Meeting Summary

KIN Expert Consultation for IPCC

November 8th 2024, KNMI De Bilt



KIN Dutch Climate Research Initiative

Accelerating transitions together

On request of the Dutch Acting Focal Point of IPCC, the Dutch Climate Research Initiative (KIN) organised an expert consultation at the Dutch Royal Meteorological Institute (KNMI) on November 8th 2024. The goal of this KIN Expert Consultation was to provide input for IPCC's 7th Assessment Report.
This report provides a summary of the outcomes of the day.

1. Introduction

After a short introduction from Rob van Dorland (IPCC Acting Focal Point for the Netherlands) and Maarten van Aalst (Director General of KNMI) on the process for IPCC's 7th assessment report, the room was introduced to some of the selected experts that will contribute to the contours of the 7th assessment report. These experts will travel to Kuala Lumpur in December 2024 for a global scoping meeting in which the outline of the new report will be drawn up. The experts present during the KIN Expert Consultation were Linda Steg (RUG), Detlef van Vuuren (PBL/Utrecht University), and Bas van Ruijven (IIASA). Residing in the Netherlands but selected from other countries were Rosh Ranasinghe (IHE/Deltares), Izidine Pinto (KNMI) and Edo Abraham (TU Delft).

In an open room setting with 24 attendees (see full attendee list below) new insights were discussed on societal challenges in the transition, adaptation, governance, and knowledge (implementation) to address climate change. In particular, the question was addressed "how can science create more impact?". By mobilizing a small group of experts from practice, policy, and different scientific disciplines, a diversity of ideas and insights were collected to provide IPCC's experts for the scoping process in Kuala Lumpur.

Lizanne Schepers mentioned in her welcome word that KIN hopes that "The traveling experts that will go to Kuala Lumpur will get new views on what is important for IPCC's next agenda from a scientific, a transition as well as from a practitioner's perspective". Maarten van Aalst, Director General and Chief Scientist of KNMI (and professor at University of Twente, also former Coordinating Lead Author at the IPCC), added that "It is critical to build good interfaces between science, policy and practice, and we need to integrate a wider range of voices".





2. Kick-off statements

After a lively short introduction, Esther van Rijswijk, the moderator of the day, introduced the three experts that gave short statements on the following:

- Prof. dr. Derk Loorbach (DRIFT and KIN) stated that IPCC should not focus on topics but on new ideas and types of knowledge. In his view the current science-policy interface is failing to have the desired impact. More climate science will not lead to transformative policies. Instead, more focus is needed on the science-society interface and new types of support mechanisms to strengthen this, for example by mobilizing science to validate and legitimize the potential of transformative innovation. To this end, knowledge on transformative innovation and policy needs to be included, as well as a plea for creating a better science-society interface.
- Geeke Feiter-van Heuvelen (Dutch Insurance Companies Association) put forward the perspective of the financial practice. She stated “Let’s see if we can make impact with money”. She raised the point of the potential and consequences of the new European Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). From 2024 onwards, this directive requires larger companies to report annually on the impact of climate change on their activities and the impact of their activities on planet and society. The financial industry has to report on the impact of the activities they are enabling, and this transparency will drive climate and sustainability consciousness and actions change. Clear definitions and reliable data are needed to avoid getting bogged down in discussions with customers, stakeholders and governments, but to make real progress and impact out of this reporting obligation.
- Prof. dr. Maarten van Aalst (KNMI and University of Twente) reminded everyone of the great value of IPCC providing undisputed and legitimate global knowledge on climate change. At the same time,
  the world is changing rapidly and we need another type of climate risk communication in order to manage risk in policy and practice.
  Not just towards the future, but also right now, given how risks have already changed. This includes managing risks given a range of uncertainties in climate variables (especially extremes) but also exposure and vulnerability, especially at local scales.



3. Discussion outcomes

Both IPCC's selected experts and KIN's invited (practice) experts got the opportunity to add to the initial statements from their own perspective during smaller group discussions. Many views, ideas and suggestions were brought up of which the following stood out as being recognized and restated by the attendees.

Advice 1:
Include social innovation and the behavioral part of the transition

- Pay more attention to socially and locally led processes as they are more legitimate;
- Don't overlook research on bottom-up social innovation;
- Bring in sociologists and behavioral psychologists;
- Create a smart way of transition and social justice as the right bedrocks for policies;
- Focus more on the 'S" in Environmental Social and Governance (ESG) factors;
- Study the disconnect between growing devastating impact and changing behavior;
- Include procedural justice;
- Look at broader social implications of new policies.

Advice 2:
Include the health perspective in climate policy and research

- Look at the effectiveness of measures also from a health perspective;
- Look at cascade health effects between groups;
- Using the health perspective can help in communication as it brings climate change closer to personal impact;
- Look at the WHO reports on health impacts of climate change and broaden the scope of risks.

Advice 3:
Address climate risks in a broader way

- Study extreme weather damage costs such as hail;
- Create more regional information on shorter timescales and for multiple hazards;
- Make good adaptation reality checks and ensure data is not only used for mitigation;
- Cover multiple climate change and adaptation scenarios;
- Study the risk of "overshoot" approaching the 1.5.

More related to the IPCC communications and process were the following advices:

Advice 4:
Ensure practical and constructive communications

- Make sure you don't lose parts of society by lacking in communication;
- Prevent fear making, be conscious of the language used and focus more on positive narratives;
- Show the benefits of SDGs, take other values into account;
- Use the science base of best practices, reflect on them and make the information more hands-on;
- Be careful with the word "transition" as it can have a negative connotation;
- Be fair to younger generations about the implications of mitigation scenarios;
- Provide clearer uncertainty guidance.

Advice 5:
Be reflective about IPCC's own processes

- Involve practitioners and co-create with policy makers, be inclusive and "walk the talk";
- Take into account the value of "grey literature";
- Use science of "best practices";
- Make climate science more actionable.



4. Conclusion and considerations

It was very valuable to have a live discussion with this small group of experts. In a short amount of time, many relevant observations, views and suggestions were collected. Different perspectives were brought together in an interactive manner. If there is one conclusion that can be drawn out of this event, it is the demand for more IPCC attention on the social and communication aspects of climate change research and policies.

This KIN Expert Consultation was set up with a selection of diverse experts with expertise in governance (national/regional level), health, finance, justice, transitions, youth and behavior. We noticed that it was harder to find practice experts due to full agendas, which will need some extra attention for a next event. As some of the attendees could not make it live and only could join online, it was unfortunately not possible to facilitate them with a similarly interactive experience as the attendees in the room.

This report will be shared with IPCC's selected experts travelling to Kuala Lumpur. KIN will follow this up with a review of what out of this expert consultation was actually used as input in Kuala Lumpur and how the traveling candidates evaluate this type of expert consultation.

List of attendees

Name	*Affiliation*	*Additions*
Rob van Dorland	IPCC	Acting focal point IPCC
Marcel Berk	Min. EZK	Coordination group IPCC
Heloïse van Houten	Min. LVVN	Coordination group IPCC
Vera Olgers	Min. EZK	Coordination group IPCC
Bart van den Hurk	IPCC / Deltares	Co-chair WG2 to KL
Linda Steg	RUG	NL expert to Kuala Lumpur
Detlef van Vuuren	PBL	NL expert to Kuala Lumpur
Bas van Ruijven	IIASA	NL expert to Kuala Lumpur
Rosh Ranasinghe	IHE / Deltares	Int. expert to Kuala Lumpur
Izidine Pinto	KNMI	Int. expert to Kuala Lumpur
Edo Abraham	TU Delft	Int. expert to Kuala Lumpur
Geeke Feiter-van Heuvelen	Bond van Verzekeraars	
Derk Loorbach	DRIFT / KIN	
Maarten van Aalst	KNMI / University of Twente	
Piet Sprengers	ASN Bank	
Evelyn Brakema	Groene Zorg Alliantie	
Diane Reckien	University of Twente	
Dirk Schoenmaker	Erasmus	
Marleen de Ruiter	VU	
Wieke Pot	WUR	
Carola Wijdoogen	Number 5 Foundation	
Laurens Pardede	Jonge Klimaatbeweging	
Renske de Winter	Deltares	
Fieke van Leest	VNG	
Mirko Lukács	KIN	
Lizanne Schepers	KIN	
Lisa Berkouwer	KIN	

Colophon

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With KIN, we aim to increase the contribution of science to accelerating system transitions. Our ambition is to speed up the transition to a climate-neutral and climate-resilient world through the optimal use of existing scientific knowledge and the development of new knowledge.