
One of the main activities of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the preparation of comprehensive assessment reports about the state of scientific, technical and socioeconomic knowledge on climate change, its causes, potential impacts and response strategies. Since its inception in 1988 the IPCC has prepared four multivolume assessment reports. Each assessment report is composed by three working groups. It was primarily the 4th Assessment Report (2007) the alerted the Church and the world to the serious challenges human induced global warming and climate change pose to all of us.

The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) will provide an update of knowledge on the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of climate change. It will be composed of three working group reports and a Synthesis Report (SYR). AR5 will be published in three parts as follows: The Physical Science Basis, 23-26 September 2013; Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, 25-29 March 2014; and Mitigation of Climate Change, 7-11 and 13 April 2014. It is anticipated that will show more graphically than ever, the necessity for immediate and drastic changes in CO2 levels; indeed, the very existence of human beings is at stake. (See http://www.ipcc.ch/

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