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PROGRESS REPORTS

Report by Working Group III

(Prepared by the Co-Chairs of Working Group III)

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

PROGRESS REPORTS

Report by Working Group III

This report provides an update by Working Group III (WGIII) since the last update presented during the 62nd Session of the IPCC (B-68) in February 2025.

In this period, considerable effort has been made to engage a diverse group of contributors and ensure work processes are inclusive. Such efforts have focused on ensuring a large and diverse pool of authors nominated and selected for the WGIII contribution to the IPCC Seventh Assessment Report (AR7), engaging selected authors, and contributing to the planning and implementation of IPCC Workshops and Expert Meetings.

1. Special Report on Cities

WGIII is an engaged partner in the joint Special Report on Climate Change and Cities (SR-Cities), which is being led by WGII. WGIII Bureau Members and TSU attended the second Lead Author Meeting in July 2025 in Mombasa, Kenya, and are actively engaged in the planning of the third Lead Author Meeting in January 2026 in Oslo, Norway. The WGIII Co-Chairs and TSU participate in webinars for all authors and on-line meetings with the Coordinating Lead Authors. The WGIII Bureau and TSU reviewed the Zero Order Draft and will be reviewing the First Order Draft of the Report which will open in October.

2. AR7 Author Selection

The call for author nominations for AR7 opened on March 7, 2025 and closed on April 17, 2025. During the nomination window, the WGIII Bureau engaged in and supported several webinars and events intended to broaden participation in the IPCC. Sub-regions were covered separately. They include Central Africa; East-Africa; Northern Africa; Southern Africa; West Africa (Africa); Hindu Kush Himalayas; South and East Asia (Asia); Central, South and North America; Small Islands; Southwest Pacific Islands; Maritime Southeast Asia (SW Pacific); and Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Specific groups covered include Indigenous Peoples; Assembly of First Nations (AFN); and Southwest Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC). These events are part of the work plan for improving the diversity of climate change experts involved in the preparation of IPCC reports, as presented in the 61st Session of the IPCC held in Sofia, Bulgaria in 2024. In addition, national level sessions were also convened by the Bureau Members in their respective countries. See table below for details.

Table: Overview of regional outreach webinars to support AR7 author nominations

Event	Date
<i>Outreach Event on IPCC Processes for Eastern Africa</i>	31 March
Small Islands	31 March
Singapore/Southeast Asia	1 April
Eastern Europe/Hungary	1 April
<i>Understanding the IPCC and opportunities to participate in the IPCC's Seventh Assessment report</i>	2 April
Southern Africa	
<i>How to become an IPCC Author</i>	3 April
Central, South and North America	
<i>Find out how to shape one of the decade's most important climate reports</i>	4 April
Asia	

Southwest Pacific I	4 April
Southwest Pacific II	7 April
<i>Outreach event on IPCC processes for West Africa</i>	7 April
<i>Author nomination for IPCC AR7: Central and Eastern Europe session</i>	7 April
<i>Outreach event on IPCC processes for Central Africa</i>	8 April
<i>How to get involved in IPCC assessments: Webinar for Indigenous Peoples</i>	7 and 8 April
<i>Outreach event on IPCC processes for North Africa</i>	9 April
<i>Webinaire d'information du 7ème cycle d'évaluation du GIEC</i> West Africa	9 April
Asia II	10 April
Southeast Europe/Türkiye	11 April

In total, the IPCC Secretariat received 1211 nominations for the WGIII contribution. The Working Group III (WGIII) Bureau met in Geneva, Switzerland, from June 30–July 2, 2025, to finalise its selection of authors and Review Editors for the WGIII contribution to the IPCC Seventh Assessment Report (AR7). This was the culmination of a comprehensive and considered process that was developed and agreed by the WGIII Bureau to best meet the aims stated in Appendix A of the *Principles Governing IPCC Work*; i.e., that the composition of the group of Coordinating Lead Authors (CLAs), Lead Authors (LAs), and Review Editors (REs) shall aim to reflect:

- *the range of scientific, technical and socio-economic views and expertise;*
- *geographical representation (ensuring appropriate representation of experts from developing and developed countries and countries with economies in transition); there should be at least one and normally two or more from developing countries;*
- *a mixture of experts with and without previous experience in IPCC;*
- *gender balance.*

When building chapter teams, the WGIII Bureau also considered the value of intra-regional balance. As in the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), CLAs were further considered based on qualities necessary to coordinate work among international chapter teams. The WGIII Bureau took an iterative approach to building author teams. All members of the WGIII Bureau identified priority candidates based on their expertise. The WGIII bureau started by discussing CLAs, then moved to LAs, and then to REs. At all times, feedback from the full Bureau was encouraged, valued, and integrated into the selection process.

Finally, the WGIII Bureau met in Geneva for three days to finalise the author selections. A timeline summarising the key meetings and milestones in the selection process is presented in Table 1:

Table 1: Key milestones and WGIII Bureau meetings in the author selection process

Date	Stage in Selection Process
17 April 2025	Closing date for author nominations
17–21 April 2025	WGIII TSU, under guidance of WGIII Co-Chairs, compiled author nominations, generated statistics, and performed expertise mapping based on keywords previously defined and agreed upon by the WGIII Bureau.
21 April 2025	Co-Chairs circulated the compiled nominations to the WGIII Bureau.

Date	Stage in Selection Process
21 April–30 May 2025	Bureau members independently ranked nominees, with the goal of identifying 1 CLA, 4 LAs, and 1 RE per chapter.
2–3 June 2025	Bureau members met via Zoom to discuss the list of CLA candidates.
25 June 2025	Bureau members met via Zoom to discuss LAs.
30 June–2 July 2025	Bureau meets in Geneva to finalize chapter teams.

The WGIII contribution to AR7 consists of 15 chapters. Chapter teams are primarily structured to include two Coordinating Lead Authors, two Review Editors, and between 10 and 21 authors; however, the WGIII Bureau decided that some chapters warranted an additional Coordinating Lead Author. A comparison between authors selected for AR6 and AR7 is provided in Table 2. The full list of authors across chapters in WGIII AR7 is provided on the IPCC website (<https://apps.ipcc.ch/report/authors/>).

Table 2: Overview of Author Nominations and Selection, with a Comparison to AR6.

	AR7 Nominations		AR7 Selection		AR6 Selection	
Total	1211		222		226	
DC/EIT	590	49%	113	52%	109	48%
Female	452	37%	92	40%	69	30%
New	682	56%	133	59%	102	43%

3. AR7 1st Lead Author Meeting

The WGIII Co-Chairs, Bureau and TSU are actively planning the 1st Lead Author Meeting (LAM1) for the WGIII Contribution to AR7 to be held in Paris, France from December 1-5, 2025. As this meeting will be the first ever joint LAM with all three Working Groups, the WGIII Co-Chairs are coordinating closely with the WGI and WGII Co-Chairs. Invitations were sent to all CLAs and LAs on August 8, 2025. In advance of LAM1, the WGIII bureau has planned several webinars to introduce authors to the IPCC and AR7, as well as CLA meetings to aid in the planning of LAM1. The co-chairs are grateful to the Government of France for hosting this historic first joint Lead Author Meeting.

4. The Technical Support Unit

WGIII has a distributed Technical Support Unit (TSU), including staff in multiple locations around the world. The contract for the U.S. Global Change Research Program node was terminated in February 2025. Since then, the co-chairs are working to replace those capabilities in other locations. In May of 2025, the Head of Science was brought onboard and is based in Germany. In August of 2025, two positions for the TSU operations team were established in Luxembourg; the co-chairs are working to fill those two positions. A vacancy announcement for a Senior Science Officer at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was posted in January 2025; an applicant has been selected and will be onboarded in October.

The WGIII Co-Chairs extend their appreciation to the Governments of Australia, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden and United States of America for their support of the WGIII TSU, and WGIII is working to broaden that support base.