

Information on the special event of the SBSTA and the IPCC: unpacking the new scientific knowledge and key findings in the Working Group III contribution to the Sixth Assessment report: Mitigation of Climate Change

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 III contribution to the Sixth Assessment report: Mitigation of Climate Change. 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 III contribution in Bonn, Germany, on **Wednesday 8 June 2022 from 11:00 to 14:00 (CEST)**, in Plenary Room New York (tbc).

Further information relating to this special event is available on the UNFCCC's website and will be updated regularly: <https://unfccc.int/event/ar6wgiii-special-event>.

I. Background

1. The IPCC adopted and accepted the Working Group III (WGIII) contribution to the Sixth Assessment report (AR6) at the 14th session of the WGIII and the 56th Session of the IPCC held on 21 March to 3 April 2022. The WGIII contribution's Summary for Policymakers (SPM) was released on 4 April 2022.¹
2. The report builds upon the 2014 WGIII contribution to the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report and the 2018–2019 IPCC Special Reports² of the AR6 cycle and incorporates subsequent new evidence from climate science. It benefited from 278 authors from 65 countries and 354 contributing authors with over 18,000 scientific publications assessed and over 59,000 expert and government review comments provided and addressed.
3. The WGIII contribution examines provides an updated global assessment of climate change mitigation progress and pledges, and examines the sources of global emissions. It explains developments in emission reduction and mitigation efforts, assessing the impact of national climate pledges in relation to long-term emissions goals.
4. The WGIII contribution introduces several new components: i) a new chapter on the social aspects of mitigation, which explores the 'demand side', i.e. what drives consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. This chapter is a partner to the sectoral chapters in the report, which explore the 'supply side' of climate change - what produces emissions; ii) a cross-sector chapter on mitigation options that cut across sectors, including carbon dioxide removal techniques; iii) a new chapter on innovation, technology development and transfer, which describes how a well-established innovation system at a national level, guided by well-designed policies, can contribute to mitigation, adaptation and achieving the sustainable development goals, while avoiding undesired consequences.
5. The SPM presents the key findings of the WGII under five sections:
 - (a) Introduction and framing
 - (b) Recent developments and current trends;
 - (c) System transformations to limit global warming;
 - (d) Linkages between mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development;
 - (e) Strengthening the response.
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.

¹ See <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-3>.

² 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 WGIII contribution to AR6 will take place under the SBSTA in Bonn, Germany, on Wednesday 8 June 2022 from **11:00 to 14:00** 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 webcasted.

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 WGIII 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 (WGIII Co-Chairs and Experts), 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		
11.00–11.15	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		
11.15–11.55	Recent developments and current trends - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (25 mins)	Jim Skea (IPCC WGIII co-chair), Shonali Pachauri
11.55–12.35	System transformations to limit global warming; - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (25 mins)	Keywan Riahi, Smail Khennas, Joyashree Roy
12.35–13.15	Linkages between mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (25 mins)	Minal Pathak, Michael Grubb
13.15–13.55	Strengthening the response - Presentation (15 mins) - Q&A discussion (25 mins)	Sylvie Kreibiehl, Heleen de Coninck, Navroz Dubash
Closing		
13.55–14:00	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 website³ prior to SB57.

³ See <https://unfccc.int/event/ar6wgiii-special-event>.