# Current IPCC Statements about the Climate Crisis

—

Compiled by Esther Collier

# Reading IPCC Reports

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has the most up-to-date and deeply researched information on the climate crisis. Access reports here and click on the Reports tab (top left) to see a drop-down menu.

Don't try to read the whole report (unless you have superior technical knowledge… )!

Read: **Press Release** or **Summary for Policy Makers** or **Headline Statements** or watch the **videos**.

The IPCC has Working Groups and they give Assessment Reports (ARs). The **AR6** has just been released in four sections with **WG1** (August 2021) and **WG 2** (February) and **WG 3** (April). The Synthesis Report will be released this September.

# Situation in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

**The report highlights a number of climate change impacts that could be avoided by limiting global warming to 1.5ºC compared to 2°C, or more.**


**By 2100, with global warming of 1.5°C compared with 2°C:**

- **Global sea level rise** would be 10 cm lower
- The likelihood of an **Arctic Ocean free of sea ice** in summer would be once per century compared with at least once per decade
- **Coral reefs** would decline by 70-90 percent as compared to virtually all (> 99 percent) being lost
- **Reduction** in **impacts on ecosystems, human health and well-being**, making it **easier to achieve** the United Nations **Sustainable Development Goals**

# Situation in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

## Limiting global warming to a 1.5°C increase would require:

- "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities.
- Global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching 'net zero' around 2050.

*"Limiting warming to 1.5ºC is possible within the laws of chemistry and physics but doing so would require unprecedented changes,"*

Jim Skea, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III.

# Situation in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

**Pathways reflecting current nationally stated mitigation ambition until 2030 are**

broadly **consistent**
**with** cost-effective pathways
that result in a **global warming**
**of about 3°C by 2100,**
with warming continuing afterwards
(*medium confidence*).

# Situation in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

**Reversing warming after an overshoot of 0.2°C** or larger during this century would require upscaling and deployment of CDR *(carbon dioxide removal)* at rates and volumes that **might not be achievable** given considerable implementation challenges (*medium confidence*).

# Solutions 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

A mix of adaptation and mitigation options to limit global warming to 1.5°C, **implemented in a participatory and integrated manner**, **can enable rapid, systemic transitions** in urban and rural areas (*high confidence*).

**These are most effective** when aligned with economic and sustainable development, and **when local and regional governments and decision makers are supported by national governments** (*medium confidence*).

# Solutions in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

Strengthened multilevel governance, institutional capacity, policy instruments, technological innovation and transfer and mobilization of finance, and **changes in human behaviour and lifestyles** are enabling conditions that **enhance the feasibility** of mitigation and adaptation options **for 1.5°C-consistent systems transitions.** (*high confidence*)

# Solutions in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

**Education, information, and community approaches,**
including those that are **informed by indigenous knowledge and local knowledge,**
can **accelerate the wide-scale behaviour changes**
**consistent with adapting to and limiting global warming to 1.5°C.**

**These approaches are more effective when**
combined with other policies and
**tailored to the motivations,**
**capabilities and resources of specific actors and contexts**
(*high confidence*).

**Public acceptability can enable** or inhibit
**the implementation of policies and measures to limit global warming**
**to 1.5°C** and to adapt to the consequences. (*high confidence*).

## Solutions in 2018 - IPCC: SPECIAL REPORT: GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 ºC

**Strengthening the capacities for climate action**
**of** national and sub-national authorities,
**civil society, the private sector,**
**indigenous peoples and local communities**
**can support the implementation**
**of ambitious actions implied by limiting global**
**warming to 1.5°C (*high confidence*).**

# Situation in 2022

AR6 highlights adaptation solutions which are effective, **feasible**, and conform to principles of **justice**.

# Situation in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

Considering all five illustrative scenarios assessed by WGI, there is at least a greater than 50% likelihood that global warming will reach or exceed 1.5°C in the near-term (2021-2040), even for the very low greenhouse gas emissions scenario.

Complex risks result from **multiple climate hazards occurring concurrently**, and from **multiple risks interacting**, **compounding overall risk** and resulting in **risks transmitting through interconnected systems and across regions**.

# Situation in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

Global warming, reaching 1.5°C in the near-term, would cause unavoidable increases in multiple climate hazards and present multiple risks to ecosystems and humans (very high confidence).

# Situation in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

The **extent and magnitude of climate change impacts** are **larger than estimated in previous assessments** (*high confidence*)

Some **losses are already irreversible**, such as the **first species extinctions driven by climate change** (medium confidence).

**Other impacts** are **approaching irreversibility** such as the impacts of hydrological changes resulting from the retreat of glaciers, or the changes in some mountain (medium confidence) and Arctic ecosystems driven by permafrost thaw (high confidence).

Globally, **less than 15% of the land, 21% of the freshwater and 8% of the ocean are protected areas**.
**In most protected areas,** there is **insufficient stewardship** to contribute to reducing damage from, or increasing resilience to, climate change (high confidence).

Projected climate change, combined with non-climatic drivers, will cause **loss and degradation of much of the world's forests** (high confidence), **coral reefs and low-lying coastal wetlands** (very high confidence).

# Situation in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

**Near-term actions that limit global warming** to close to 1.5°C **would substantially reduce projected losses and damages** related to climate change in human systems and ecosystems, compared to higher warming levels, **but cannot eliminate them all** (very high confidence).

**Many of these risks are unavoidable in the near-term**, irrespective of emission scenario (high confidence).

The magnitude and rate of climate change and associated risks depend strongly on near-term mitigation and adaptation actions, and **projected adverse impacts** and related losses and damages **escalate with every increment of global warming** (very high confidence).

## Situation in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

The cumulative **scientific evidence is unequivocal**:

**Climate change is a threat to human well-being**
and planetary health.
Any **further delay** in concerted anticipatory global action
on adaptation and mitigation
**will miss a brief and rapidly closing window**
of opportunity to secure
a liveable and sustainable future for all.
(very high confidence)

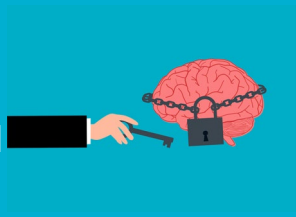
# Solutions in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

Taking action is enabled by governance, finance, **knowledge and capacity building**, technology and catalysing conditions.

**Inclusive,** integrated and long-term planning at **local**, municipal, sub-national and national scales, together with effective **regulation and monitoring systems** and financial and technological resources and capabilities **foster urban** and rural system **transition** (high confidence).

**Effective partnerships between governments, civil society, and private sector organizations**, across scales provide infrastructure and services in ways that **enhance the adaptive capacity of vulnerable people** (medium to high confidence).

# Solutions in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability



An **increasing number of adaptation responses** exist **for urban systems**, but their feasibility and effectiveness is constrained by institutional, financial, and technological access and capacity, and **depends on coordinated and contextually appropriate responses** across physical, natural and social infrastructure (high confidence).

**Lack of climate literacy at all levels and limited availability of information and data pose further constraints** to adaptation planning and implementation (medium confidence).

**Enabling conditions are key** for implementing, accelerating and sustaining adaptation in human systems and ecosystems.
These include **political commitment and follow -through**, institutional frameworks, policies and instruments **with clear goals and priorities**, **enhanced knowledge** on impacts and solutions, mobilization of and access to adequate financial resources, monitoring and evaluation, and inclusive governance processes. (high confidence)

**Accelerating commitment and follow -through is promoted by rising public awareness**, building business cases for adaptation, accountability and transparency mechanisms, **monitoring and evaluation** of adaptation progress, social movements, and climate-related litigation in some regions (medium confidence).

# Solutions in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

**Enhancing knowledge** on risks, impacts, and their consequences, and available adaptation options **promotes societal and policy responses** (high confidence). **A wide range of top-down, bottom -up and co-produced processes and sources can deepen climate knowledge** and sharing, including **capacity building at all scales**, **educational and information programmes**, using the arts, participatory modelling and climate services, Indigenous knowledge and **local knowledge** and citizen science (high confidence).

**These measures can** facilitate awareness, heighten risk perception and **influence behaviours** (high confidence).

**Public mechanisms** and finance **can leverage private sector finance** for adaptation by addressing real and perceived regulatory, cost and market barriers, for example via public-private partnerships (high confidence).

These approaches, which include multi-stakeholder co-learning platforms, transboundary collaborations, **community -based adaptation and participatory scenario planning**, focus on capacity-building, and meaningful participation of the most vulnerable and marginalised groups, and their access to key resources to adapt (high confidence).

# Solutions in 2022 - IPCC: CLIMATE CHANGE 2022 - Impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability

There is a **rapidly narrowing window of opportunity**
to enable climate resilient development.

Multiple climate resilient development **pathways are still possible**
by **which communities**, the private sector,
governments, nations and the world can pursue climate resilient development –
each involving and resulting from different societal choices influenced by different contexts and opportunities and constraints on system transitions.

**Climate resilient development is enabled**
**when governments, civil society and the private sector**
**make inclusive development choices**
that prioritise risk reduction, equity and justice,
and when decision-making processes, finance and actions are integrated across governance levels, sectors and timeframes (very high confidence).

Climate resilient development is facilitated by international cooperation
and by **governments at all levels working with communities, civil society, educational bodies,**
scientific and other institutions, media, investors and businesses; and by developing partnerships with traditionally marginalised groups, including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and ethnic minorities (high confidence).

# View From Experts - MARK CARNEY - BBC Reith Lectures

**Now there is a way out.** The Nobel economist, Elinor Ostrom, has documented **how a community can cooperate to manage a scarce resource** It's about bringing companies, communities and countries together to manage our global ecosystem by **developing a consensus for sustainability**, **we can unleash the dynamism of the private sector** to put value in service of values.

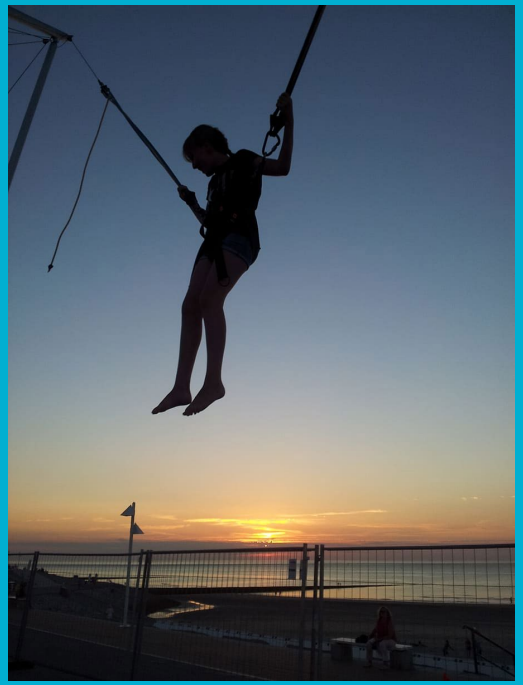
**If society sets a clear goal, it will become profitable to be part of the solution , and costly to remain part of the problem.** If, as it is beginning to appear, **society's values are being redefined**, **prioritising resilience, solidarity and sustainability** , the tensions between urgency and complacency can be resolved.

*Bold font, paragraphing, and text size differences are mine.*

# How do we harness civil society and the private sector?

## Leadership

1. **Call Canadians to action** to **develop consensus**
2. **Set clear goals** to **activate the desire to be part of the solution**
3. **Refer regularly to the situation** and desired behaviour to help **unleash the dynamism of the private sector** by normalizing climate action behaviour



# Joining a climate action community