



INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS



You work on the most important interfaces of climate and sustainability research and operate internationally. What are the biggest challenges in your work?

The goal of getting the climate crisis under control can only be achieved in an emissions-free society. However, the basic prerequisite for this is a comprehensive change in values and structures across all systems that control and support our existence today. It is particularly important that this major transformation process is experienced as an opportunity for a better future and not as an exercise in renunciation. To this end, we at IIASA bring together experts from the fields of sociology, economics, natural sciences and technology to work in interdisciplinary teams to develop systemic solutions for sustainable living and economic activity. But it is precisely this combination of people from a wide range of disciplines that creates the basis for generating new, creative and pioneering ideas. Although this is challenging, it also offers huge opportunities.

How can other facilities/institutions benefit from me and my work?

I work in different areas, which are subject to very different requirements. In the interdisciplinary research context of the climate crisis, one of my tasks is to facilitate collaboration between specialist areas. To this end For example, the RCPs and SSPs were designed as standardized reference pathways that link socio-economic and physical research questions, make them comparable and enable interdisciplinary findings. The synthesis of different areas opens up so many opportunities for innovation and new perspectives in the climate research community that we really all benefit.

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However, it becomes particularly challenging when interdisciplinary findings need to be translated into recommendations for action. It is then important to bring different people together, organize positions and manage the discourse.

The CCCA serves as a service organization for climate research in Austria. How does the CCCA in my work today and how can it work even better in the future?

Thanks to my international research activities, I have developed different concepts in the field of science communication and networking.

The CCCA now fulfills these tasks at a national level and is therefore one of the most important institutions to have been established in the recent past. Scientists network across disciplines and work on joint projects, representatives from the press and the public receive professional information and mediation. In addition, there are projects within the CCCA, such as the Austrian Assessment Reports of the APCC, with which it has taken on a pioneering role worldwide.

We are also at a time when it is particularly urgent to translate internationally formulated positions into clear action steps. Damage occurs locally, adaptation measures are implemented locally, vulnerability is assessed on a small scale. With the new assessment report, the AAR2, the APCC and the CCCA can fulfill precisely this bridging function between global knowledge and local action. A central task of the AAR2 and the

CCCA in the near future will be the introduction of a mechanism in which the research results are cast together with stakeholders from politics and society in a form that can develop a similar political weight in Austria as the IPCC reports do internationally.

What are the biggest challenges in the near future on the way to a sustainable future?

A system change is necessary! We know the technological options and the economic conditions are good. However, the difficulties on this path arise from inadequate communication of what this change could look like. We need to explain clearly that we are facing major changes and that this will take time. But this transformation aims for a better, more democratic and fairer future, and all people can participate and benefit. Courage and transparency in political decisions, open communication and the involvement of citizens in the transformation process are crucial to creating acceptance for the necessary change. This would be one of the most important steps.

