IPCC Working Group 3

Thoughts and reflections for potential authors

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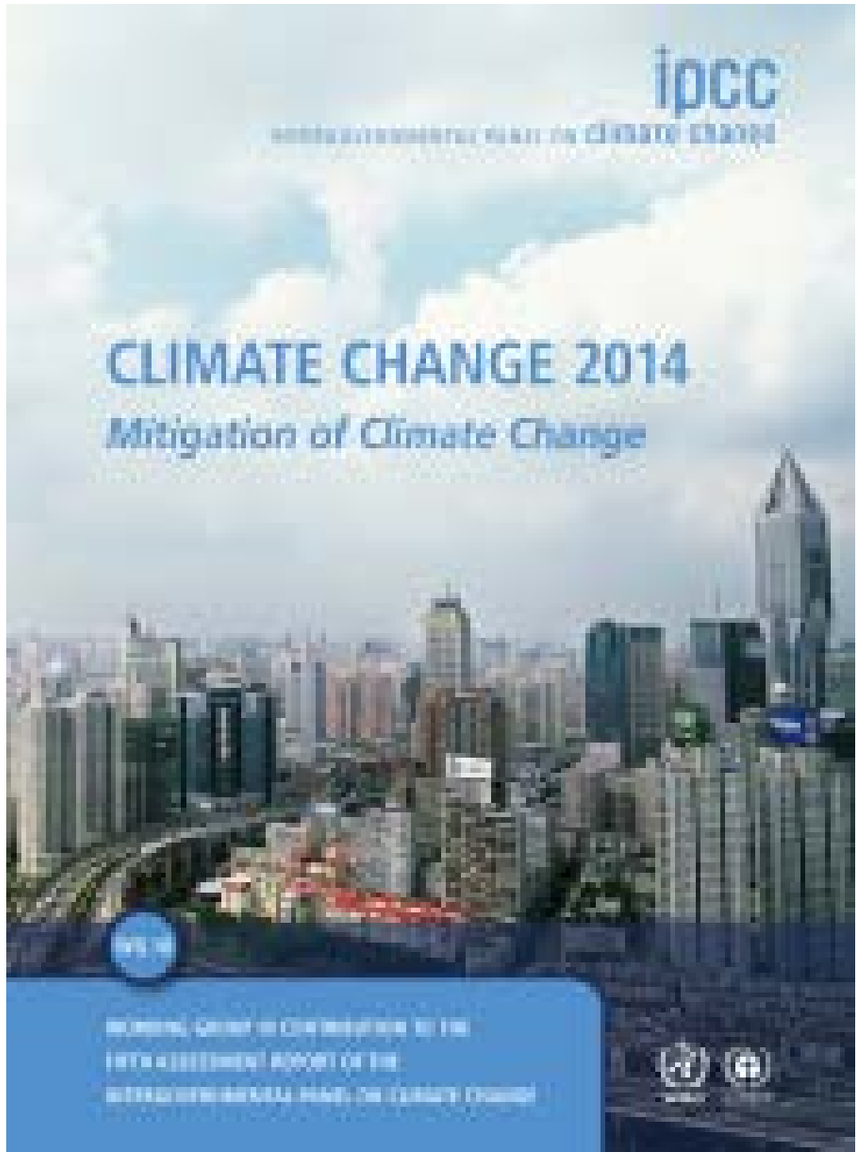
Review Editor
Chapter on Adaptation
Needs and Options



Lead Author
Chapter on Risk and
Uncertainty, and eventually
on Technical Summary and
Summary for Policy Makers

AR5

Framing
- Introduction
- Risk and Uncertainty Dimensions
- Sustainable Development Dimensions
- Ethical Dimensions

Emissions: Top down
- Emission Trends and Drivers
- Future Emissions Scenarios

Emissions: Bottom up
- Energy Systems
- Transportation
- Buildings
- Industry
- Agriculture, Land Use, and Forestry
- Settlements and Infrastructure

Policy
- Global
- Regional
- National
- Cross-cutting finance issues

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AR6

Introduction and Framing

Emission Trends and Drivers
Long-term Mitigation Scenarios
Near- to mid-term Actions
Demand and behavioural change

Energy systems
Agriculture, Forestry, and Land-use
Urban systems and settlements
Buildings
Transport
Industry
Cross-sectoral linkages

National and sub-national policies & institutions
International cooperation
Investment and finance
Innovation and technology transfer

Conclusion: accelerating the transition

AR5

Framing

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AR5

Broad agreement
on single framing

AR6

Disagreement
as to framing

AR5

Broad agreement on single framing

AR6

Disagreement as to framing

- We have seen significant policies in the separate sectors and at the national level, including in developing countries.
- Costs of key technologies have fallen dramatically, and the challenges to their diffusion now appear to be structural and sectoral specific, rather than economic.
- The Paris Agreement has moved the locus of decision-making from the global to the national level. It is primarily a support and coordination instrument.
- The big question is not how we can get marginal emission reductions to take place, but how we can accelerate change, and sustain change all the way to a zero carbon society.

AR5 Broad agreement on single framing

- Framing chapters to relate the economic discourse to other features of the climate problem.

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AR6 Disagreement as to framing

- Framing chapters largely dropped, but a new chapter looking at behaviour and societal change.

AR5 Broad agreement on single framing

- Framing chapters to relate the economic discourse to other features of the climate problem.
- Cost optimal global emissions scenarios; focus on relative costs with or without key technologies (e.g. CCS), early versus delayed action, or global participation.

AR6 Disagreement as to framing

- Framing chapters largely dropped, but a new chapter looking at behaviour and societal change.
- Separation between cost optimal long-term scenarios, and the near- to mid-term enabling actions; attention to the dynamics of technological transitions.

AR5 Broad agreement on single framing

- Framing chapters to relate the economic discourse to other features of the climate problem.
- Cost optimal global emissions scenarios.
- In the sectoral chapters, a focus on mitigation cost-curves (i.e. how emissions could respond to a global carbon price). No consideration of how to get the sector to work in a zero carbon society. Little consideration of sectoral-specific policies.

AR6 Disagreement as to framing

- Framing chapters largely dropped, but a new chapter looking at behaviour and societal change.
- Separation between long-term and the near- to mid-term scenarios.
- In the sectoral chapters, consideration of the sectoral-specific challenges of moving towards a zero carbon society. Explicit consideration of sectoral specific policies.

AR5 Broad agreement on single framing

- Framing chapters to relate the economic discourse to other features of the climate problem.
- Cost optimal global emissions scenarios.
- Sectoral chapters focus on mitigation cost curves.
- Policies treated as being cross-sectoral, ordered top-down (global, regional, national). Oriented towards challenges of gaining agreement on need for carbon price, and implementing this at the national scale.

AR6 Disagreement as to framing

- Framing chapters largely dropped, but a new chapter looking at behaviour and societal change.
- Separation between long-term and the near- to mid-term scenarios.
- Sectoral chapter focus on challenges and policies.
- Reverse order of scale (national then international). Each chapter focuses on a different set of cross-sectoral challenges. (national institutions, cooperation, innovation, finance).

AR5 Broad agreement on single framing

- Framing chapters to relate the economic discourse to other features of the climate problem.
- Cost optimal global emissions scenarios.
- Sectoral chapters focus on mitigation cost curves.
- Policies treated as being cross-sectoral, ordered top-down.

AR6 Disagreement as to framing

- Framing chapters largely dropped, but a new chapter looking at behaviour and societal change.
- Separation between long-term and the near- to mid-term scenarios.
- Sectoral chapter focus on challenges and policies.
- Attention to specific cross-sectoral challenges at different scales.
- Final chapter framing the mitigation challenge as one of accelerating a process already in place.

What does this mean as a potential author?

- If you are an integrated assessment modeller, or an environmental economist, your role in the AR6 will be less than it was in the AR5.
- If you're coming from other social science disciplines (psychology, sociology, political science, human geography), your role in the AR6 will be greater than it was in the AR5.
- The hard questions about how to resolve the inconsistencies between different disciplinary approaches to climate policy have yet to be resolved; maybe this will happen during the writing process.
- Personally, I think this is really quite exciting.

A final word on Austria and Switzerland

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- The two countries are more or less equally active in the IPCC, but in Austria nearly all of this activity comes from IIASA.
- I was a IIASA scientist, and this was fine for me, but I never really felt part of a national climate science research community
- What I discovered on moving to Switzerland was a very active organization within the Academy of Sciences, *Pro Clim*, creating a national climate research community.
- For 18 years, Pro Clim has organised the “Swiss Global Change Day.” Always at the same Gymnasium in Bern, always a lot of fun.
- It is really exciting to see this event taking place today in Vienna, and I hope that it is the first of many such events in the future.