

Expert Review of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities

The purpose of this note is to explain the process for the Expert Review of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities.

Background

Expert Review is an integral part of the preparation of IPCC reports. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the report is comprehensive, objective, and balanced. The [Principles Governing IPCC Work](#) require the expert review process to be open and transparent, with wide participation of experts.¹

The First Order Draft (FOD) of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities will be available for Expert Review from 17 October to 12 December 2025.

Expert Review Registration

The IPCC principles and procedures require that the review be carried out by experts. This is not a public review and all prospective Expert Reviewers will be required to register.

The online registration system for Expert Reviewers requests contact details, a description of relevant scientific and technical expertise related to the chapters that will be reviewed, a list of up to five most relevant publications, and highest academic degree earned.

The IPCC Secretariat will notify member governments and observer organizations of the call for registration and of the start of the review, inviting them to solicit the participation of their experts. All those previously nominated for a role in the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities but not selected will be invited to register. There will be an announcement on the IPCC website and on social media that the review registration site is open.

Registration requires experts to declare their areas of expertise and agree to maintain confidentiality. The last date to register as a reviewer is 30 November 2025. Reviewers should register early and allow enough time to read and comment on relevant sections. Reviewers can refer to the agreed outline for the [Special Report on Climate Change and Cities](#) for more information.

A personal and non-transferable username and password to the review mechanism is generated for each Expert Reviewer upon successful completion of the registration.

Expert Review Process

To access the draft, Expert Reviewers must agree to the terms of the review, that all drafts and any supporting material are provided strictly for the purpose of the review and must not be cited, quoted, or distributed. Expert Reviewers may not reproduce the contents of the First Order Draft, including in social media and other public Fora. The final version of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities will become publicly available following its acceptance by the IPCC in March 2027.

Review comments must be provided in English, using the online mechanism of the review platform or the Excel comments sheet provided through the review platform. Review comments should focus on substantive issues. The report will undergo a professional copyedit before publication. Comments on typographical and other copyediting issues are not needed.

Constructive contributions include, for example, suggestions on:

- the structure, comprehensiveness and balance of the assessment, including appropriate use of peer reviewed literature;
- overlaps, gaps, or inconsistencies in the assessment,
- proposed revisions of specific text, providing supporting evidence from the literature;
- relevant additional papers, providing full citations;
- shortening the text without loss of relevant information;
- improving the presentation of material graphically or through tables;

When reviewing the report, please recall that the assessment may not go beyond the scope of the IPCC [agreed outline](#): and that authors are required to work within page length constraints to present a concise assessment of current knowledge, not a scientific review.

In accordance with the IPCC principles and procedures, copies of any non-published or non-publicly available literature that is cited in the draft report will be provided to reviewers upon request during the review period. An online form is available for this purpose from the review website.

All review comments submitted during the formal expert and government reviews, together with the author team's responses to those comments, will be made available on the IPCC website after the publication of the report. Review comments will not be anonymous.

Expert Reviewers will be recognized for their important contribution, with their name, affiliation, and country of residence included in the Annex of Reviewers to the published report.

¹ See Section 4.3.4.1 of Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work: <https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/09/ipcc-principles-appendix-a-final.pdf>