

# APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria - AAR2

## APCC CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

### Purpose of the Directive

1 The role of the APCC is to ensure the continuity and process quality of APCC products. This includes the review of the review process with regard to the process quality as well as the qualification of the reviewers and the sufficient technical coverage of the contents of the report by the reviewers. This ensures that the scientific, technical and socio-economic information for the assessment/evaluation of the risk of anthropogenic climate change is assessed on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis. APCC reports must have a sufficient breadth with regard to the technical-scientific editing. APCC products are generally produced with the involvement of all relevant scientific disciplines. They refer to topics and not to specific individual issues. Participation in the creation of APCC products is open to the entire Austrian community. The CCCA is informed about the project in advance and invites participation in the creation of the APCC products through the CCCA communication channels; it also informs all CCCA member representatives. A broad representation of the Austrian community is to be ensured by the respective project consortium. APCC products are presented and discussed by the respective project consortium at the CCCA Climate Day during their development.

2 The role of the APCC requires special attention to be paid to issues of independence in order to maintain integrity and public confidence in the products and processes. It is important that the work of the APCC is not compromised by any conflict of interest on the part of those who produce it. This applies to the project consortium, APCC Steering Committee members as well as the authors and others actively involved in the process. APCC products undergo a rigorous quality assurance process which is open to the relevant scientific community in the German-speaking world. The APCC Steering Committee reviews the continuity and quality of this quality assurance process.

3 The overall objective of this policy is to protect the legitimacy, integrity, trust and credibility of the APCC and its activities, as well as those directly involved in the preparation of reports. This policy is principles-based and does not provide a list of criteria for identifying such conflicts. The APCC recognizes the commitment and dedication of those who contribute to APCC products.

4 The APCC Conflict of Interest Policy is designed to ensure that conflicts of interest can be identified and disclosed to the parties concerned. Any adverse impact on the APCC balance sheet, products and processes should be avoided, the individual authors, the APCC and the public interest have to be protected. Individuals and/or the APCC shall not be placed in a position that could lead a reasonable person to condemn or reject the work of the APCC because of the existence of a conflict of interest.

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## Scope of the Directive

5. This policy applies to the APCC Steering Committee, co-opted APCC Steering Committee members, the project consortium, authors with responsibility for report content (Coordinating Lead Author, Lead Author and Contributing Author/Chapter Scientist), review editors and review management. The project consortium is responsible for transparency and process quality, which is monitored by the APCC Steering Committee. To ensure transparency, documentation must be provided on the CCCA/APCC website, coordinated by the CCCA. On the CCCA/APCC website, descriptions of the upcoming APCC product shall be available, responsible contact persons shall be listed and existing papers shall be available for download. Prior to publication, a sufficiently broad and intensive review by external reviewers must be ensured, as well as an appropriate incorporation of all comments arising from the review process in line with the current state of scientific knowledge.

6. The policy applies to the development of all APCC products, including but not limited to: assessment reports and special reports.

7. This guideline is intended to reflect the different roles, responsibilities and levels of authority of the participants in the APCC process, in particular whether responsibility can be taken at an individual level or shared within a team.

## Conflict of Interest

8. A conflict of interest refers to any present professional, personal, financial or other interest that: a) which may significantly affect the objectivity of individuals in the performance of their duties for the Austrian Panel on Climate Change (APCC); and/or b) that may give an unfair advantage to a person or organization, so that he/she/it gains directly and materially from the results. Furthermore, a conflict of interest refers to any present activity that indirectly or directly results in an improper reputational gain. These potential conflicts are subject to disclosure.

9. This policy applies only to current conflicts of interest. The policy does not apply to past interests that are time-barred, no longer exist and do not affect the current relationship of trust. Furthermore, the policy does not apply to possible interests that may arise in the future but do not currently exist. The latter is considered speculative and uncertain and is therefore not subject to consideration.

10. Professional and other financial/non-financial interests need only be disclosed if they are substantial and relevant. In case of doubt whether an interest must be disclosed, individuals are encouraged to contact the APCC.

# APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria - AAR2

## DECLARATION OF POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

### PREVIEW:

You have been invited to contribute to the APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria - AAR2 on the basis of your expertise. It is important that you can carry out your work for the APCC in an unbiased manner and without conflicts of interest. The APCC relies on applying the highest possible standards of scientific integrity and identifying potential biases at an early stage so that the APCC and its results can be protected from any attempts to damage its reputation in advance.

In analogy to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), we may therefore ask you to disclose your professional, financial and private interests. Such interests beyond a purely scientific consideration will exist in many cases, however, dealing with it in a transparent manner makes it possible to ensure the impartiality of all parties involved. If necessary, you will be asked by the APCC for further specifications on the basis of your information. Furthermore, transparency does not mean that your private details will be made available to the public. All information will therefore be kept strictly confidential and the APCC will destroy the forms 5 years after the publication of the assessment report to which you contribute.

Please declare any interests that could significantly affect your objectivity while working for the APCC or that could give you or your institution unfair advantage and direct material gain based on APCC results.

The following questionnaire is further clarified by the "APCC Conflict of Interest Policy". The wording is largely based on the corresponding IPCC template but simplified and shortened ([https://archive.ipcc.ch/organization/docs/coi\\_form.pdf](https://archive.ipcc.ch/organization/docs/coi_form.pdf)).

# APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria - AAR2

CONFIDENTIAL!

## DECLARATION

NAME:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

INSTITUTION:

MY ROLE IN THE APCC ASSESSMENT REPORT AAR2 (PLEASE CROSS):

APCC SC	Co-Chair	CLA	LA	CA/CS	RE	TSU
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APCC SC = APCC Steering Committee / coop. APCC SC, CLA = Coordinating Lead Author,  
LA = Lead Author, CA = Contributing Author, CS = Chapter Scientist,  
RE = Reviewer/Review Editor, TSU = Technical Unit Support

Please answer "**YES**" to the following questions if a significant aspect of your life is affected. For insignificant aspects, you can confidently answer "**NO**".

- 1) Do you work for an institution (in an employment or function) that itself has climate policy in its core tasks and therefore has direct interests in results of APCC reports?  
 YES, please explain here:  
 NO
- 2) Do you receive income (from self-employment or employment) from a contractor or employer who has special interests in specific results of your APCC work?  
 YES, please explain here:  
 NO
- 3) Do you receive financial (or other material) support for your research from a for-profit company or other institution that has special interests in concrete results of your APCC work? Please also indicate intensive cooperation here!  
 YES, please explain here:  
 NO

## APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria - AAR2

- 4) Do you own shares (stocks or bonds, also warrants) in a company that has special interests in concrete results of your APCC work? Please also list indirect investments, such as in a parent company of such a company. Please do NOT list bundled investments (such as equity funds) where you have no influence on any single company.
- YES, please explain here:
- NO
- 5) Do you have any financial interests (beyond an amount of about EUR 10,000 per year) from which a neutral observer could possibly see a conflict of interest with your work for the APCC?
- YES, please explain here:
- NO
- 6) Are you involved in any professional or private functions that a neutral observer might consider to be the source of a conflict of interest with your work for the APCC? Are you aware of any other circumstances that could lead to the appearance of a conflict of interest?
- YES, please explain here:
- NO

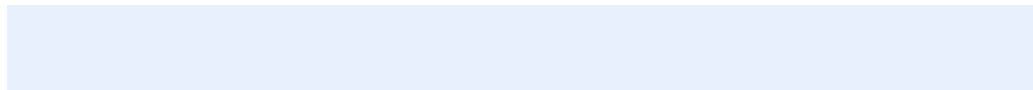
I have understood that statements with "YES" to the above questions usually do not yet constitute a conflict of interest, but merely require an explanation. I have made an effort to provide appropriate explanations here. Should any of the above circumstances change, I will contact the APCC immediately.

**I have read the "APCC Conflict of Interest Policy" and I agree to it.**

NAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:



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## DECLARATION OF INTENT

NAME:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

ORGANISATION/AFFILIATION:

ROLE IN THE APCC ASSESSMENT REPORT AAR2:

APCC SC	Co-Chair	CLA	LA	CA/CS	RE	TSU
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APCC SC = APCC Steering Committee / coop. APCC SC, CLA = Coordinating Lead Author,  
LA = Lead Author, CA = Contributing Author, CS = Chapter Scientist,  
RE = Reviewer/Review Editor, TSU = Technical Support Unit

I accept the invitation to participate in the preparation of the APCC Assessment Report AAR2 - entitled "APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria".

I declare myself as author willing:

- to take responsibility for the content of my contributions and the chapter,
- to contribute to the completion of the Final Report and the Status Report by September 2025, as well as to support beyond that communication to the scientific community, stakeholders and the general public; and
- to make an effort to attend all necessary meetings and gatherings.

I confirm as an author and/or reviewer/review editor and/or other person actively involved in the process that I will ensure full transparency in the preparation and/or review of the APCC Assessment Report on Climate Change in Austria and that I will avoid situations that call into question the integrity of the AAR2 or its process.

NAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE: