

## **Information on the special event of the SBSTA and the IPCC: unpacking the new scientific knowledge and key findings in the Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment report: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability**

### **Note by the Chair of the SBSTA and the Chair of the IPCC**

30 May 2022

This note provides information on the planned special event of the SBSTA and the IPCC organized by the chairs of the SBSTA and IPCC to enhance understanding on the new scientific knowledge and key findings in the Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment report: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. The event will aim to provide an opportunity for participants to have a direct exchange with IPCC experts on the new knowledge and key findings contained in the Working Group II contribution in Bonn, Germany, on **Monday 6 June 2022 from 14:00 to 17:00 (CEST)**, in Plenary Room New York.

Further information relating to this special event is available on the UNFCCC's website and will be updated regularly: <https://unfccc.int/event/ar6wgii-special-event>.

### **I. Background**

1. The IPCC adopted and accepted the Working Group II (WGII) contribution to the Sixth Assessment report (AR6) at the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the WGII and the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC held on 14 to 27 February 2022. The WGII contribution's Summary for Policymakers (SPM) was released on 28 February 2022.<sup>1</sup>
2. The report builds upon the 2014 WGII contribution to the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report and the 2018–2019 IPCC Special Reports<sup>2</sup> of the AR6 cycle and incorporates subsequent new evidence from natural, ecological, social and economic sciences. It benefited from 270 authors from 67 countries and more than 675 contributing authors with over 34,000 scientific publications assessed and over 62,000 expert and government review comments provided and addressed.
3. The WGII contribution examines the impacts of climate change on nature and people around the globe. It explores future impacts and risks at different levels of warming and offers options to strengthen nature's and society's resilience to ongoing climate change, to fight hunger, poverty, and inequality and keep Earth a place worth living in – for present as well as for future generations.
4. The WGII contribution introduces several new components: i) a special section on climate change impacts, risks and options to act for biodiversity hotspots; cities and settlements by the sea,; deserts, semi-arid areas and desertification; the Mediterranean region; mountains; polar regions; and tropical forests; ii) an atlas that presents data and findings on observed and projected climate change impacts and risks from global to regional scales, thus offering even more insights for decision makers.
5. The SPM presents the key findings of the WGII under four sections:
  - (a) Introduction;
  - (b) Observed and Projected Impacts and Risks;
  - (c) Adaptation Measures and Enabling Conditions;
  - (d) Climate Resilient Development.
6. The IPCC continues to work on the Sixth Assessment cycle, with the approval of the synthesis report of the AR6 planned in September 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-ii/>.

<sup>2</sup> Global warming of 1.5 °C: <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>; Climate Change and Land: <https://www.ipcc.ch/srccl/>; and The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate: <https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/>.

## II. Special event of the SBSTA and the IPCC

7. The special event of the SBSTA and the IPCC on the WGII contribution to AR6 will take place under the SBSTA in Bonn, Germany, on Monday 6 June 2022 from 14:00 to 17:00 CEST. Further information on this special event is available on the UNFCCC website and will be updated regularly. The special event will be open to all participants of SB56, including Parties, observers and media, and will be webcast.

8. The event will aim to, in an interactive manner, bring together participants and IPCC experts to have a direct exchange on the report to enhance understanding on new knowledge and key findings contained in the WGII report, including that relevant for the global stocktake.

9. The event will follow the storyline of the SPM as outlined in paragraph 5 above with short presentations by the IPCC (WGII Co-Chairs and Vice-Chair), followed by question and answer sessions.

10. Below is a proposed agenda for the special event:

**Proposed agenda of the SBSTA-IPCC special event: Unpacking the new scientific knowledge and key findings in the IPCC’s WGII contribution to AR6**

Opening and welcome		
14:00– 14:15	Opening remarks, including objective of the event by the SBSTA and the IPCC Chairs	Tosi Mpanu-Mpanu (SBSTA Chair) and Hoesung Lee (IPCC Chair)
Unpacking the new scientific knowledge and key findings		
14:15– 15.10	Observed and Projected Impacts and Risks - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (20 mins)	Debra Roberts* and Hans-Otto Pörtner (IPCC WGII co-chairs) and IPCC authors
15.10– 16.00	Adaptation Measures and Enabling Conditions - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (20 mins)	*Joy Pereira (IPCC WGII vice-chair) will deputise for Debra Roberts
16.00– 16.55	Climate Resilient Development - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (20 mins)	
Closing		
16:55– 17:00	Closing remarks by the Chairs of the SBSTA and the IPCC	Tosi Mpanu-Mpanu and Hoesung Lee

11. The special event will be co-chaired by Mr. Tosi Mpanu-Mpanu, Chair of the SBSTA, and Mr. Hoesung Lee, Chair of the IPCC, who will provide opening remarks to commence the special event.

12. Each presentation will be followed by a question and answer session. In that regard, participants may wish to study the WGII report and come prepared with questions relating to the report for the experts.

13. Parties and other participants are encouraged to start reflecting on how the findings in the report could inform work under the UNFCCC process, including the first global stocktake and the second periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress towards achieving it. Participants are also encouraged to consider the new knowledge and findings in the report with a view to enhancing the implementation of nationally determined contributions and long-term low emission strategies, national adaptation plans and other climate actions and support thereof.

14. The SBSTA and IPCC chairs will close the special event and an informal summary report, under their authority, will be made available on the UNFCCC website<sup>3</sup> prior to SB57.

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<sup>3</sup> See <https://unfccc.int/event/ar6wgii-special-event>.