

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Opening remarks by the IPCC Secretary Abdalah Mokssit at the outreach event on the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report key findings and their relevance to Asia “Climate change: resilience, transformation, and equity”

28 April 2023, Bangkok, Thailand

Allow me first to express our gratitude to our gracious hosts.

Kazuo Yamamoto, Interim President of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Nareerat Panmanee, Director of the Climate Change Management and Coordination Division at ONEP, IPCC Focal Point of Thailand and our Guest of Honour for the event and last but not least, the person who made this event possible,

Joyashree Roy, Director of the AIT South and Southeast Asia Multidisciplinary Applied Research Network on Transforming Societies of Global South (SMARTS) Centre and an IPCC Author, thank you all for your generous hospitality in Bangkok, superb organisation and support.

Dear colleagues, distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

I also warmly welcome all the distinguished speakers who joined us here today. Your contributions are critical for the success of this event. We are also delighted to have so many of you attending today in person and even more following us live.

The IPCC delivers its reports and products in cycles defined by the Panel. Currently, we are about to conclude IPCC's sixth cycle with elections in July. This cycle has been the most intense in the IPCC's 35-year-long history.

The IPCC has delivered an unprecedented number of vital contributions to the understanding of climate change. During this cycle, we have released three special reports - Global Warming of 1.5C, Climate Change and Land Report, and the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate. We have also released the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. And, between August 2021 and March 2023, the IPCC completed the Sixth Assessment Report with the three contributions by the Working Groups and the Synthesis Report.

The IPCC delivered all these policy-relevant reports despite the COVID-19 pandemic and many other challenges. In this cycle, we have improved gender and regional representation across our structures and writing teams, applied virtual modes of working and amplified our communications and outreach activities. All these are extraordinary collective achievements. They are a credit to the Panel and the IPCC's scientific community.

The Synthesis Report, which we released only five weeks ago completes the Sixth Assessment Report. It confirmed that the pace and scale of climate action so far, and current plans, are insufficient to tackle climate change. Current trends of greenhouse gas emissions are incompatible with a livable, sustainable, equitable world.

IPCC Secretariat

c/o WMO · 7 bis, Avenue de la Paix · C.P. 2300 · CH-1211 Geneva 2 · Switzerland
telephone +41 22 730 8208 / 54 / 84 · fax +41 22 730 8025 / 13 · email IPCC-Sec@wmo.int · www.ipcc.ch

More than a century of burning fossil fuels as well as unequal and unsustainable energy and land use has led to global warming of 1.1°C. As a result, the world is experiencing more frequent and more intense extreme weather events. These have caused dangerous impacts on nature and people in every region of the world.

Mainstreaming effective and equitable climate action will not only reduce losses and damages to nature and people, but it will also provide wider benefits.

This Synthesis Report underscores the urgency of taking more ambitious action now. If we act now, we can still secure a liveable sustainable future for all.

As was the case with previous IPCC reports, the findings of this latest Report will directly feed into ongoing policy discussions and will substantially contribute to talks at the next Climate Conference, COP28, to take place in UAE in December 2023.

ladies and gentlemen,

Today's outreach effort will be a public forum, an opportunity to hear from the IPCC scientists on the key findings of our reports and learn more about the magnitude of climate change challenge as well as what are our pathways to solutions.

But, perhaps even more importantly, today's event is also a unique opportunity for our audiences to interact and discuss the important findings of IPCC reports with the scientists and authors who wrote them. I encourage everyone to seize this opportunity.

With that, I wish you fruitful discussions.

Thank you.
