



The evolution of communicating the uncertainty of climate change to society. An study of IPCC synthesis reports

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The Science of Climate Change is difficult to communicate to society, first by the intrinsic difficulty of the nature of physics, mathematics and all the scientific specialties involved, and second because of the degree of uncertainty that still exists in each of the statements made about the future evolution of the climate.

The IPCC has published 5 reports since 1990, in each of them the claims made by the scientific community about the climate have had different levels of certainty. Our study follows the evolution of the indicators of the degrees of confidence, scientific agreement and assessed likelihood of an outcome or a result in the synthesis reports.

There is no doubt that knowledge and scientific consensus on Climate has increased significantly since the first hypotheses on global warming began to be formulated. The evolution in the level of information and in the social perception of Climate Change may have followed an evolution parallel to that of the degree of scientific certainty and consensus.

The increase in scientific knowledge and certainty in future data and forecasts must be accompanied by determined action to improve the understanding of decision-makers and the Society as a whole in future reports prepared by the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change and all scientific community

The knowledge of the relationship between the evolution of certainty in the statements of the reports on Climate Change in the history of the IPCC, which praises this presentation, can shed light on improving the communication of a dually complex society.