Supplementary information

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Survey of gender bias within the IPCC

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This file includes supplementary methods and tables and a list of further reading.

Supplementary Material

Supplementary Methods

The Gender Task Group examined gender issues within the IPCC as well as in other organizations, and surveyed IPCC authors, review editors, and staff about their perceptions of gender balance and bias. We reviewed authorship of IPCC reports for gender balance over time using participant lists (authors listed in the published reports) and data from the IPCC secretariat (thank you to Werani Zabula at IPCC for assistance with this data). Second, the Task Group sent an email survey in Spring 2019 to 1520 experts (1108 men and 412 women) from the IPCC 5th and 6th assessment cycles including authors, review editors and bureau members for two major assessments and several special reports. The survey included close-ended survey questions and open-ended questions for clarification, explanation and recommendations. The survey included questions about the gender identification, region, age and which reports respondents had worked on, views on gender balance, bias, and discrimination in the IPCC, personal experiences working in the IPCC, and intersectional barriers to participation. 533 people responded (a 35% response rate - 28% of men, 39% of women) including 58% identifying as men and 39% as women, one person chose other. Most respondents were from Europe (36%) and North America (17%), with 16% from Asia, 13% from Latin America and the Caribbean, 9% from Africa, and 9% from Oceania. We used the chi-squared test function in Qualtrics to determine any statistical differences between male and female respondents and responses by region.

Trends in gender balance in authors of IPCC assessment reports over time

Data source: FAR-TAR from published reports AR4-AR6 from IPCC records. AR6 has added a few authors over the assessment period but proportions remain about the same

		WGI	WGI %	WGII	WGII%	WGIII	WGIII%	All	All%
FAR 1990	Male	35	100.00%	33	91.67%	29	80.56%	97	90.65%
	Female	0	0.00%	2	5.56%	6	16.67%	8	7.48%
	Unknown	0	0.00%	1	2.78%	1	2.78%	2	1.87%
SAR 1995	Male	81	94.19%	250	86.21%	59	86.76%	390	87.84%
	Female	5	5.81%	37	12.76%	8	11.76%	50	11.26%
	Unknown	0	0.00%	3	1.03%	1	1.47%	4	0.90%
TAR 2001	Male	125	85.62%	59	64.84%	179	84.83%	363	81.03%
	Female	18	12.33%	31	34.07%	31	14.69%	80	17.86%
	Unknown	3	2.05%	1	1.10%	1	0.47%	5	1.12%
AR4 2007	Male	137	83.03%	180	82.57%	163	86.24%	480	84.06%
	Female	27	16.36%	38	17.43%	26	13.76%	91	15.94%
	Unknown	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
AR5 2014	Male	208	81.57%	213	72.95%	220	80.88%	641	78.27%
	Female	47	18.43%	79	27.05%	52	19.12%	178	21.73%
	Unknown	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
AR6 2022	Male	169	72.53%	156	59.54%	157	68.86%	482	66.67%
	Female	64	27.47%	106	40.46%	71	31.14%	241	33.33%
	Unknown	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

Totals across Working groups	FAR 1990 WGI 0% WGII 6% WGIII 17% Overall 8%	SAR 1995 WGI 6% WGII 13% WGIII 12% Overall 11%	TAR 2001 WGI 12% WGII 34% WGIII 15% Overall 18%	AR4 2007 WGI 16% WGII 17% WGIII 14% Overall 16%	AR5 2014 WGI 18% WGII 27% WGIII 19% Overall 22%	AR6 2021 WGI 27% WGII 40% WGIII 31% Overall 33%
Male	97	390	363	480	641	482
Female	8	50	80	91	178	241
Unknown	2	4	5	1	0	0
Female %	7.48%	11.26%	17.86%	15.94%	21.73%	33.33%
Male %	90.65%	87.84%	81.03%	84.06%	78.27%	66.67%
WG1	Climate Science					
WG2	Climate Impacts, Vulnerability, Adaptation					
WG3	Climate Mitigation					

Sixth Assessment Special Reports (2018-2021						
	SR1.5		SRCLL		SROCC	
Male	62	68%	75	70%	73	70%
Female	29	32%	32	30%	31	30%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Supplementary Survey Questions and Results Tables

Below we provide detailed survey results comparing men and women. Numbers are percentages. Asterisks indicate significant differences between men and women (Chi-squared test)

Do women and men have equal opportunities in the IPCC?						
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No answer
To be represented	4.3	13.7	20.1	45.1	14.1	2.7
Women	4.6	11.3	17.9	44.1	19.5	2.6
Men	4.3	15.2	21.3	46.9	9.7	2.5
To be nominated*	26.3	39.1	11.7	16.5	4.1	2.3
Women	20.3	36.0	11.2	21.8	7.1	3.6
Men	30.6	41.4	11.9	12.6	2.2	1.4
To speak*	29.5	40.7	13.3	10.6	1.2	4.8
Women	20.5	36.4	17.4	15.9	3.1	6.7
Men	35.5	43.5	10.9	6.5	0.0	3.6
To shape content*	27.2	38.2	15.1	14.5	1.7	3.3
Women	18.5	34.4	17.4	21.0	4.1	4.6
Men	33.0	40.9	14.1	9.4	0.0	2.5
To lead chapters*	24.6	35.7	21.1	14.2	1.9	2.5
Women	18.0	33.0	21.1	21.6	3.1	3.1
Men	29.2	37.6	20.8	9.5	0.7	2.2
*significant difference between men and women						

How was your personal experience in the IPCC process with regard to each of the following?						
	Excellent	Good	Average	Not very good	Poor	No Answer
Learning experience	57.4	31.6	5.9	0.6	0.4	4.0
Women	66.7	23.3	4.2	0.5	0.5	4.8
Men	50.7	38.3	6.6	0.7	0.4	3.3
Respect from chair	49.7	24.9	7.0	1.5	0.8	16.1
Women	44.4	26.5	7.9	2.6	1.6	16.9
Men	53.5	24.2	6.2	0.7	0.4	15.0
Respect from co-authors*	49.4	32.5	8.9	0.4	0.0	8.9
Women	42.9	34.4	10.1	1.1	0.0	11.6
Men	54.0	31.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	6.9
Making professional connections	26.7	49.2	16.1	1.9	0.8	5.3
Women	25.1	50.3	17.1	1.6	1.6	4.3
Men	27.0	49.3	15.7	1.8	0.4	5.8
Being listened to*	38.0	37.0	12.4	2.7	1.1	8.8
Women	32.5	36.1	14.1	3.7	2.1	11.5
Men	42.0	38.3	10.2	2.2	0.4	6.9
Shaping chapter*	30.5	40.3	13.2	3.6	0.4	12.0
Women	23.2	41.1	15.8	4.2	1.1	14.7
Men	35.3	40.0	11.3	3.3	0.0	10.2

What were your observations of inclusion in the IPCC process?								
	Strongly agree	Agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not relevant to me
Decisions transparent	19.8	41.8	17.1	8.4	3.4	0.4	1.7	7.4
Women	15.7	37.7	19.4	10.5	4.2	0.5	2.6	9.4
Men	23.2	44.1	15.8	7.0	2.6	0.4	1.1	5.9
All could contribute	23.7	36.8	16.8	2.5	8.8	3.2	1.3	6.9
Women	23.6	33.0	16.8	2.1	8.9	4.2	3.1	8.4
Men	23.4	40.5	16.8	2.9	8.0	2.6	0.0	5.8
Workload equal men vs. women	17.0	37.4	13.6	10.4	7.0	3.0	1.5	10.0
Women	15.8	31.6	17.9	10.5	8.9	3.7	1.6	10.0
Men	17.8	41.9	11.1	10.7	5.6	2.6	0.7	9.6
Men dominated discussion	3.8	14.9	18.5	14.5	8.7	18.9	12.3	8.3
Women	7.4	14.4	16.0	15.4	9.0	17.6	10.6	9.6
Men	1.5	15.8	19.9	14.3	8.8	19.5	12.9	7.4
Writing controlled by a few	3.6	13.2	23.0	12.1	10.2	18.1	10.2	9.6
Women	3.2	15.6	19.4	12.9	11.8	17.2	8.1	11.8
Men	4.0	12.1	24.2	12.1	9.2	18.3	12.1	8.1
All POV included*	12.7	36.3	22.6	7.0	9.1	3.8	1.1	7.6
Women	11.6	32.3	19.6	6.3	13.2	5.8	1.6	9.5
Men	13.9	39.4	24.5	7.7	5.1	2.6	0.7	6.2
Women respected*	35.0	42.4	8.9	5.3	0.8	0.4	0.4	6.8
Women	31.1	38.4	12.1	7.9	1.6	1.1	1.1	6.8
Men	38.1	45.1	7.0	2.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	6.6
Younger scientists respected	18.0	35.7	17.8	9.9	3.8	2.3	0.2	12.3
Women	15.3	34.7	19.5	9.5	3.7	3.2	0.5	13.7
Men	19.5	37.5	17.3	9.6	3.3	1.8	0.0	11.0
Non-native English speakers respected	16.1	35.7	15.6	11.0	6.8	3.6	0.2	11.0
Women	14.2	31.6	15.3	13.2	7.4	4.7	0.5	13.2
Men	18.0	39.0	15.1	9.6	5.9	2.9	0.0	9.6
Developing countries contributed fully	15.0	22.8	20.7	9.3	13.7	6.6	2.3	9.5
Women	14.2	17.4	21.1	9.5	16.3	7.4	2.6	11.6
Men	16.2	26.8	21.3	8.8	10.7	6.3	1.8	8.1

How did the following factors influence your ability to participate in IPCC?					
	Very positively	Moderately positively	Neutral	Moderately negatively	Very negatively
English skills*	31.1	30.4	27.1	10.6	0.8
Women	35.7	29.9	18.8	14.3	1.3
Men	28.6	30.3	32.9	7.8	0.4
Self confidence*	23.8	41.5	26.2	8.0	0.5
Women	24.0	42.7	18.7	14.0	0.7
Men	24.8	40.7	29.6	4.4	0.4
Lack of time	1.3	7.5	36.4	40.7	14.0
Women	1.3	9.4	30.2	40.9	18.1
Men	1.4	6.5	40.2	41.1	10.7
Childcare obligations*	1.1	2.6	63.4	22.0	10.9
Women	1.4	2.8	52.1	28.9	14.8
Men	0.5	2.5	73.0	16.0	8.0
Gender*	7.0	15.7	69.8	6.5	1.0
Women	9.6	21.0	57.3	10.8	1.3
Men	5.6	11.5	78.2	3.8	0.9
Age*	6.6	22.3	64.6	6.3	0.3
Women	6.5	25.3	57.8	10.4	0.0
Men	6.9	20.8	68.0	3.9	0.4
Partner support	2.1	0.6	75.4	13.9	8.0
Women	2.2	2.2	73.4	12.2	10.1
Men	2.0	3.0	74.4	14.1	6.5
Social scientist*	5.2	17.3	69.7	6.9	0.9
Women	8.0	23.9	58.7	8.7	0.7
Men	3.5	13.1	76.4	6.0	1.0
Writing skill	2.0	8.1	65.8	17.6	6.4
Women	1.4	9.9	61.3	19.7	7.7
Men	2.4	7.2	68.6	15.9	5.8
Conflict	1.1	3.9	71.9	18.9	4.2
Women	0.7	4.8	66.2	21.4	6.9
Men	1.5	3.4	75.2	17.5	2.4
Not having confidence to challenge others*	1.4	7.0	59.9	25.1	6.7
Women	2.1	6.2	51.7	29.7	10.3
Men	1.0	7.3	65.5	21.8	4.4
Lack of financial support from my country	2.5	6.4	60.1	21.6	9.4
Women	2.1	5.5	59.3	23.4	9.7
Men	2.4	7.2	60.8	20.1	9.6
Lack of computer support	2.5	6.4	60.1	21.6	9.4
Women	2.1	5.5	59.3	23.4	9.7
Men	2.4	7.2	60.8	20.1	9.6

How do you believe the following factors influenced others' ability to participate in IPCC?					
	Very positively	Moderately positively	Neutral	Moderately negatively	Very negatively
Lack of time*	1.4	4.1	28.3	46.1	20.1
Women	1.7	3.4	19.8	46.6	28.4
Men	0.6	4.7	34.7	45.9	14.1
Weak writing skills	1.4	4.1	30.2	43.3	21.0
Women	1.8	4.5	30.4	35.7	27.7
Men	1.2	4.1	31.4	47.1	16.3
Lack confidence to challenge others	1.0	4.9	37.8	42.4	13.9
Women	0.9	3.6	31.3	43.8	20.5
Men	0.6	5.3	42.6	42.0	9.5
Unable to deal with conflict*	0.4	2.8	46.3	38.2	12.4
Women	0.0	3.5	37.2	39.8	19.5
Men	0.6	2.4	52.7	37.0	7.3
Lack of financial support from country	0.7	4.6	46.3	34.6	13.8
Women	0.9	1.8	42.7	38.2	16.4
Men	0.6	6.0	49.7	31.7	12.0
Lack of financial support from IPCC	1.8	4.7	62.7	20.8	10.0
Women	2.8	1.9	61.1	22.2	12.0
Men	1.2	6.1	64.2	19.4	9.1
Quiet voice*	3.7	6.4	43.7	38.6	7.5
Women	6.0	5.2	31.0	45.7	12.1
Men	2.3	7.5	51.4	34.1	4.6
Limited access to materials*	1.5	4.7	50.0	26.6	17.2
Women	0.0	2.7	46.8	27.0	23.4
Men	2.5	6.4	54.1	24.2	12.7
English skills*	15.2	19.0	25.3	32.0	8.5
Women	20.5	13.4	19.7	34.6	11.8
Men	11.0	22.7	30.4	30.4	5.5
Childcare obligations*	1.1	2.2	60.4	29.6	6.7
Women	0.0	0.0	56.5	33.3	10.2
Men	1.9	3.2	66.2	26.0	2.6

Did you personally experience Gender Bias or Discrimination?				
	Yes, one time	Yes, occasionally	Yes, frequently	Never
Someone took credit for my ideas*	7.6	16.5	3.1	72.7
Women	13.0	22.6	4.1	60.3
Men	4.0	12.4	2.2	81.4
Ignored because of gender*	10.1	26.4	2.7	60.8
Women	4.2	9.2	2.4	84.2
Men	60.0	0.0	0.0	320.0
Patronized because of gender*	4.2	9.2	2.4	84.2
Women	8.1	19.6	4.7	67.6
Men	1.8	2.2	0.4	95.6
Comments about my appearance*	2.3	9.1	1.6	86.9
Women	4.7	12.8	3.4	79.1
Men	0.9	5.8	0.4	92.9
Implied I was in IPCC because of gender*	4.5	7.3	0.8	87.4
Women	9.5	17.6	2.0	70.9
Men	1.3	0.4	0.0	98.2
Sexual harrassment*	1.8	1.3	0.0	96.9
Women	4.7	3.3	0.0	92.0
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Someone ensuring that gender bias/discrimination did not occur	2.1	30.7	19.0	48.1
Women	4.2	30.8	23.8	41.3
Men	0.9	28.7	16.6	53.8

Did you observe Gender Bias or Discrimination Happening to Someone Else					
	Yes, one time	Yes, occasionally	Yes, frequently	Never	
Someone else took credit for ideas*	2.4	23.5	3.9	70.2	29.8
Women	1.6	29.6	6.4	62.4	37.6
Men	3.0	18.8	2.0	76.1	23.9
					0.0
Ignored because of gender*	6.4	27.5	5.3	60.8	39.2
Women	6.9	35.4	10.0	47.7	52.3
Men	5.9	22.3	2.0	69.8	30.2
					0.0
Patronized because of gender*	4.7	23.7	4.5	67.1	32.9
Women	3.1	28.9	8.6	59.4	40.6
Men	6.0	19.9	1.5	72.6	27.4
					0.0
Comments about appearance*	2.1	14.2	2.4	81.3	18.7
Women	3.9	15.7	3.9	76.4	23.6
Men	1.0	12.4	1.5	85.1	14.9
					0.0
Implied only in IPCC because of gender*	2.7	14.9	2.7	79.7	20.3
Women	5.6	24.6	4.0	65.9	34.1
Men	0.0	9.0	2.0	89.0	11.0
					0.0
Sexual harrassment*	4.1	5.0	0.6	90.3	9.7
Women	4.6	6.9	0.0	88.5	11.5
Men	3.5	3.5	1.0	92.0	8.0

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