

# WGII contribution to the AR5: Increasing the policy relevance of scientific assessments

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28 October 2011



# What's new for the AR5?

- Approach
- Contents
- Communication

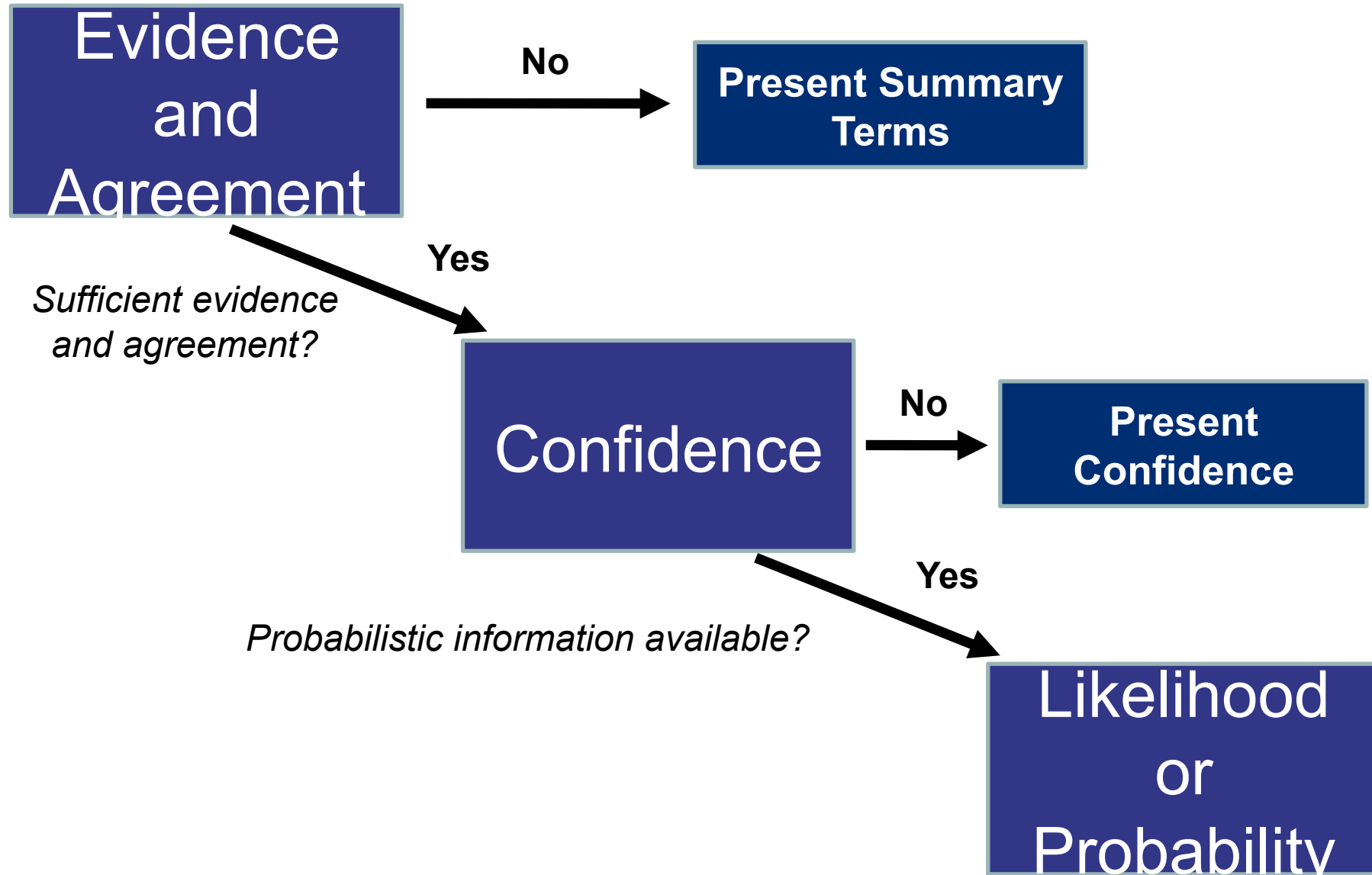
# Approach

- From “it’s real” to “here is the information you need to make good decisions for your stakeholders”
  - Confidence in the process
- and
- Support for good decisions under uncertainty

# Stakeholder needs

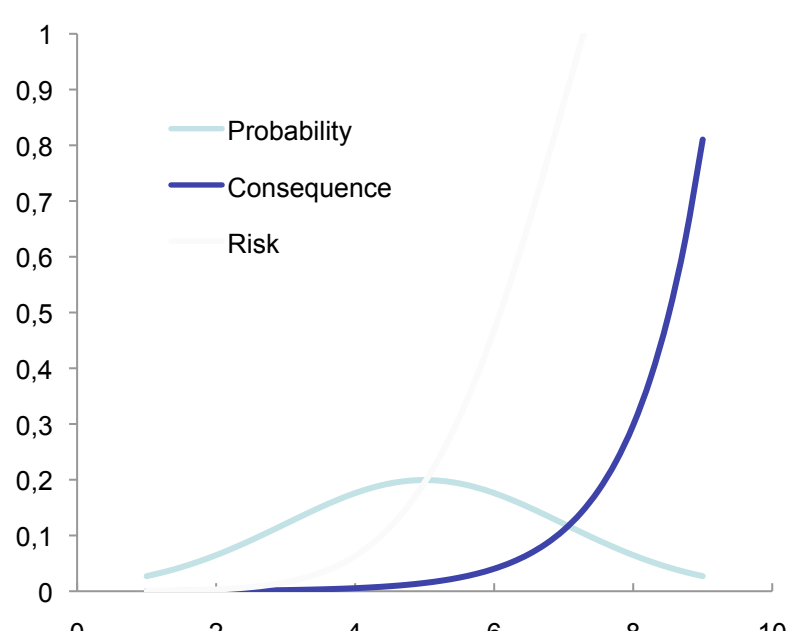
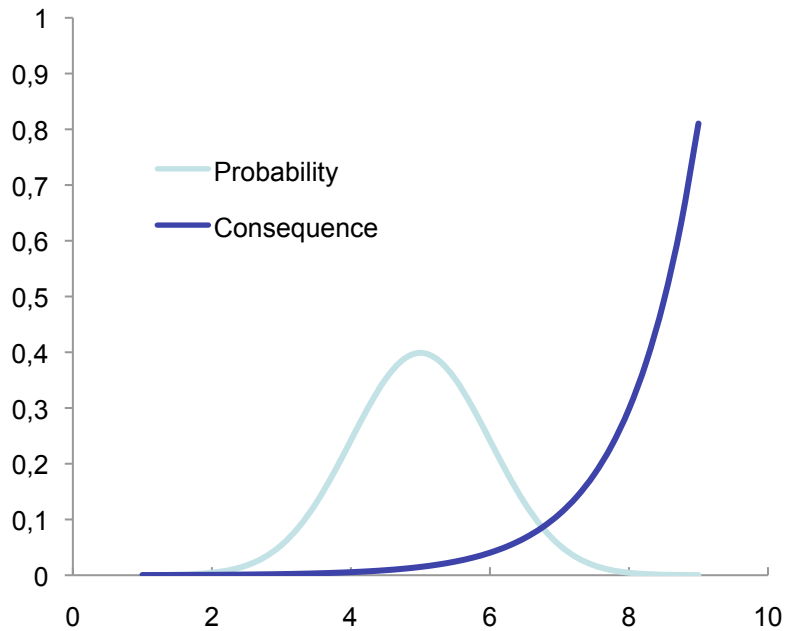
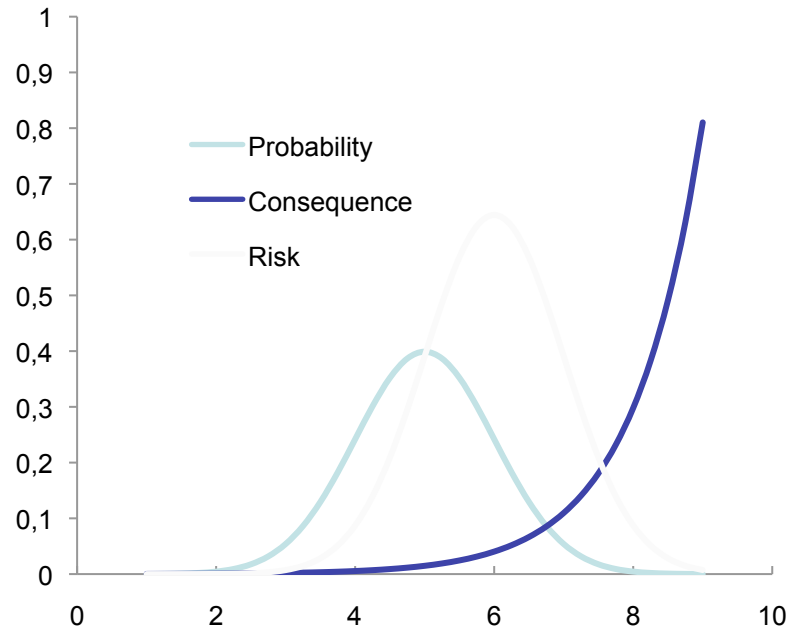
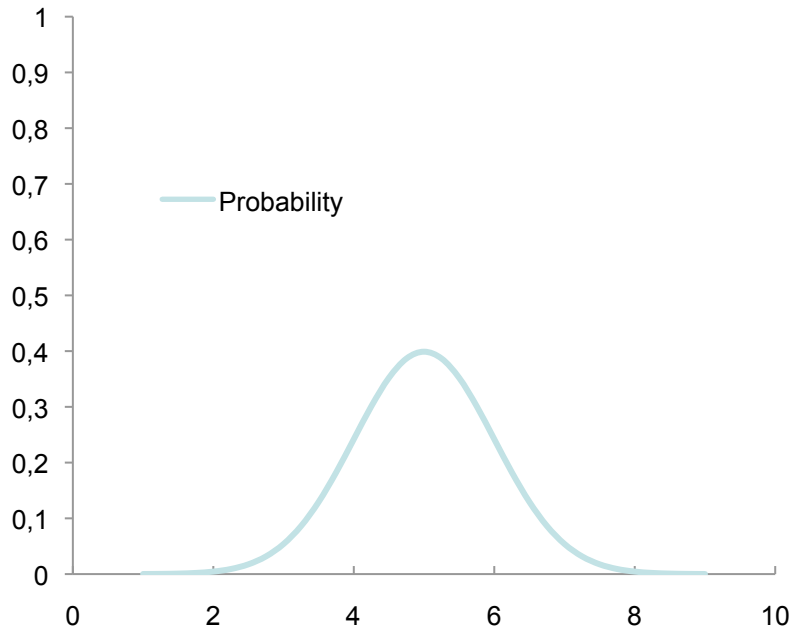
- Confidence in the process
  - Integrity
  - Basic mechanisms
  - Multiple lines of evidence
  - Clear communication of uncertainty
- Support for decisions under uncertainty
  - Concept of a pdf
  - Risk = probability x consequence
  - Nature of consensus

# Consistent treatment of uncertainty



# Full range of possible outcomes

- Full range of possible outcomes
- Value of information on the tails of the distribution
- Conditional uncertainty
- Sources of uncertainty
- Need for risk management perspective

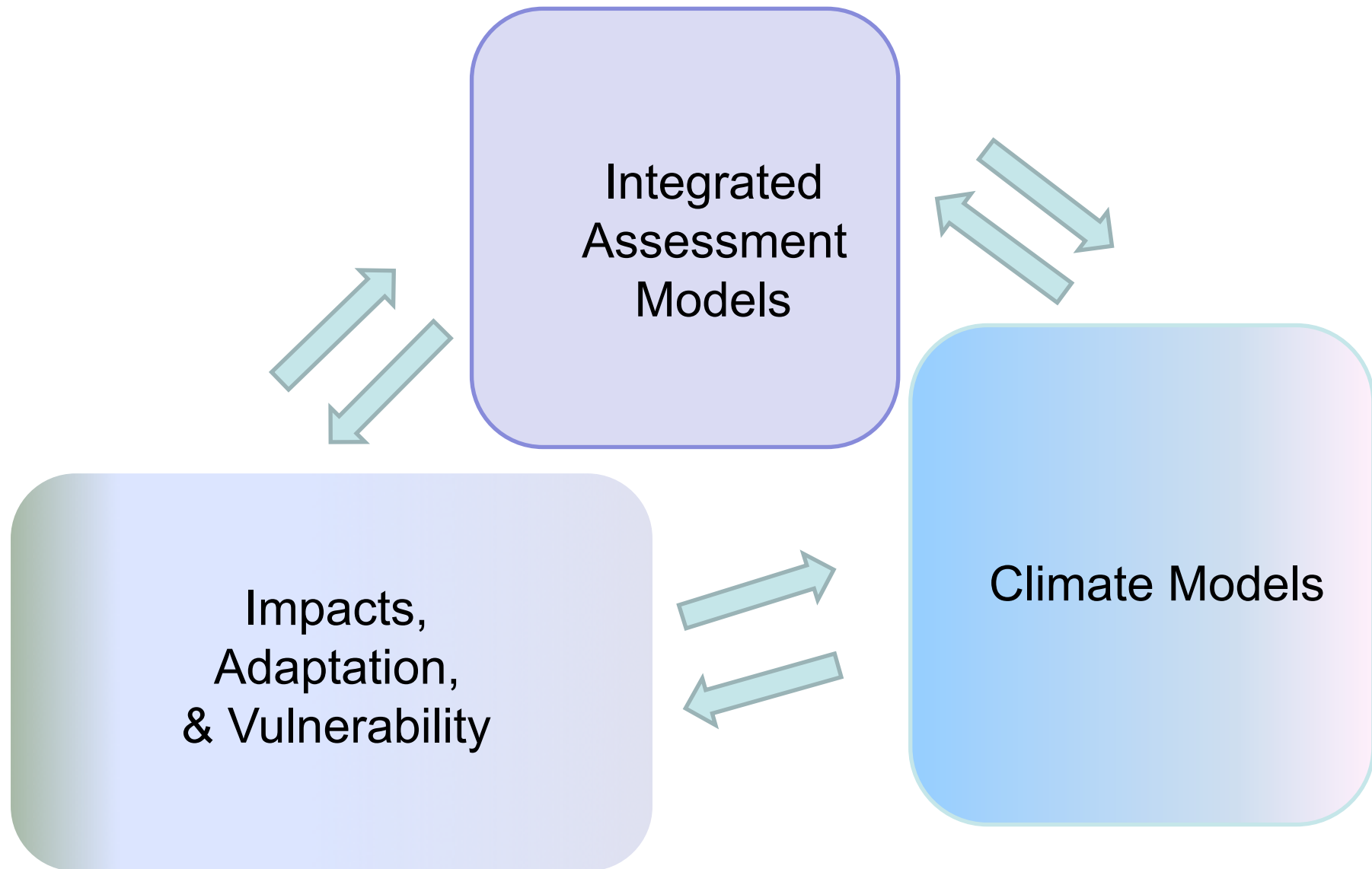


# Seamless transitions among working groups

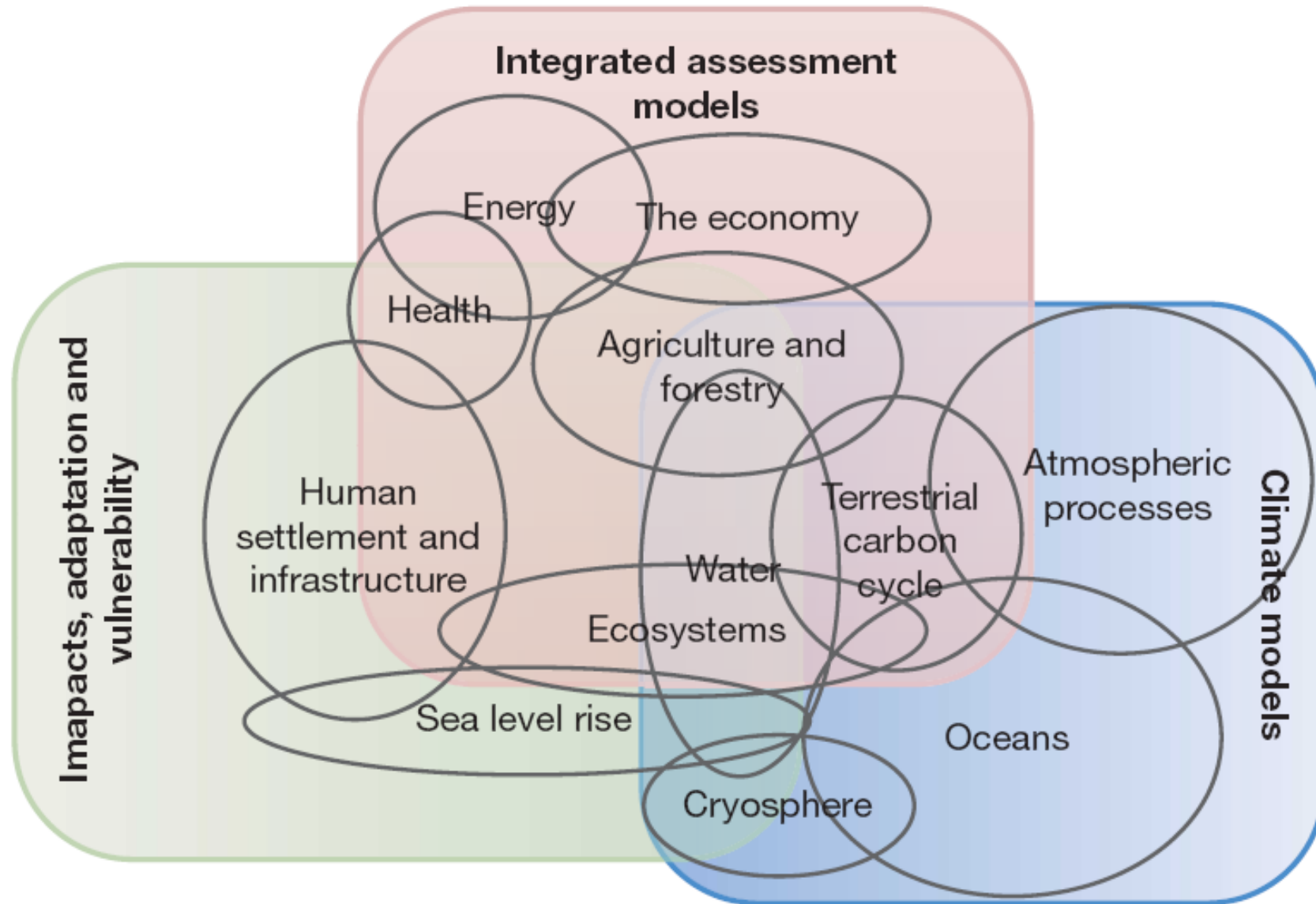
- Integrated system view
- Treatment of uncertainty
- Scenarios
- Handoffs
- Cross-cutting themes
- Regions



# Old view: An interconnected system



# Integrated system approach



# Contents: More sectors, more relevant

## Foundations for decisionmaking

### Context for the AR5

- 1 Point of departure
- 2 Foundations for decisionmaking

### Natural and Managed Resources and Ecosystems, and Their Uses

Ocean ecosystems  
ecosystems  
low-lying  
areas

Urban areas/Rural areas

### Human Settlements, Industry, and Infrastructure

- 8 Urban Areas

Key economic sectors and services

### Human Health, Well-Being, and Security

- 11 Human health
- 12 Human security
- 13 Livelihoods

Human security

### Adaptation and Development

Livelihoods and poverty

- 16 Adaptation opportunities, constraints, and
- 17 Economic

4 chapters on adaptation

### Multi-Sector Impacts, Risks, Vulnerabilities, and Opportunities

- 18 Detection and attribution of observed impacts

- 19 Emergent and key risks and vulnerabilities

Climate-resilient pathways:  
adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable  
development

# Contents: Regional chapters

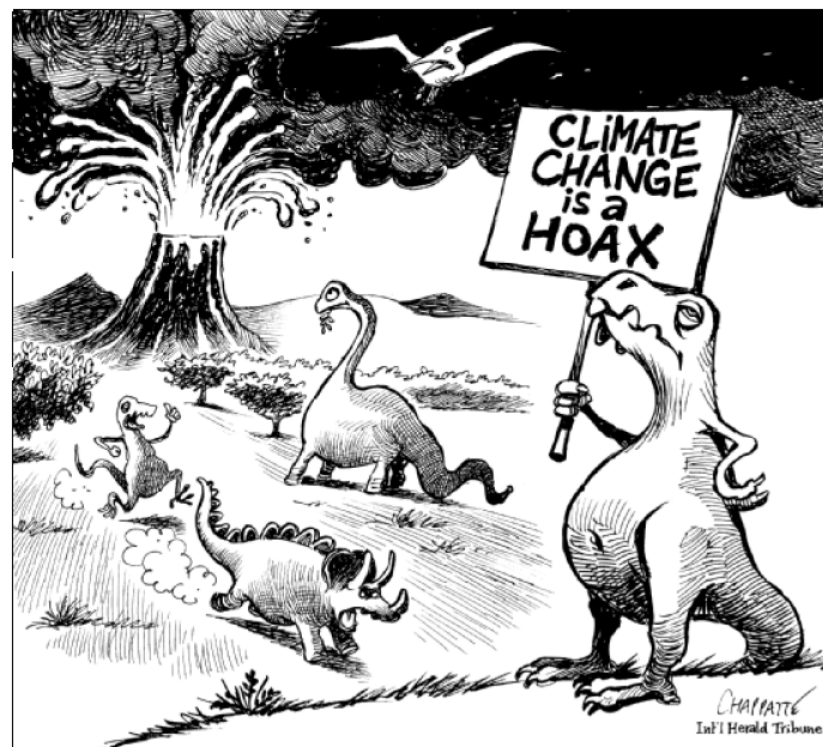
- Information from all three working groups
- Chapter on regional information
- 8 regions from AR4, plus oceans

# Cross-cutting themes

- Consistent evaluation of uncertainties and risks
- Costing & economic analysis
- Regional aspects
- Water & the Earth system
- Carbon cycle including ocean acidification
- Ice sheets & sea-level rise
- Mitigation, adaptation, & sustainable development

# Communications

- Rebuilding public confidence
  - Clear, transparent process
  - Broad engagement
  - Risk framing
- Building from/with other assessments



Patrick Chapatte, 2010

Year 2060: The search for a breakthrough technology to solve climate change continues.

IT'S A TIME MACHINE WE HOPE WILL TAKE US BACK 50 YEARS WHEN WE SHOULD HAVE PUT A PRICE ON CARBON.

WE BETTER HURRY!

NO! THAT'S THE GREAT THING ABOUT THIS TECHNOLOGY!

TOLES

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