



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



No.4957-09/IPCC/TGICA

To the Executive Heads of
International and other Organizations

Attachment(s): (I) Terms of reference TGICA

Geneva, 21 January 2009

Sir/Madam,

I am writing to invite nominations from your Organization of experts for consideration as Co-chairs and members of the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA).

By decision of the Panel, the members of the Task Group are selected through a process based on the lead author selection process of the IPCC and the term of membership on the TGICA is linked to the assessment cycle of the IPCC, with the membership refreshed near the start of a new comprehensive assessment.

The mandate of the TGICA (see Attachment I) is to facilitate wide availability of climate change related data and scenarios to enable research and sharing of information across the three IPCC working groups. The TGICA disseminates information in support of IPCC work, as well as IPCC “approved” “adopted,” “accepted,” and “supporting” material (as defined in Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work). This includes, for example, information on:

- Anthropogenic influences on climate;
- Climatological baselines and observations;
- Projected future climate;
- Other environmental, technological, and socio-economic factors and data relevant to impacts, adaptation, vulnerability, and mitigation research.

The TGICA does not develop emission, climate, or other types of scenarios for the IPCC, make decisions regarding the choice of such scenarios for use in IPCC assessments, nor undertake modelling or research.

The TGICA coordinates a Data Distribution Centre (DDC) which provides data sets, climate and other scenarios, and other materials (e.g., technical guidelines on use of scenarios), identifies information needs in support of IPCC work, facilitates research on climate impacts, adaptation, and mitigation, and makes related recommendations on cross-cutting issues. The Task Group contributes to building capacity in the use of data and scenarios for climate-related research in developing and transition-economy regions and countries.

The TGICA meets twice a year, on average. In addition, the TGICA conducts expert meetings on an as-needed basis to assist with its work. Members are expected to attend meetings, and to support the group through participation in other tasks such as drafting technical guidelines, reviewing draft guidelines or other materials, and helping to develop and carry out initiatives to increase the availability of data and scenarios for climate and impacts research and assessment. The time commitment for members can be fairly heavy, particularly during periods of preparation for TGICA meetings or drafting of technical guidelines and other materials. Key activities during the next cycle of TGICA work will include:

- Continuing to provide data archiving and distribution in the evolving landscape of data relevant to climate change impacts and mitigation analysis;
- Developing additional technical guidelines, focusing on downscaling of climate information, extreme event analysis, the use of decadal scale climate predictions, socio-economic and other environmental scenarios, and “storylines” for impact, adaptation and vulnerability analysis;

- Training and capacity building, including development and guidelines for new forms of data appropriate to use in settings with limited computational capacity or internet access, and improving coordination across organizations providing training and capacity building;
- Taking stock of and catalyzing interactions for new scenarios, focusing on a long-term reference archive and user support, stimulation of IAV research in coordination with WG2 Co-Chairs, stimulation of further development and testing of methodologies such as pattern scaling, and expanding participation of developing countries.

A more detailed description of the recommendations for the work programme of next cycle of the TGICA can be found in the home page of the IPCC website: www.ipcc.ch.

The task group is co-chaired by two experts, one from a developing/transition economy country and one from a developed country and is composed of approximately 20 members known through their peer reviewed publications and works. As is the case for other IPCC activities, the membership of the TGICA should reflect a range of views, expertise, and geographical representation. English is the working language for TGICA meetings.

Nominees are encouraged in the following areas of research:

- Applied climatology;
- Climate modelling (both global and regional);
- Physical, social, and economic impacts and vulnerability assessments;
- Adaptation;
- Emissions modelling and socio-economic scenario development;
- integrated impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability assessment; and
- Characterization and communication of uncertainty.

It has been the practice in the IPCC for Governments in the developed world to support TGICA members for participation in the work of the Task Group. Such support extends to the travel and subsistence to attend meetings of TGICA and other relevant meetings such as sessions of the IPCC and its Working Groups. The travel and subsistence of TGICA members from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to attend TGICA meetings will be borne out of the IPCC Trust Fund. As involvement in IPCC activities can be very demanding and time consuming any additional support for experts selected to be members of the TGICA will be highly appreciated and weighed in the selection process.

Nominations are requested from governmental, intergovernmental, and non-governmental organisations. Governments may wish to include experts from academia, industry, environmental organisations and other non-governmental organisations among their nominee(s).

All nominations will be provided to the Co-Chair(s) of the TGICA and of the three IPCC Working Groups, who will develop a slate of approximately 20 members that will be selected by the IPCC Bureau, under general guidance and review provided by the Panel.

I request that the nominations be made by completing the appropriate form in the online registration tool at <http://www.ipcc.ch> (one form per nominee per activity), no later than **Friday 26 February 2009**. All nominations should specify the authors' expertise with regard to the areas of scientific expertise summarised above, relevant publications and other information called for on the nomination form.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely,



(Renate Christ)
Secretary of the IPCC

Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impacts and Climate Analysis (TGICA)***Mandate***

(Adopted by the Panel at its 21st Session, Vienna, 2003)

1. Background

1.1 The Task Group on Scenarios for Climate and Impact Assessment (TGICA) was established following a recommendation made at the IPCC Workshop on Regional Climate Change Projections for Impact Assessment (London, 24-26 September 1996), and further considered by the IPCC Bureau at its Eleventh Session (7-8 November 1996). A draft mandate statement for the Task Group was developed in a contact group at IPCC XX. At TGICA VIII (Boulder, CO, USA, 30 June – 2 July 2003), the TGICA discussed the mandate, suggested several changes, and proposed a change in the group's name to "Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Climate and Impact Assessment". At its XXXth session, the IPCC Bureau reviewed and further refined the mandate and recommended an additional change in the name of the group to "Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impacts and Climate Analysis" (TGICA).

2. Mandate

- 2.1 The mandate of the TGICA is to facilitate wide availability of climate change related data and scenarios to enable research and sharing of information across the three IPCC working groups. The TGICA disseminates information in support of IPCC work, as well as IPCC "approved" "adopted," "accepted," and "supporting" material (as defined in Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work). This includes, for example, information on:
- anthropogenic influences on climate
 - climatological baselines and observations
 - projected future climate
 - other environmental, technological, and socio-economic factors and data relevant to impacts, adaptation, vulnerability, and mitigation research
- 2.2 The TGICA does not develop emission, climate, or other types of scenarios for the IPCC, make decisions regarding the choice of such scenarios for use in IPCC assessments, nor undertake modeling or research.
- 2.3 The TGICA is accountable to the Panel through the Bureau and reports to Sessions of the Bureau and Panel.

3. Activities

- 3.1 The TGICA coordinates a Data Distribution Centre (DDC) which provides data sets, climate and other scenarios, and other materials (e.g., technical guidelines on use of scenarios).
- 3.2 The TGICA identifies information needs in support of IPCC work, facilitates research on climate impacts, adaptation, and mitigation, and makes related recommendations on cross-cutting issues. These activities will be carried out in consultation with the three Working Group Co-Chairs. The TGICA will also solicit feedback from user communities.
- 3.3 The TGICA contributes to building capacity in the use of data and scenarios for climate-related research in developing and transition-economy regions and countries. TGICA works with organizations and activities that have training as their core mandate but does not develop training programs on its own.
- 3.4 The TGICA may convene expert meetings on an as needed basis.

4. Membership

- 4.1 The task group will be co-chaired by two experts, one from a developing/ transition economy country and one from a developed country.

- 4.2 The TGICA will be composed of approximately 20 members known through their peer reviewed publications and works. Membership should include the following areas of research: climatology; climate modeling (both global and regional); physical, social, and economic impacts; adaptation; emissions modeling; and integrated assessment. The membership of the TGICA should reflect the need to aim for a range of views, expertise, and geographical representation (ensuring appropriate representation of experts from developing and developed countries and countries with economies in transition), with due consideration for the above-mentioned scientific and technical requirements. The term of membership on the TGICA will be linked to the assessment cycle of the IPCC and be refreshed near the start of a new comprehensive assessment.
- 4.3 Members will be selected through a process based on the lead author selection process of the IPCC. The Secretary of the IPCC will solicit nominations of experts from governments and organizations. The Co-Chairs of the TGICA and of the three Working Groups will develop a slate of approximately 20 members that will be selected by the IPCC Bureau, under general guidance and review provided by the Panel.
- 4.4 The TGICA may enlist other experts as contributors to assist with its work on an as needed basis.