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Experts explain climate change

New UBA brochure on findings by World Climate Council

What are the origins of climate change? What impact does the current change in climate have on ecosystems in the various regions around the globe and on human health? Climate experts at the Federal Environment Agency (UBA) have the answers to these and similar questions in a newly published brochure. It is based on findings from the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of 2007, which will serve as the scientific basis for the upcoming World Climate Conference to be held in December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Clear and accessible information on the scientific background to climate policy is vital precisely because everyone can do his bit to protect the climate.

In December this year the 15th UN World Climate Conference will take place in Copenhagen, where negotiations on a new international climate protection treaty will occur that will determine whether a dangerous change to the climate can be avoided. The scientific basis for the international climate negotiations is the 4th IPCC Assessment Report.

The new Federal Environment Agency brochure summarises the most important findings in the IPCC Report and explains its contents in layman's terms. It explains the natural science causes of climate change, forecasts of future climate change, and descriptions of the impact of climate change in various regions of the world, including Germany.

With the brochure the Federal Environment Agency aims to address a broad-based readership about current and expected global warming, and to raise citizens' awareness of climate protection measures. The brochure is well-suited for use in schools and other educational institutions.

The brochure (in German) is available for free download on the Internet at: http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/uba-info-medien/mysql_medien.php?anfrage=Kennummer&Suchwort=3840.

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