# Improving climate change decision-makers' understanding of IPCC graphs

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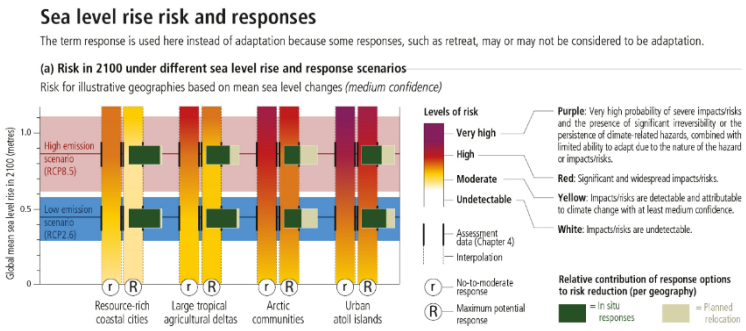
## Project description

Do you understand this IPCC graph? If you are like one of the 690 climate change decision-makers we sampled, you probably find it very difficult to interpret this graph! Indeed, our research shows that climate change decision-makers often misinterpret IPCC graphs. They are often not even aware of this. This can have dire consequences for climate change policymaking.




In this project, you will directly contribute to a large research project with the IPCC to improve policymakers' understanding of IPCC graphs. With your help, we will conduct a follow-up study to test which graph design principles improve climate change decision-makers' interpretation of the graphs.

This is an excellent opportunity to gain skills in graphic design, experimental survey design, and other research competencies. Tasks include redesigning original IPCC graphs, expanding a database of climate change decision-makers, and developing an experimental survey in Qualtrics. You are also welcome to help with the analysis and writing or assist with other (Environmental Psychology) research projects. You will be able to conduct the tasks from home if desired.

## Job requirements

We are looking for a motivated student who wants to gain experience in contributing to research in the field of climate communication. The applicant does not need prior experience or knowledge in this research field. Experience with graph(ic) design (e.g. adobe illustrator/gimp/photoshop) is desired, but a willingness to learn also suffices.

## Relevant literature

*van den Broek, K. L., Gultekin, G., Okan, Y., & Fischer, H. (2023). Improving climate change decision-makers' understanding of IPCC graphs: A randomised experimental study across 135 countries.* https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/cdb75

*van den Broek, K. L.. (2020). Guest post: The perils of counter-intuitive design in IPCC graphics. CarbonBrief.* https://shorturl.at/lxzQS

*Fischer, H., van den Broek, K. L., Ramisch, K., & Okan, Y. (2020). When IPCC graphs can foster or bias understanding: evidence among decision-makers from governmental and non-governmental institutions. Env. Research Letters, 15(11), [114041].* https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/abbc3c