

Expert Review of the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report: *Climate Change 2021: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*

The purpose of this note is to explain the process for the Expert Review of the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (WGII AR6): *Climate Change 2021: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*.

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 IPCC Procedures require the expert review process to be open and transparent, with wide participation of experts¹.

The First Order Draft (FOD) of the WGII AR6 will be available for Expert Review from 18 October to 13 December 2019.

Expert Review Registration

The IPCC Procedures require that the review be carried out by experts. This is not a public review and all prospective Expert Reviewers will be requested 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 start of the review, inviting them to solicit the participation of their experts. All those previously nominated for a role in the WGII AR6 but not selected will be invited to participate. There will be an announcement on the IPCC website and on social media that the review registration site is open.

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 WGI AR6 will become publicly available following its acceptance by the IPCC in October 2021.

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>

Review comments must be provided in English, using the Excel comments sheet provided by the review system. 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-approved outline: https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/03/AR6_WGII_outlines_P46.pdf 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 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 Expert Review comments submitted during the formal reviews, together with the author team 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.