

## **The 3rd Report on Climate Change in Catalonia: a joint initiative to bridge the gap between Science and Decision-Making**

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In January 2017 the Government of Catalonia (Advisory Council for the Sustainable Development, Catalan Office for Climate Change, and Meteorological Service of Catalonia) and the Institute for Catalan Studies presented the Third Report on Climate Change in Catalonia, whose aims are (1) to gather and summarise the most recent information on climate change and its effects on the natural and human systems in Catalonia (and to identify existing knowledge gaps), (2) to make recommendations to decision-makers, and (3) to rise decision-makers and citizens awareness on the effects of climate change and the importance of reinforce mitigation and adaptation efforts.

Although climate change is a global phenomenon, impacts and subsequent adaptive action may differ across countries and regions. In accordance to this, and with the aim of downscaling the contents of the IPCC reports, the first report on climate change in Catalonia was published in 2005 and was followed by a second edition in 2010. Directly linked to this second report, the Catalan Panel on Climate Change was established.

During a year and a half more than 130 authors and 40 scientific and technical revisers (assisted by a board and technical staff from the leading institutions) have participated in the third assessment of climate change in Catalonia. The report updates the observations and projections related to the climate evolution at Catalonia and its impacts, gathering the most advanced scientific knowledge and providing the Catalan Government with sectorial recommendations to face these impacts.

After its official launch in January 2017, the report will be presented and discussed with several ministers and officials within the Catalan Government, but also with the main stakeholders. These presentations and dialogue are strategic actions for bridging the gap between Science and Policy-making regarding climate change. An executive summary identifying in a very focused way the main messages arising from the report has been prepared to contribute to this information sharing process. The summary has been prepared in English, French and Spanish in order to share the information with the International Community.

The promoters of this report are highly interested in making a broad diffusion of its conclusions and recommendations among stakeholders and citizens. According to this, an ambitious communication plan has been designed, including 10 sectorial workshops around Catalonia, specific presentations to selected stakeholders and institutions, and high impact articles and programs in the media. This communication plan will be implemented throughout the year 2017.

The report has been published and disseminated thanks to the contribution of “La Caixa” Banking Foundation.