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# GCF REGIONAL DIALOGUE

with EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

**Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia**  
18–22 March 2024



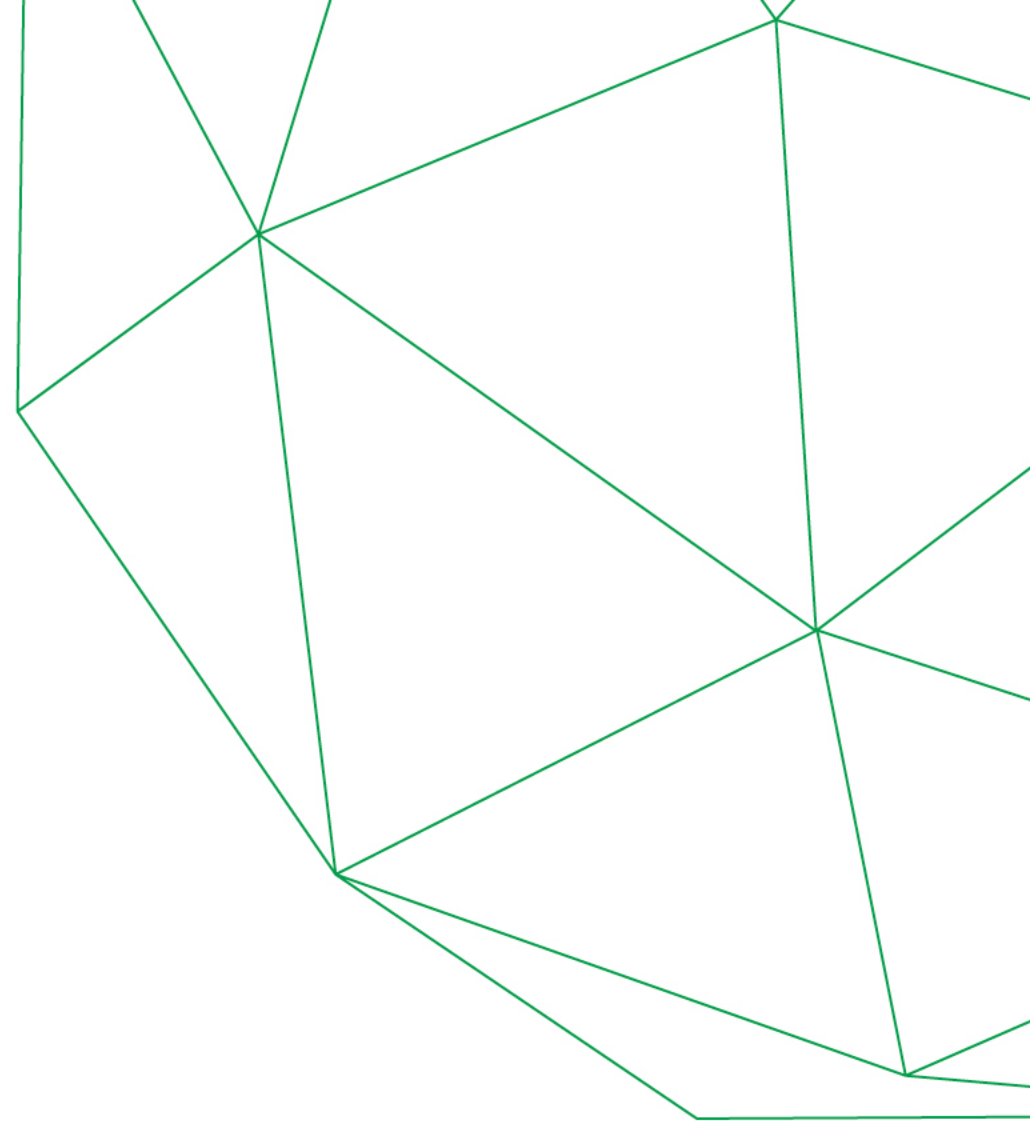
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# Developing GCF-aligned and high-quality projects: Demonstrating Climate Impact Potential

Kevin Horsburgh, Climate Science Lead,  
Office of the Executive Director, GCF

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# Fund-level guidance for demonstrating impact potential



GCF\_B.33/12 established high-level principles for demonstrating the impact potential of GCF-supported activities

## For mitigation

- Alignment of the activities with host country priorities, including its nationally determined contribution (NDC)
- A methodological approach for the quantification of the mitigation results of the activity should be selected and used
- Quantification of mitigation impact should use consistent assumptions (e.g. emission factors) to those made in national GHG reporting
- Proposals should describe the establishment of a measurement, reporting, and verification system

## For adaptation

- Identification: Adaptation proposals should show how the activity addresses current or future projected climate change risk or impact
- Response: Proposals should explain how the activity will lessen the risk
- Alignment: Proposals should confirm alignment of the proposed activity with the host country's national plans and climate strategies (including NAPs, NAPAs, or long-term climate strategies)
- Monitoring and evaluation: Projects with a well-designed theory of change are more likely to result in successful outcomes

The Secretariat will provide capacity-building support (including via RPSP and PPF) to accredited entities, especially direct access entities, to enhance the demonstration of climate impact potential. With a wider expert community, the Secretariat will develop online practical guidance, open-source information platforms, tools and further training materials

# How to best describe impact potential?



- Proposals have to describe how they meet the principles of B.33/12
- That description/explanation – why are we bringing this proposal to GCF - is the overarching context. It is inherent to the proposal.  
**Climate change context** is a more accurate term than the obsolete 'climate rationale'
- No amount of text can change the basic idea behind a proposal. But a strong narrative helps reviewers recognize the potential benefits
- For mitigation, this is describing that a projected level of GHG emissions reductions (or removals) will occur
- For adaptation it is about explaining the links between climate hazards, risks and impacts in the context of development, and how the proposed activities will reduce those risks.

# Role of Climate Impact Advisory Team



- Climate impact support and advice: for all project ideas entering the GCF pipeline; for all stakeholders, internal and external
- **Constructively engage** and advise on proposal design; engage with project origination at the earliest possible stage
- Expertise and knowledge base for climate change information and climate impact tools and methodologies
- Develop and maintain tools, guidance, and training materials **in support of capacity building**, strategic planning, and proposal development
- **Collaborate** with the international climate communities to coordinate sources of climate science information and methodologies
- **Collaborate** with iTAP to ensure consistent and transparent assessment of proposals

# For mitigation



Proposals should confirm alignment of the activities with host country priorities, including its nationally determined contribution (NDC) or other national and long-term climate strategies.

A methodological approach should be proposed for the quantification of the mitigation results of the activity and its monitoring. A mitigation will include certain standard components (impact boundaries, baseline, additionality, project lifetime).

The quantification of mitigation impact should use consistent assumptions (e.g. emission factors) to those made in national GHG reporting.

Proposals should describe the establishment of a measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) system for the GHG emission reductions and removals of the proposed activity which would be aligned with existing country MRV systems.

# Supplementary guidance for mitigation



- There are occasions where more detailed advice is helpful to proposal developers. The climate impact team and iTAP are working together to agree supplementary guidance to GCF stakeholders so that proposals provide the best demonstration of mitigation impact potential.
- The advice will be published online as part of a dynamic network of resources, can respond to feedback, and will be backed up with online examples of good practice for showing mitigation impact.
- The guidance will take the form of FAQs and answers and will link to useful online materials for each of the high-level principles in turn.

# FAQs for mitigation climate impact



- How do we confirm alignment of the activities with host country priorities?
- Where can we find good practice methodologies for estimating climate mitigation impact, for specific sectors?
- What is good practice for determining impact boundaries and accounting for leakage?
- How should we derive and describe a project baseline, or business as usual?
- How should we estimate project mitigation lifetime, for specific sectors?



# For adaptation



Adaptation proposals should show how the activity addresses current or future projected climate change risk or impact. They should show how climate change has contributed, or will contribute, to the specific risk or impact that the proposed activity addresses using the best available information.

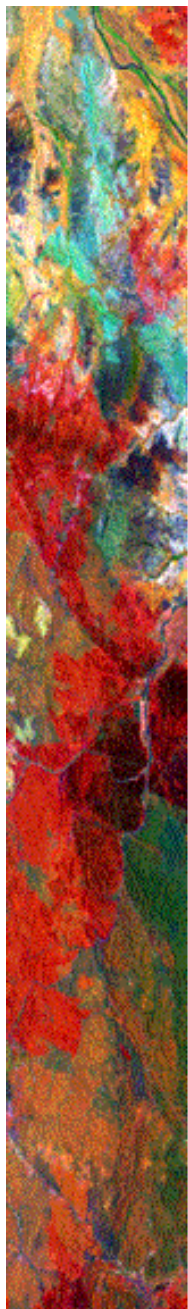
Proposals should explain how the activity will reduce the exposure and/or vulnerability (of people, systems, or ecosystems) and thus lessen the climate change risk or impact.

Proposals should confirm alignment of the proposed activity with the host country's national plans and climate strategies.

Projects with a well-designed theory of change are more likely to result in successful outcomes that can be measured and evaluated. Proposals should include a description of the monitoring and evaluation system that will be used to track beneficiaries

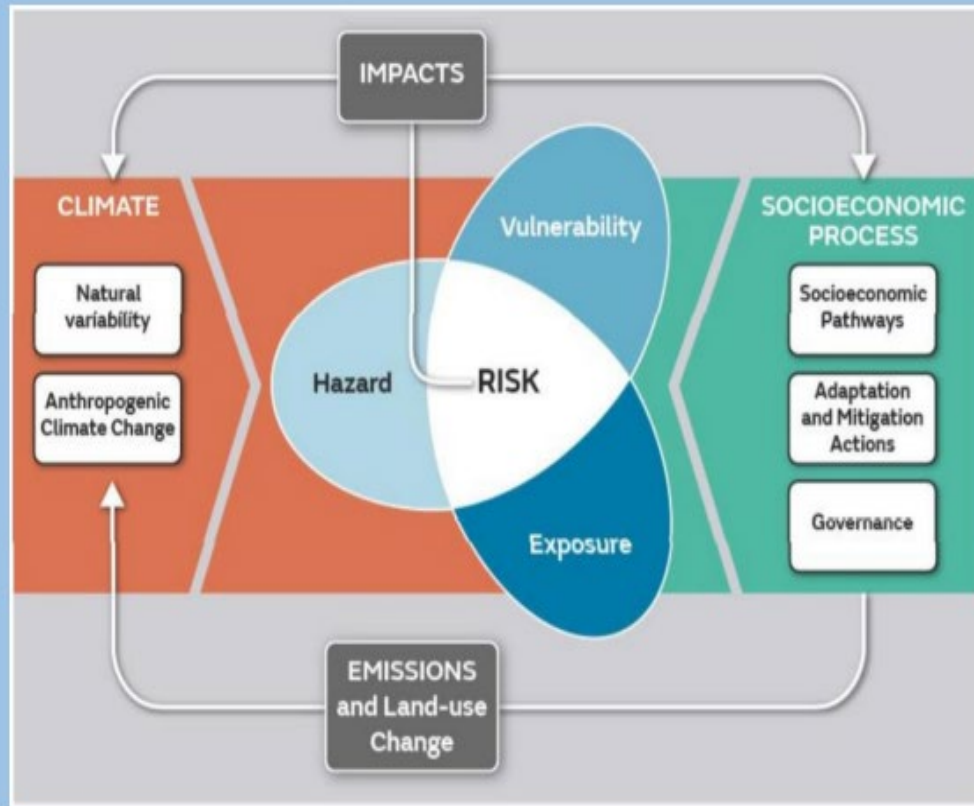
# What is the “best available data”

- Defining the climate hazard, exposure, and vulnerability of a project area involves gathering and synthesizing a diverse range of information, which will be unique for each proposal
- Decision B.33/.12 recognized that proposals should make use of the best available information, which may come from a variety of sources, and be adapted to context and capacities for a specific country or region.
- “...demonstrating the impact potential of GCF-supported activities should make use of the best available information and data, including from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and from traditional, local and indigenous knowledge and practices, while being flexible and taking into account the context of the proposal, the different capabilities of accredited entities, and country and regional circumstances.”



Setting out the climate  
change context and  
Impact Potential of GCF  
project proposals:  
perfecting the narrative

# Combining climate change information with non-climate information to understand risks



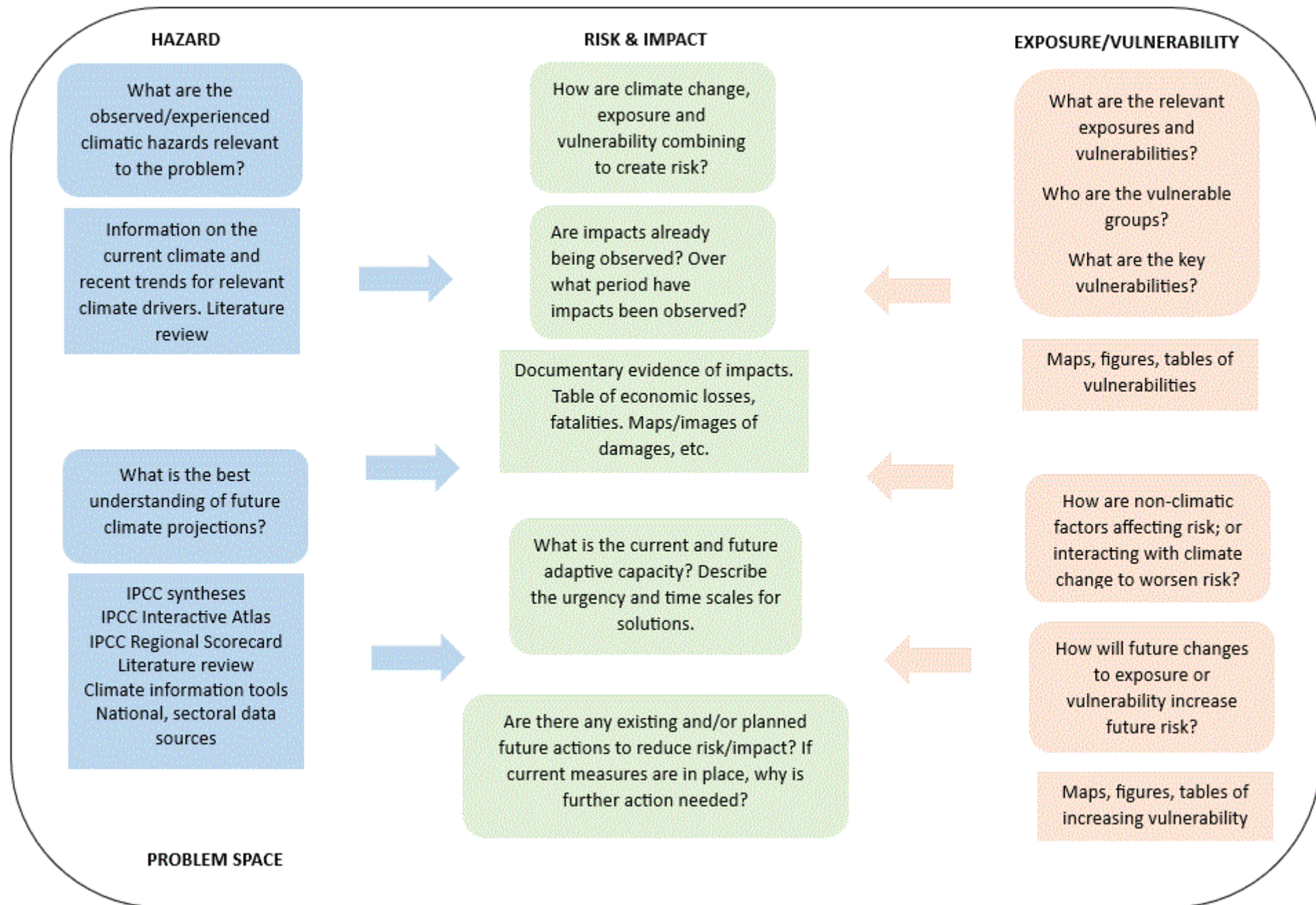
- Demographics
- Human development
- Income
- Employment
- Housing type
- Gender
- Economic variables

# Adaptation checklist for transparent review



- Proposals will have undertaken an integrated assessment of climatic and non-climatic information, in order to determine the best response to the most threatening climate change risks or impacts.
- The supplementary guidance for adaptation will provide a checklist that is useful for both proposer and any assessor.
- If the climate context narrative in the proposal addresses all the questions, in a systematic way, then this should provide all the information necessary for any reviewer/assessor.
- This approach drives transparency of the review process and improves efficiency and access







### SOLUTION SPACE

Do the interventions offer a credible reduction of risk/impact, that is sustainable over the long term?

Do the interventions increase climate resilience and enhance adaptive capacity?

How were the interventions selected over alternatives?

Does the proposal explain how maladaptation will be avoided?

Does the proposal explain how it will overcome barriers to implementation?

Do the proposed interventions align with the principles of GCF Board decision B.33/12?

Do the interventions succeed in the face of uncertainties?

Do the interventions strengthen the integration of climate change into policy?

Do the interventions exhibit synergy with other ongoing activities (non-duplication), including with mitigation actions?

Were interventions designed with full stakeholder involvement?

Are beneficiaries clearly identified and quantified?

# Bringing the information together - synthesis



- The effective combination of relevant information empowers countries/DAEs to identify effective actions to overcome the challenges of climate change. Climate change information is an essential ingredient but not the only one.
- A global initiative is required to place climate information in the user context. This would improve the quality and success rate of proposals to GCF (and other funds). There are two “quick wins”:
- A wiki-style platform that signposts the diverse information needed for climate change prioritization and action
- Trusted documentation with international leadership (e.g. GCF with WMO, IPCC) which becomes accepted as the “how to” handbook to synthesize relevant information into planning and proposals



# The Climate Information Gateway



- The wiki-style resource would support easy location of and access to diverse climate change and vulnerability information including:
  - open-source information platforms and tools (e.g. for climate projections, global observational data, crop-modelling, water resources, etc., etc.)
  - climate change risk analyses by country and by sector
  - online training materials and capacity support for interpreting and using climate change information
  - practical guidance for writing proposals for climate finance
- It would:
  - expand and evolve in response to feedback from all users
  - give opportunity to comment on the usage of information sources
  - provide guidance specific to those seeking GCF funding - but could easily expand to serve other climate finance organizations



## Platforms for accessing climate projections and observational climate data



When developing proposals (e.g. to a funding agency such as the GCF) developers should make use of the best available data, which may come from a variety of sources, and be adapted to data availability, context and capacities for a specific country or region. Recognizing the significant variation in data availability across countries and contexts, it is clear that funding bodies should not be prescriptive regarding the use of any specific data source.

For modelled future climate, a number of community tools and information platforms exist to assist in the retrieval and analysis of climate model projections. Planners and proposal developers should use the information platforms and future climate data specific to the risk and hazard of their proposal, and should seek consensus amongst different data sources where possible. The IPCC stresses the value of developing an analysis using multiple lines of evidence and this approach ("distillation") is strongly endorsed here, including the use of local, traditional, and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge in the articulation of the climate risks.

The [IPCC WGI Interactive Atlas](#) is a novel tool for flexible spatial and temporal analyses of much of the observed and projected climate change information underpinning the Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report. The Interactive Atlas has two components. The first (regional information) includes the ability to generate global maps and a number of regionally aggregated products for observed and projected climate change for time periods, emissions scenarios or global warming levels of interest. The second component (regional synthesis) provides qualitative information about changes in climatic impact-drivers (CIDs) in several categories such as heat and cold, wet and dry, or coastal and oceanic.

The [Climate Information Portal](#) is a user-friendly resource developed by the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI), on behalf of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This platform provides easy access to many pre-calculated climate indicators (both weather and water variables), derived from CMIP6 and CORDEX climate models. The platform also provides a good [introduction to climate models and methods](#) for non-specialists.

The [Copernicus Climate Change Service \(C3S\)](#) supports society by providing authoritative information about the past, present and future climate in Europe and the rest of the World. It offers free and open access to climate data and tools based on the best available science. C3S provides climate data and information on impacts on a range of topics and sectoral areas through its Climate Data Store (CDS). The CDS is designed to enable users to tailor services to more specific public or commercial needs.

The [Climate Data Guide](#) from the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) provides concise and reliable information on the strengths and limitations of the key observational data sets, tools and methods used to evaluate (or initialize or force) Earth system models and to understand the climate system. Citable expert commentaries are authored by experienced data users and developers, enabling a diverse user community to access and understand the data that underpin climate science.

The [NASA Sea Level Projection Tool](#) allows users to visualize and download the sea level projection data from the IPCC 6th Assessment Report (AR6). The goal of this tool is to provide easy and improved access and visualization to the consensus projections found in the report. The target audience is intended to be broad, allowing a general audience and scientists alike to interact with the information contained in the AR6. The tool allows users to view both global and regional sea level projections from 2020 to 2150, along with how these projections differ depending on future scenario. Users can click on a point anywhere in the ocean to obtain the IPCC projection of sea level for that individual location.

Here are some expert commentaries (left) and recent applications (right)

### Expert views on the climate model projection resources

This section can act as a blog or a Q&A section for the resources

**Here are some recent applications of the materials (e.g. in funding proposals or in national plans and strategies such as NAPs)**

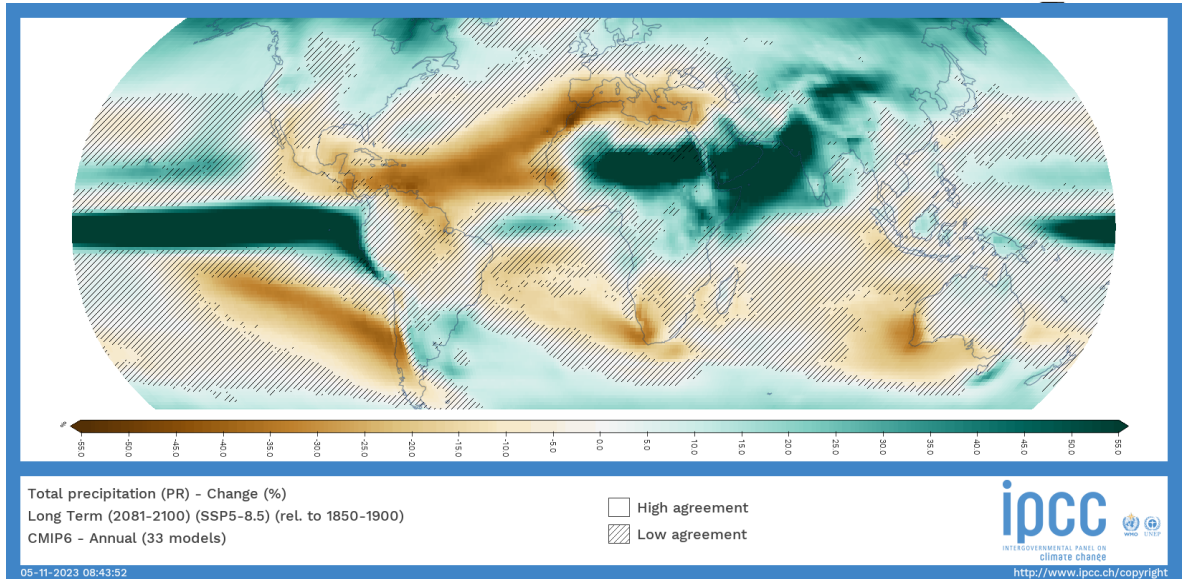
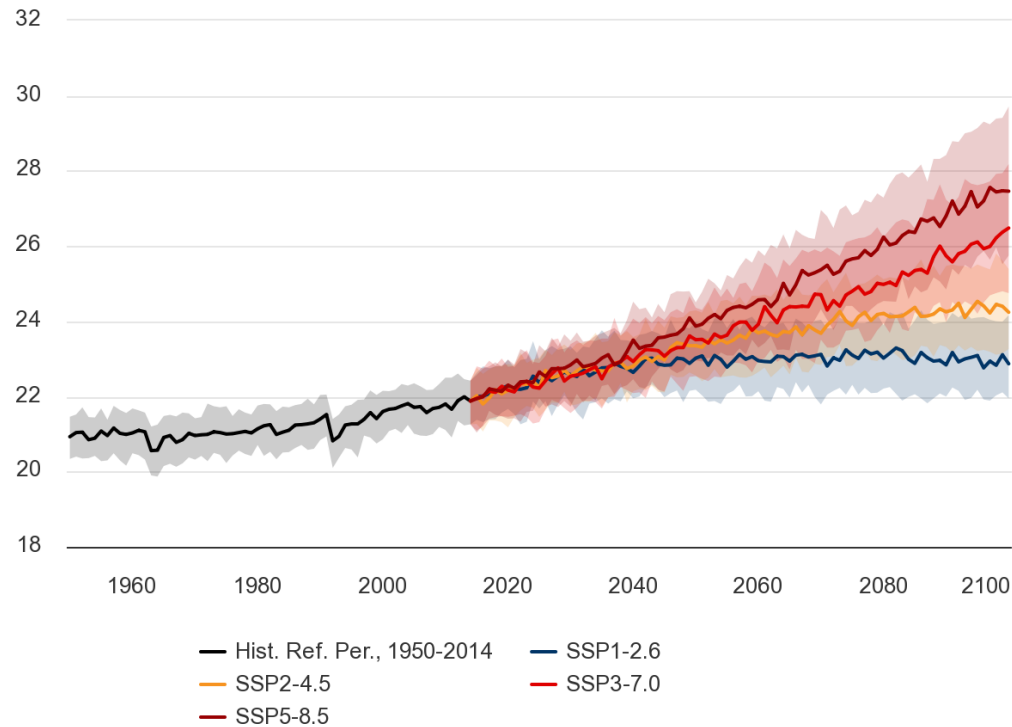




# Thank you

# Many tools are available (but sometimes confusing)

Projected Average Mean Surface Air Temperature  
Namibia; (Ref. Period: 1995-2014), Multi-Model Ensemble



## Site-specific Report

### How will the climate change in your region

Select an area of interest by filling in a city, coordinate or click directly in the map. You can use the generated maps and graphs in your national climate science basis report.  
*NOTE that the resolution of the climate indicator follow the resolution of the climate models. Data from a selected point always represents a mean value over a larger area (grid cell or catchment).*

The interface for generating a site-specific report. On the left is a map of Africa with a location pin in Namibia. To the right are input fields: 'City' (Windhoek, Khomas, NAM), 'Latitude and longitude' (-22.57 / 17.09), 'Emission scenario' (RCP 8.5), and 'Time period' (2071-2100). A 'Generate overview' button is at the bottom right. A status message indicates 'Input format is valid'.