Table ronde, Institut français, Athènes 05/11/2015

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Paris conference 2015 (COP 21)

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IPCC, created in 1988 is a large group of experts mandated under the auspices of the **United Nations**, to assess periodically the state of the art of the knowledge in the field of climate changes.

It includes 3 working groups:

WG1 about the physical science basis (how the climate machine works, the present climate changes, projections for the 21th century)

WG2 assesses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate changes (Impacts)

WG3 assesses the options for mitigating climate changes (mitigation and adaptation)

IPCC (2)

4 Assessment (Evaluation) reports published (1990, 1995, 2001, 2007), including summary for Policy makers, Synthesis, specific reports

Important role in leading to the creation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change known as COP

source: IPCC 2013 Observed change in T°C 1901-2012 -0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.2 0.4 0.6 8.0 1.0 1.25 1.5 1.75 2.5

Warming is unequivocal and unprecedented

Since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia.

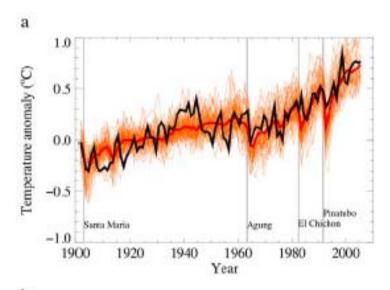
The atmosphere and ocean have warmed,

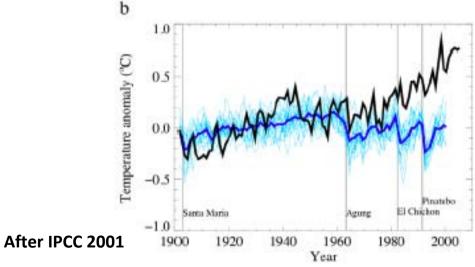
The amounts of **snow and ice** have diminished

Sea level has risen

The concentrations of **greenhouse gases** (CO2, CH4) have increased and are unprecedented during the last 800,000 years

Human influence on Climate



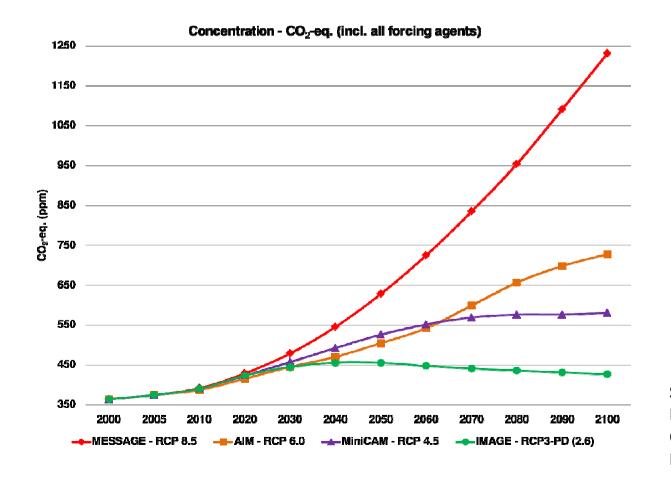


Human influence on the climate is clear. This is evident from the increasing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, positive radiative forcing, observed warming, and understanding of the climate system.

It is extremely likely that human influence has been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century

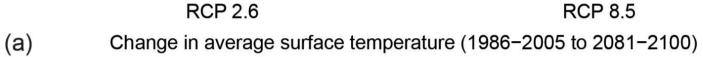
21st century: projections

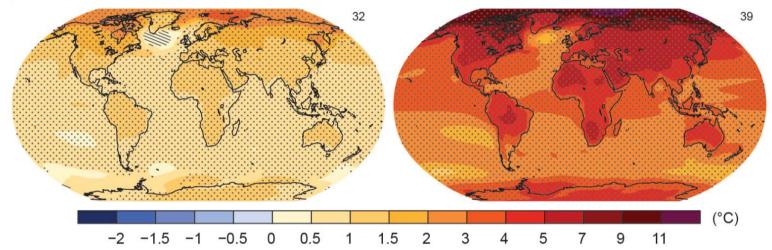
Models of the climate system are run taking into account different scenarios of the societal evolution and its impact on CO2 eq. concentrations in the atmosphere

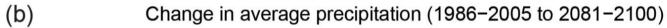


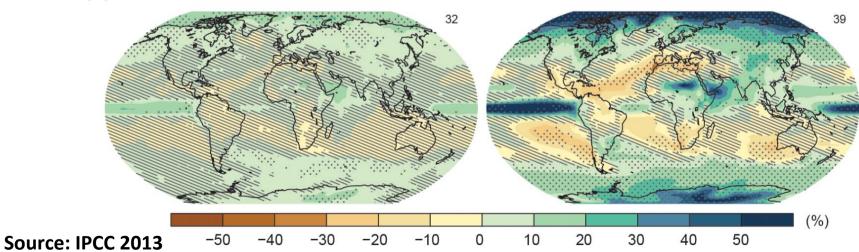
Source: Wikipedia, Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP)

COP 21: 2°C or 4.5°C world at the end of 21st century?









TO CONCLUDE Why not to think about a regional panel on climate change, a RPCC or GPCC

Main vunerabilities: sea level increase, aridity, heat waves, fires

