

IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) now underway

AR5 Cross Cutting issues

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Thanks to Richard Moss, Martin Manning,
and Mike Mastrandrea for some slides

ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Lessons from AR4: How to improve the handling of Cross-Cutting Themes in AR5?

- CCTs should be carefully handled (using guidance papers/meeting reports for every CCT)
- WGs need to be fully involved, (implication of key WGs members and improved cross WG coordination)
- CCTs development should be closely linked to the SYR development process

From: AR5-SCOP/INF.2 (09 July 2009, Venice)

Cross-Cutting Issues in AR5

During the AR5 scoping process 9 cross-cutting issues were identified and grouped in two clusters:

- **Cross-Cutting Methodologies (CCMs)**
(comprise methodology issues that apply to the presentation or content of the report)
- **Cross-Cutting Themes (CCTs)**
(cover subjects that require adequate emphasis and need to be considered by more than one Working Group)

Cross-Cutting Issues in AR5: CCTs (5 Cross-Cutting Themes)

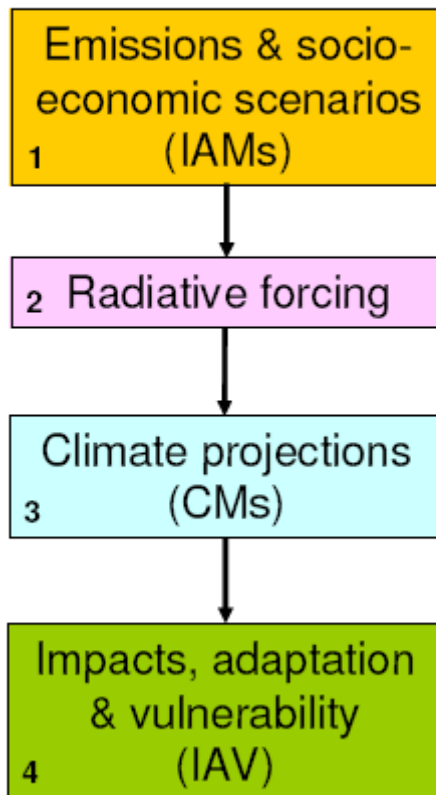
- Water and the Earth system: change, impacts and responses
- Carbon Cycle including ocean acidification
- Ice Sheets and Sea-Level Rise
- Mitigation, Adaptation, and Sustainable Development
- Issues related to Article 2 of the UNFCCC

Cross-Cutting Issues in AR5: CCMs (4 Cross-Cutting Methodologies)

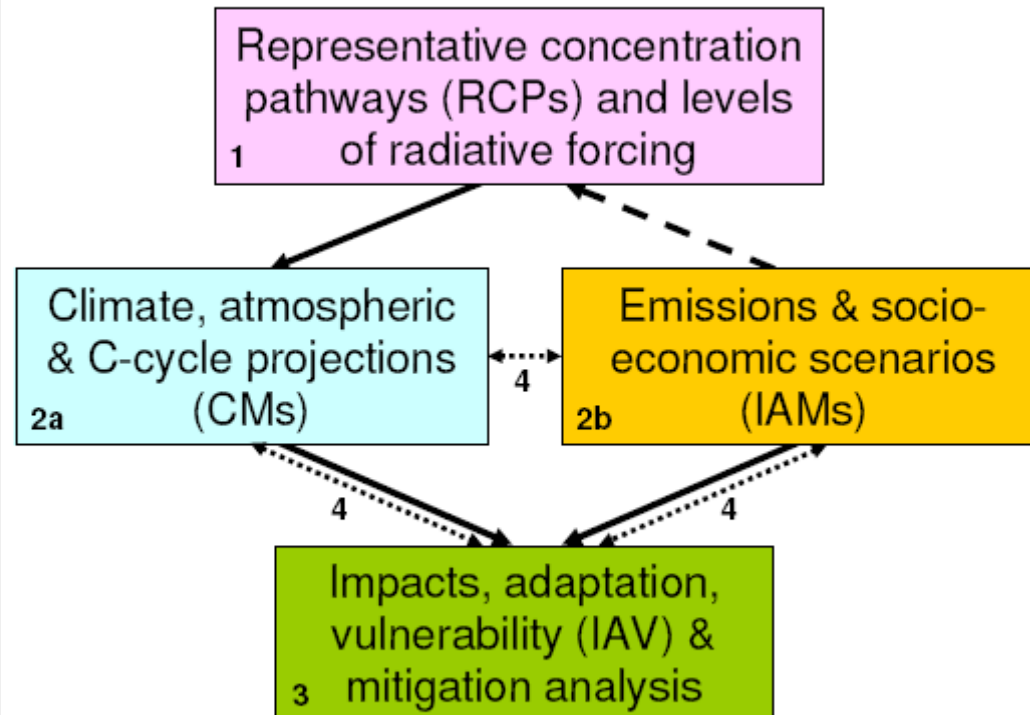
- Regional Aspects
- Costing and Economic Analysis
- Scenarios
- Consistent Evaluation and Communication of Uncertainties and Risks

New scenarios development process – parallel vs. sequential approach

(a) Sequential approach



(b) Parallel approach



From Kathy Hibbard



**Scenarios selected to span climate space.
(and new scenario development process with
scientific communities as responsible party)**

The IPCC has a catalytic role, and the Integrated Assessment Modeling Consortium (IAMC) delivers the scenario work

		
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Energy Modeling Forum (EMF) Stanford University	National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)
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To know more about scenarios, and the outcome of the recent WGII/WGIII workshop in Berlin, please come to the Research Dialogue this Thursday

1.0.4 ***With regard to uncertainties, we note that:*** (from IPCC WGI (1990))

- There are many uncertainties in our predictions particularly with regard to the timing, magnitude and regional patterns of climate change, especially changes in precipitation.
 - These uncertainties are due to our incomplete understanding of sources and sinks of greenhouse gases and the responses of clouds, oceans and polar ice sheets to a change of the radiative forcing caused by increasing greenhouse gas concentrations.
 - These processes are already partially understood, and we are confident that the uncertainties can be reduced by further research. However, the complexity of the system means that we cannot rule out surprises.

Consistent Treatment of Uncertainties and Risks (CCM)

- The quality of the uncertainty guidance notes for AR4 was recognized, but the IAC Review made suggestions for improvement
- Aspects of risks must be treated consistently among Working Groups
- Providing consistent information on uncertainty and risk = **useful input for decision-making**

Likelihood vs Confidence

Likelihood

The chance of a defined outcome occurring in the physical world.

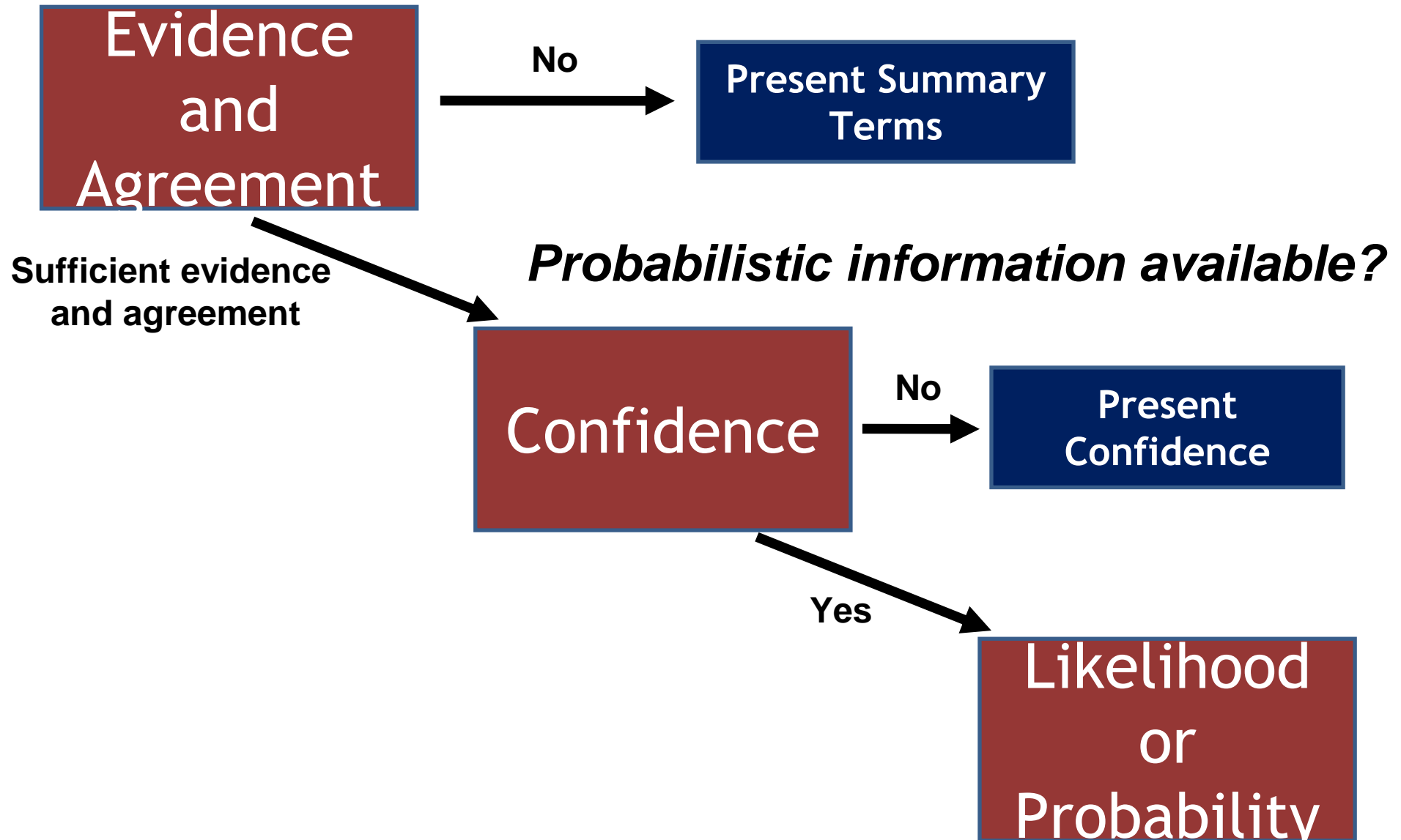
Is estimated, using appropriate information about probability and expert judgment.

Level of Confidence

The degree of understanding and/ or consensus among experts.

Is a statement about the basis for the expert judgment.

Degree of Certainty for Findings: Process



Likelihood or Probability

Likelihood scale

Likelihood expresses a probabilistic estimate of the occurrence of a single event or of an outcome lying in a given range.

Term	Likelihood of the outcome
<i>Virtually certain</i>	99-100% probability
<i>Very likely</i>	90-100% probability
<i>Likely</i>	66-100% probability
<i>About as likely as not</i>	33 to 66% probability
<i>Unlikely</i>	0-33% probability
<i>Very unlikely</i>	0-10% probability
<i>Exceptionally unlikely</i>	0-1% probability

Use more precise probability ranges when appropriate.

To know more:

Please visit www.IPCC.ch