

Researching topic #21-- SOCIETAL RESPONSES – POLICY – INTERNATIONAL;
NATIONS OTHER THAN THE U.S. [last revised 12/31/2018]

This prompt offers two kinds of help:

- A brief overview of the kinds of questions you might wish to explore as you study how climate change is likely to affect the food supply;
- A suggested strategy for how to search the literature as you prepare to write your paper.

OVERVIEW – SOCIETAL RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE – POLICY –
INTERNATIONAL; NATIONS OTHER THAN THE U.S.

International:

The 1992 UN Conference on the Environment and Development, held in Rio, produced the first international agreement, the Framework Convention on Climate Change. Then came Kyoto ... Copenhagen ... Rio ... leading up to the 2015 Paris Agreement.

What treaties or agreements were proposed?

What were the difficulties or stumbling blocks that got in the way of reaching agreement or of actually implementing what was agreed on?

What is the state of international treaties or agreements now? For example: Is the world on target to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement?

Other nations:

What are the other major emitter nations saying and doing? (FYI, currently, the rankings, highest to lower emitters, are: China, [US], India, Russia, Japan, Germany.)

SUGGESTED STRATEGY FOR SEARCHING THE LITERATURE

I recommend the following sequence for searching the literature:

- 1 Start with a search of the most recent **reports from top scientific bodies and government agencies**;
- 2 Search **academic articles** using Google Scholar (scholar.google.com);
- 3 Do a **more general search** using Google or another search engine;
- 4 Search the **best newspapers** and **reputable climate websites**.
(NOTE that I do not suggest using Wikipedia.)

1 Search the most recent **reports from top scientific bodies and government agencies**

(NOTE: There are many excellent reports one can consult. You will find a lot of repetition, so you do not need to consult every source. Here I start with a handful of the most recent reports, followed by a more complete list.)

These publications should, in most cases, supply you with all you need:

IPCC's most recent full set of reports:

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/>

EPA: https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/climate-impacts/climate-impacts-society_.html

U.S. Global Change Research Program:

<https://science2017.globalchange.gov/> (the science)

<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/> (the impacts)

American Meteorological Society:

www.ametsoc.net/sotc2017/StateoftheClimate2017_lowres.pdf

A more complete list of best scientific and governmental sources:

International

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
World Meteorological Organization

Agencies of the U.S. federal government

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
U.S. Global Change Research Program

Scientific bodies – U.S.

National Academic of Sciences
Climate Change at the National Academies (climatechange@nas.edu)
National Science Foundation

Other professional bodies – American Meteorological Society

2 Search **academic articles** using Google Scholar (scholar.google.com)

(NOTE: Narrow and focus your search by using several phrases in quotes – such as “climate change”. For example, if you are searching for how climate change will increase the frequency of extreme weather events, don’t just enter “climate change,” search, instead for” “climate change” AND “extreme weather events”)

Search terms to use (you may certainly choose others):

“climate change” AND x, where x can be:

Kyoto protocol
Copenhagen
Paris Agreement
COP or Conference of the Parties

(NOTE: For some citations you find on Google Scholar, you can directly download the PDF. For other citations, you may be able to find and download PDFs if your University library offers on line access to academic journals.)

3 Do a **more general search** using Google or another search engine

Use the same search terms to do a general search on Google or another search engine. This will bring up information more recent than you find on scholar.google.com (it takes several years for research to be published in academic journals).

4 Search the **best newspapers** and **reputable climate websites**

New York Times, Washington Post, The Guardian

On line sources

Climate Central
GRIST
Society of Environmental Journalists
The Daily Climate
Climate Nexus
InsideClimate News
DeSmogBlog
Skepticalscience.com
Yale 350

(NOTE about on line sources: You will run into a lot of denialist disinformation on the internet, on websites, on blogs, on youtube. FYI, skepticalscience.com has a comprehensive list of denialist talking points (and refutations of those talking points). See, for example: <https://www.skepticalscience.com/argument.php>)

Finally, here are some good citations to help you get started:

For international, it might be helpful to start with:

“Brief history of the COPs – UN Framework Convention on Climate Change,”
<https://sgerendask.com/brief-history-of-the-cops-conferences-on-climate-change/>

Search: What has been the assessment of what Kyoto did or did not accomplish?

Search: What has been the assessment of what the Paris Agreement has or has not accomplished using search term “assessments of the Paris Agreement”

For climate policy in other nations, search “climate change policy” AND:

Germany

France

China

etc.

Finally, check out these news articles:

“NATO urges global fight against climate change as Trump mulls Paris accord,”
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-nato-climatechange-idUSKBN17Z2CE>

“As U.S. retreats, EU and China seek climate leadership at summit,”
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-china-idUSKBN18R3A4>

New citations, March 2021 revisions

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/28/climate/united-nations-climate-pledges.html>

<https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/07/22/guterres-asks-countries-plan-carbon-neutrality-2050/>

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2019/07/31/opinion/fossil-fuel-burning-leaps-new-record-crushing-clean-energy-and-climate-efforts>

<https://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/energy-economics/statistical-review-of-world-energy.html>

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/23122020/paris-agreement-five-year-anniversary-biden/>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2021/02/26/un-climate-emissions/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F302af71%2F603923fb9d2fda4c88f3697f%2F59864fb9ade4e26514e64575%2F24%2F70%2F603923fb9d2fda4c88f3697f

<https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/ndc-synthesis-report>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2021/02/09/countries-must-ramp-up-climate-pledges-by-80-percent-hit-key-paris-target-study-finds/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&wpisrc=nl_most&carta-url=https%3A%2F%2Fs2.washingtonpost.com%2Fcar-ln-tr%2F2f6ad58%2F6022bb7c9d2fda4c88daf168%2F59864fb9ade4e26514e64575%2F41%2F70%2F6022bb7c9d2fda4c88daf168

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2021/02/26/un-climate-emissions/>