

Tec professor contributes to climate report, warning time has run out



Luis Fernández-Carril, professor and researcher at the [Tec de Monterrey](#), contributed to an international **report** warning about the **seriousness** of failing to take immediate action to deal with the **environmental crisis**.

The professor collaborated as a member of one of three Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ([IPCC](#)) groups from 2019 to 2022.

*"Our **response capacity** is weakening on a daily basis. This report provides **evidence** not only of the environmental impact but also the **insufficiency** of the **measures being taken**",* warns Fernández-Carril.

The professor worked in the **group** that focused on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and its impacts. Their contribution, along with those of other academics across the world, was published in the sixth edition of this report.

Fernández-Carril is also the coordinator of **Climate Change and Sustainability** in the Tec de Monterrey's **Department of Inclusion, Social Impact and Sustainability**, which is responsible for the institution's sustainable planning.



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Climate change affects city life

In an interview with CONECTA, Fernández-Carril explained that he is one of the authors of **Chapter 18** at the end of the report dealing with **ecosystems**, biodiversity, and human communities on both regional and global levels.

This Group II report makes **important observations** concerning how climate change is not only affecting the world's ecosystems, but also human systems as exemplified by **city life**.

Mental health, socioeconomic disruptions, higher **mortality rates** related to **pollution levels**, little or no **access to water**, and healthy food are all topics discussed in the report.

*"It is no longer enough to mitigate and reduce greenhouse gases as global **impacts** are becoming **more serious** and **more frequent**."*

*"Efforts made by **Mexico** and other countries must focus on **finding synergies** and taking actions to mitigate the effects of greenhouse gases and to enable us to adapt to climate change while the search for **sustainable development** continues," he commented.*

*"**This report provides evidence not only of the environmental impact but also the insufficiency of the measures being taken.**"*



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Fernández-Carril added that **failure to take action** in recent years has **reduced** the **number of available options** and has even caused global initiatives to become insufficient.

"127 climate risks around the world were identified in the report.

*In the words of the United Nations secretary, this is an **atlas of human suffering**. Work Group II concentrated on human beings, ecosystems, and life itself being attacked,"* said the researcher.

The **IPCC** was set up in 1988 to facilitate **integral evaluations** of the state of scientific, technical, and socio-economic knowledge on climate change, its causes, potential repercussions, and response strategies.

Since it started work in 1988, the IPCC has drawn up **5 evaluation reports** in several volumes.

The **IPCC** and former US vice president Al Gore were awarded the **2007 Nobel Peace Prize** for their work on **climate change**.



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This is how the professor participated in the report

Fernández-Carril explained that he **was nominated** to join the IPCC by **Carolina Vega**, the vice president of Work Group I.

*"The nomination was made in **2017** and the work itself was done from **2019 to 2022**; we finished one month ago," he said.*

During this time, Fernández-Carril attended plenary sessions with other authors in **South Africa**, **Nepal**, and **Portugal**. Later, when the pandemic hit, he worked online.

*"It should be pointed out that the IPCC does not 'do' science but evaluates the state of science. This **report** comes out every **7 or 8 years**. Published literature and research papers from all over the worlds are evaluated.*

*"For this report, I worked on climate change related matters of a **social, justice, and cultural** nature, in addition to indigenous knowledge related to climate change. The results are set forth in Chapter 18," the professor told us.*

Fernández-Carril says that he is the **only** member of the **Tec** who formed part of this group and, indeed, the only participant from a **philosophy faculty**.

*"I was the only **philosopher** out of more than **300 researchers**. That's not the way it should be: there are so many environmental questions that have to do with **ethics** and **human dignity**.*

"These matters need to be discussed and taken into account, and it can't be done by one single person. We need more humanists in these areas," he added.



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"Action is needed from more than just the government"

Fernández-Carril stated that action to deal with the environmental crisis should not only be taken by the world's governments.

*"The **private sector** has to stop thinking that its initiatives should be **voluntary** or **philanthropic**. We are now in a state of emergency," he affirms.*

Furthermore, the professor says that **universities** must also **make a commitment** to participate actively to prevent the environmental crisis.

*"It's not just the private sector that must make a commitment, but we **individuals** and the **universities** will have to make a **huge effort**."*

*The **Tec de Monterrey** plays a **fundamental role**. We are an institution that drives **research** in different fields but we can also find **solutions** that improve the lives of our communities."*

Luis and other collaborators have worked on initiatives to deal with the **climate emergency** from within the **Tec** and are seeking the [institution's carbon neutrality](#) by the year 2040.

EL TEC ANTE LA EMERGENCIA CLIMÁTICA:

PLAN DE SOSTENIBILIDAD Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO 2025



Versión 1.0, abril de 2021

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*"Students not only need to know about **science** and **climate change** but must also be **aware** of **human suffering**, which will bring about our transformation as people and professionals," he pointed out.*

Following the publication of Work Group II's report, the results produced by IPCC **Work Group III** dealing with the mitigation options of climate change were released on April 3.

The report states that should emissions continue rising, it will be impossible to limit increases to 1.5 to 2 degrees centigrade unless **drastic large-scale measures** are taken to deal with the issue this decade.

*"Now we have truly run out of time. As of this moment, every day brings us closer to a **catastrophic panorama**.*

*"Actions we take to **make drastic emissions reductions** and foment sustainable development worldwide over the coming years will be the foundations on which future generations will judge us for acting urgently or not," warns the professor.*

[Read the full report here.](#)

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