

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Instructions: Assign one recorder and at least two presenters (how you divide up the presentation is up to you). After you have discussed your Working Group's findings, **prepare an 8-12 minute presentation** on your findings to be presented in-class on Thursday. After your presentation, there will be about 5 minutes during which the other members of the Intergovernmental Panel can ask you questions or make comments.

Working Group 1.

Your task is to assess the available scientific information on climate change.

What is the scientific evidence regarding whether human-caused global warming is currently occurring and / or will occur in the future?

Hints:

What is the greenhouse effect and how is it involved (supposedly) in global warming?
What is the evidence that global warming is currently occurring?

What is the evidence that this warming (if it exists) is human-caused?
When scientists predict a future global warming increase of x degrees, how are they arriving at these predictions? How confident can we be about these predictions?

Working Group II.

Your task is to assess the ecological and socioeconomic impacts of climate change.

What are the main potential ecological impacts of

- 1) global warming?
- 2) increased atmospheric carbon-dioxide levels (independent of its potential to cause global warming)?

Hint: Be sure to discuss the scientific rationale for these predictions.

What are the potential socioeconomic consequences of these ecological effects?

Working Group III.

Your task is to formulate response strategies to global climate change.

What are some possible response strategies to slow or stop global warming?

Hint: See Lynch, Macilwain, and Brookes articles, and the Schneider article handed out today.

Note: Your group should assume that it is very clear that global warming is caused by anthropogenic increases in atmospheric carbon-dioxide levels.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of these different strategies, in terms of **scientific and** socioeconomic feasibility?

Hint: Choose one or two strategies to discuss in depth for your presentation.