

Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is filling the position of

Head of Communications in the IPCC WGI Technical Support Unit

Located at the University of Paris-Saclay (France)

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has begun its Sixth Assessment (AR6) cycle. Working Group I (WGI) assesses the physical scientific knowledge basis of the climate system and climate change. The WGI Technical Support Unit (TSU) provides the scientific, technical and organizational support of the activities and products of the WGI.

The TSU is seeking a senior climate science communications specialist to join a multi-disciplinary team in a dynamic, international working environment. The position will be part of the overall leadership team of the TSU, working in close collaboration with the WGI Co-Chairs and reporting to the Head of the TSU. The role will also involve collaboration more broadly within the IPCC Communications Team.

The successful candidate will lead work with the WGI Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Authors and TSU on the communication and outreach of the WGI contribution to the AR6 as well as the cross-Working Group Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

This is an exceptional opportunity to be part of the unique IPCC process and make a core contribution at a pivotal time in climate science communication, showcasing the results of the assessment, the maturation and the value of fundamental climate science research. The successful candidate will take on the challenge of communicating and increasing literacy of the concepts and results of the assessment in an international context to stakeholders, as well as the broader non-specialist audience.

Responsibilities:

- Briefing of Authors on best practices for communicating assessment results (chapter executive summaries, figures, Summary for Policy Makers)
- Development of the WGI Communications Strategy with WGI TSU, Bureau to develop high quality material and impactful messages across multiple audiences and platforms, including evaluation of impact and success.
- Communication to facilitate understanding, impact and uptake of the WGI products in the work of stakeholders, including governments, IPCC observer organisations and UNFCCC.
- Communication of WGI products to the broader non-specialist public and fostering climate literacy.
- Develop the use of IPCC work and resources for teaching, e.g. in schools, university education, and for informal education.
- Organisation of stakeholder engagement activities, outreach events and media briefings, including media training, in collaboration with the IPCC Head of Communications and Media Relations.
- Expansion of media coverage and impact of WGI, including social media, tracking of media pickup and audience perception.

Qualifications:

- Academic education related to climate science would be desirable.
- Professional communications education and training.
- Over five years experience in leading climate science communications efforts.
- A good understanding of climate science communication in an international context.
- A good understanding of challenges of communicating climate science assessments in the global context of communication trends.
- Experience in developing and executing communications strategies; institutional, programmatic or in multi-partner projects experience would be desirable.
- Experience in developing communication resources in multiple media, e.g. graphic, written, video, audio.
- Familiarity or previous experience in IPCC or similar work, process and context would be an asset.

Attributes

- Capacity to understand and communicate climate science concepts and findings, including translating complex information for a broader, non-specialist international audience.
- Ability to collaborate with climate scientists from around the world and with different areas of expertise.
- Motivation to work in an international team with a common long-term goal.
- Ability to plan, organize and execute complex multi-task problems.
- Management of communication activities alongside TSU staff and communication experts (e.g. science writers, graphic and design specialists).
- Capacity to work in a team environment, including supervision of group activities or student projects.
- Outstanding social skills and capability to interact with the international science community.
- Flexibility, entrepreneurship, and interest in innovation.
- Stress-resistance and capacity to respect time constraints.
- Willingness to undertake international travel.
- Proficiency in written and spoken English; proficiency in French would be an asset.

The position is for an initial three years, with the possibility of extension through the completion of the project to 2022. Availability to start in Autumn 2017.

Application

Please send your application consisting of a letter of motivation, curriculum vitae, and contact details of two referees by May 30th, 2017 to Dr. Anna Pirani (anna.pirani@universite-paris-saclay.fr), Head WGI TSU.