

Media Release

Embargoed for release on Monday 23 September 2013

Nature's distress call is getting louder, new report shows

Gland, Switzerland – Governments will gather today in Stockholm to start considering the final text for the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group 1 report, widely expected to highlight the drivers of climate change.

According to WWF Global Climate and Energy Initiative leader Samantha Smith, the report should give more clarity on the science and increased certainty about the causes of climate change.

“More than 800 scientists from around the world have contributed to writing a compelling scientific account of the state of the earth. The report is going to underscore a terrifying reality – that the earth is warming at an alarming rate and that these temperature changes are already having serious consequences for both people and planet,” she says.

Our natural world is sending a distress signal and we're ignoring it at our own peril. But if governments act now, comprehensively and immediately, they will be able to do something to change the dangerous path we are on, she says.

“The energy sector is the main culprit causing runaway climate change – but it also contains the solution to this challenge. We expect this report to confirm again that burning fossil fuels is driving dangerous climate change. Extraction of fossil fuels is also increasingly a driver for direct loss of biodiversity. But at the same time, renewable energy provides a straightforward, proven and increasingly affordable and safe solution, with far fewer direct impacts.”

If we are to follow the science, then we have to stop investing in fossil fuels and increase investment in sustainable renewable energy. WWF is calling on investors and financiers around the world to end their support for coal and to increase investments in sustainable, renewable energy, including energy access for the poor.

“Getting a future where our economies are powered by renewable energy is not only within reach but is the only option we have if we are to leave a sustainable world to our children.”

ends

Notes to editors:

1. WWF's global campaign [Seize Your Power](#)
2. IPCC WG1 [website](#)
3. Follow WWF climate and energy on @climateWWF

For more information please contact

Mandy Jean Woods mwoods@wwf.org.za
Samantha Smith ssmith@wwf.no / @pandaclimate

About WWF

WWF is one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with over 5 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

The Global Climate & Energy Initiative (GCEI) is WWF's global programme addressing climate change, promoting renewable and sustainable energy, scaling up green finance, engaging the private sector and working nationally and internationally on implementing low carbon, climate resilient development.

See www.panda.org/news for latest news and media resources and **Seize Your Power!** campaign news

Read **The Energy Report** at www.panda.org/energyreport

Seize Your Power! Read and sign the global renewable energy campaign pledge here: www.panda.org/seizeyourpower