused than the main assessments.

# Sixth Assessment Cycle

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report (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.

Apart from the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C, the IPCC will also produce:

- A Methodology Report, entitled 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, to be delivered in May 2019.
- Two special reports: the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, and Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change,

desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems to be finalized in 2019.

The AR6 Synthesis Report will be finalized in the first half of 2022.

The IPCC approved the outlines of AR6 in September 2017 and is now seeking for nominations of authors for the report. The three working contributions will be released in 2021 and the Synthesis Report in April 2022.