

Jean-Pascal van Ypersele

Jean-Pascal van Ypersele (@JPvanYpersele on Twitter) is a current Vice-chair of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and is Belgium's candidate for the position of IPCC Chair, the election of which will take place later this year. He is professor of climatology and environmental sciences at the *Université catholique de Louvain* (UCL, Belgium) where he also obtained his Ph.D. His research specialises in modelling climate change and its effects on human activities and of particular interest are the socio-economic aspects of climate change. Professor van Ypersele was elected as one of three Vice-chairs of the IPCC in 2008 and has been participating in its work since 1995. The author of countless publications and holder of numerous awards and distinctions, Professor van Ypersele is a member of the Belgian Royal Academy and Chair of the Energy & Climate Working Group of the Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development. His web page is at www.climate.be/vanyp

David Mkwambisi

Dr David Mkwambisi is an Associate Professor of Environmental Sustainability with a PhD and MSc in Environment and Development from Universities of Leeds and East Anglia (UK) respectively. David has a Diploma and BSc in Agriculture from University of Malawi. In addition to lecturing, David is currently working as a Programmes Coordinator at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR). He is involved in several development and research programmes working with both rural and urban communities especially on climate change impacts and vulnerability among smallholder farmers and on urban and rural poverty. He is among national experts responsible for policy guidance on climate change, environment and development issues. David has been contributing to environment and development issues to Government of Malawi, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), Common Market for East and Southern Africa, (COMESA), Southern Africa Development Cooperation (SADC), International Organisation on Migration (IOM), African Union, World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), African Development Bank, UNICEF, national and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Dr Mkwambisi is among global experts on climate change, food and agriculture under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

John Sweeney

Professor John Sweeney is Emeritus Professor of Geography at Maynooth University. He has been a lecturer at the Geography Department since 1978. He received a First Class Honours B.Sc. from the University of Glasgow in 1974 and was awarded a PhD also from Glasgow in 1980. John has taught courses primarily related to climatology, but he has also taught biogeography, geomorphology and environmental resource management and has taught and researched at a number of universities in North America and Africa. He has also been involved in course design and curriculum development matters at second and third levels. Over the past 30 years he has published approximately 60 scientific papers and edited/co-authored 4 texts on various aspects of climatology and climate change in Ireland. He has served a number of national academic societies as President, Secretary and Treasurer as well as being the Irish representative on a number of European academic bodies. He has lead a number of nationally funded research projects examining various aspects of climate change in Ireland. Professor Sweeney contributed to the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.