

SCIENCE TO ACTION DAY

A Declaration from the Participants in

Science to Action Day

to participants in

The Global Climate Action Summit

Summary

Coping with and minimizing the unprecedented and already visible challenges posed by human-caused climate change remains an enormous challenge. To manage climate change - and it is still manageable - we need to tap into the full measure of human ingenuity and capability. This includes the sciences. As scientists and members of institutions engaged in science, we commit to working as respectful partners to tackle climate change, offering our insights alongside other expertise as part of a collaborative approach to address the challenges of climate change. This commitment is offered to all communities, of all sizes, in all parts of the planet - from the smallest villages to the largest metropolises - and to all levels of governance from village council to international unions. We will realize this commitment by inviting all communities and all people to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from scientific work related to climate change - working with the full scope of humanity to set priorities for new scientific research while also maximizing the use and usability of existing scientific knowledge.

Preamble

Over the course of human history, the sciences (including social and natural sciences, and their connection to technology, engineering, and mathematics) have created, verified, and shared knowledge that has helped to advance humanity. One of the great successes of the sciences in recent decades was to clarify the connections between human activity, the natural world, and climate change. We now understand that human activities are warming the planet and that this warming is having a growing impact on human lives, livelihoods, and on the natural world we are part of and on which we depend.

Now more than ever, we need science to support ambitious actions by individuals, companies, civic institutions, and governments. Scientists, civil society, and all levels of government are already working together to apply current scientific knowledge through data, tools, and methods that guide action. We need to scale up successful efforts to use the sciences, explore new ways to better connect the sciences to action, and accelerate scientific discoveries to create new insights and opportunities for action.

Science to Action Day affirms the active roles, as leaders and partners, that scientists will play in efforts to limit future climate change and reduce the detrimental impacts of the climate changes we cannot avoid.



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Statement of Principles

- **Our situation is not hopeless.** We know that future human-caused climate change can be moderated, and we know that humans can adapt to climate change while striving to advance equity and maximize opportunity for all people and communities.
- **Human ingenuity, enabled by robust sciences, can create a better future for the planet, its living beings, and for humankind.** The sciences have a critical role in developing insights and tools that help us understand possibilities, design solutions, and implement and evaluate strategies to reach a future we want.
- **Scientific knowledge plays an important role in supporting positive actions at every scale, from international to local, from community to individual.** With or without national commitments, the sciences can support local, regional, and international scale action, planning, and decision-making.
- **Those committed to creating and applying new scientific knowledge — scientists, engineers, and technologists — need to work in partnership with all segments of society, respecting diverse perspectives, epistemologies, practices, and experiences.** Relevant, actionable solutions require an inclusive approach where scientists, engineers, and technologists work with all parts of society to leverage the scientific processes and tools to address common problems. The scientific community, itself, needs to become more diverse, so that it better reflects the values and concerns of all the communities it collaborates with.
- **The community of scientists, engineers and technologists needs to be especially proactive and respectful in working with communities that are marginalized, underserved, underrepresented, or under-resourced.** The knowledge, tools and practices of the sciences are the common property of humankind, but not all communities have equal access or equal resources for using and contributing to that knowledge.
- **The creation, verification, and application of new knowledge important to climate solutions requires resources and support.** Science and engineering communities need to be conscientious stewards of resources by striving to maximize the societal benefit from investment in science.

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Proposals from Science to Action Day

The sciences are key partners to achieve the Global Climate Action Summit's goals and commitments. Together, we can develop integrated solutions that are timely, practical, and equitable. We close this declaration with concrete proposals, derived from the discussion at Science to Action day, that will advance the effective collaboration between the sciences and society and accelerate our progress in mitigating and adapting to climate change.