



# Pacific Climate Change Portal

## Topics Controlled Vocabulary

(with definitions)

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## Version History

Version	Date	Details	Name
1.0	8/11/2015	First version released	Rebecca Brown
2.0	26/02/2016	Renaming of top level term <i>Governance</i> to <i>Government, Law and Administration</i> . New second level terms added: <i>ocean acidification; snow &amp; ice; vegetation; international agreements; water security</i> .	Rebecca Brown
3.0	20/09/2016	Spelling of <i>land forms and cartography</i> corrected to <i>landforms and cartography</i> . Term definitions and sources added.	Rebecca Brown

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Version 3.0.



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# Pacific Climate Change Portal Topics Vocabulary

## **AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING**

- Agriculture
- Aquaculture
- Crops
- Deforestation
- Fisheries
- Food Security
- Forestry
- Livestock
- Pests
- REDD / REDD+

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

- Adaptation
- Carbon
- Carbon sequestration
- Climate change science
- Climate models
- Climate projections
- Greenhouse gases
- Impacts
- Loss and damage
- Mitigation
- Ocean acidification
- Resilience
- Risks
- Sea level rise
- Vulnerability

## **CULTURE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE**

- Cultural heritage and preservation
- Culture
- Language
- Religion and belief systems
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Traditional knowledge

## **DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT**

- Adaptation
- Complex emergency
- Cyclone
- Disaster management
- Disaster preparedness
- Disaster relief
- Disaster response
- Disaster risk
- Disaster risk reduction

## **DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (continued...)**

- Drought
- Early warning system
- Earthquake
- Fire
- Flood
- Geological hazard
- Hazard
- Heatwave
- Hydro-meteorological hazard
- Landslide
- Loss and damage
- Mitigation
- Natural hazard
- Resilience
- Storm
- Storm surge
- Technological hazard
- Tsunami
- Volcanic eruption
- Vulnerability

## **ECONOMICS AND FINANCE**

- Climate finance
- Economic development
- Economics
- Finance
- Low carbon development
- Sustainable development
- Trade

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- Adult education
- Community education
- Literacy
- Preschool education
- Primary education
- Schools
- Secondary education
- Teachers and teaching
- Tertiary education
- Vocational education

## **EMPLOYMENT**

- Unemployment
- Wages
- Working conditions

## **ENERGY**

- Emission reduction
- Emissions
- Energy efficiency
- Low carbon energy
- Renewable energy
- Renewable energy targets

## **GOVERNMENT, LAW AND ADMINISTRATION**

- Climate negotiations
- Governance
- International agreements
- Law and regulation
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Organisations
- Panels and working groups
- Policy and planning

## **HEALTH**

- Communicable diseases
- Disease prevention and control
- Mental health
- Non-communicable diseases
- Nutrition
- Public health
- Sanitation

## **HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**

- Housing
- Land tenure
- Land use
- Regional planning
- Rural settlements
- Urban planning
- Urban settlements

## **INDUSTRY**

- Construction and Engineering
- Insurance
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Telecommunications
- Tourism
- Transport
- Waste management

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

- Information management
- Geographical information systems

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (continued...)**

- Information technology
- Knowledge management

## **METEOROLOGY AND WEATHER**

- Atmosphere
- Climate
- Meteorology
- Rainfall
- Snow and ice
- Temperature
- Tides
- Weather

## **NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

- Air quality
- Biodiversity
- Coastal zone
- Conservation
- Degradation
- Ecology and ecosystems
- Habitat restoration
- Inland waters
- Landforms and cartography
- Islands
- Natural resource management
- Oceans
- Pollution
- Reefs
- Soils
- Vegetation
- Wildlife

## **POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Demography
- Migration
- Population growth

## **SECURITY AND CONFLICT**

- Conflict
- International relations
- Security

## **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Ageing
- Civil society
- Crime
- Gender
- Human rights

## **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (continued...)**

- Poverty
- Social conditions
- Social services
- Women
- Youth

## **WATER**

- Water quality
- Water rights
- Water security
- Water storage
- Water supply

## **TECHNOLOGY**

- Technology transfer

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## **Qualifiers (or “Focus area”)** (These are terms that can be appended to any term in the Vocabulary)

assessment  
best practice guides  
capacity building  
case studies  
communication and awareness  
community-based approach  
engagement  
environmental impact assessments  
indicators  
infrastructure  
lessons learned  
mainstreaming  
management  
mapping  
monitoring  
planning  
statistics  
surveys  
sustainability  
techniques  
training manuals and tools  
vulnerability assessments

## Notes on Implementation of the PCCP Topics Controlled Vocabulary

This 2-level controlled vocabulary has been developed specifically for use with the Pacific Climate Change Portal. It will be used to classify resources (documents, projects etc) according to theme or subject area.

It is expected that most implementations of the PCCP Topics will provide the above Search Words in a pick list or faceted list. The sophistication of the search software will vary from system implementation to system implementation. The following operations of the Search Words in the Search Words field should be possible (as a minimum):

- Selecting the word CLIMATE CHANGE should collect all resources with this word whether alone or in combination, including, for example, CLIMATE CHANGE-Adaptation.
- If, however, the Search Word CLIMATE CHANGE-Adaptation only were selected, any resources with the Search word of CLIMATE CHANGE alone, or CLIMATE CHANGE Mitigation, would not be picked up.

Whether searching on Qualifier words only (eg searching for all datasets where the word Monitoring is used) will be possible will depend on the system implementation and software. Where Qualifier words are entered via a separate field, it would be possible to implement a search on Qualifier words only, as well as in combination with the Topics.

## Term Definitions

<b>scheme</b>	<b>concept</b>	<b>definition</b>	<b>source</b>
<b>Agriculture, forestry and fishing</b>			
	<b>agriculture</b>	The production of plants and animals useful to man, involving soil cultivation and the breeding and management of crops and livestock.	GEMET
	<b>aquaculture</b>	The cultivation and harvest of freshwater or marine animals and plants, in ponds, tanks, cages or on protected beds. This is usually done in inland waters, estuaries or coastal waters. 2) The use of artificial means to increase the production of aquatic organisms in fresh or salt water.	GEMET
	<b>crops</b>	Cultivated plants that are grown on a large scale commercially, especially a cereal, fruit, or vegetable.	OED
	<b>deforestation</b>	Conversion of forest to non-forest.	IPCC
	<b>fisheries</b>	The industry of catching, processing and selling fish.	GEMET
	<b>food security</b>	A situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.	PCCP
	<b>forestry</b>	Forestry is the management and care of woods, including fellings and plantation of new trees.	PCCP
	<b>livestock</b>	Cattle, horses, and similar animals kept for domestic use especially on a farm.	GEMET
	<b>pests</b>	Any organisms that damage crops, injure or irritate livestock or man, or reduce the fertility of land.	GEMET
	<b>REDD / REDD+</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation. REDD became REDD+ in 1010. REDD+ is a mechanism that creates a financial value for the carbon stored in forests by offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development.	UN-REDD
<b>Climate change</b>		A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods	UNFCCC
	<b>adaptation</b>	Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.	UNFCCC
	<b>carbon</b>	A non-metallic element occurring in carbon dioxide, coal, oil and all organic compounds.	GEMET
	<b>carbon sequestration</b>	The process of increasing the carbon content of a reservoir/pool other than the atmosphere	IPCC
	<b>climate change science</b>	The branch of science which deals with the alteration of regional and global weather patterns	OED
	<b>climate models</b>	A theoretical or mathematical model (typically involving computer simulation) of major weather patterns, especially as used to predict possible future climate change	IPCC

	<b>climate projections</b>	A projection of the response of the climate system to emission or concentration scenarios of greenhouse gases and aerosols, or radiative forcing scenarios, often based upon simulations by climate models.	IPCC
	<b>greenhouse gases</b>	A gas that absorbs radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of radiation (infrared radiation) emitted by the Earth's surface and by clouds. The gas in turn emits infrared radiation from a level where the temperature is colder than the surface. The net effect is a local trapping of part of the absorbed energy and a tendency to warm the planetary surface. Water vapour (H <sub>2</sub> O), carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ) and ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ) are the primary greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere.	IPCC
	<b>impacts</b>	The effects of climate change on natural and human systems.	IPCC
	<b>loss and damage</b>	Denotes impacts of climate-related stressors that occur despite efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climatic changes. Loss and damage can result from sudden-onset events (climate disasters, such as cyclones) as well as slow-onset processes (such as sea level rise). Loss and damage can occur in human systems (such as livelihoods) as well as natural systems (such as biodiversity), though the emphasis in research and policy is on human impacts. In popular press, and in statements by some parties in the climate negotiations, the terms loss and damage is often associated with liability and compensation.	Wikipedia
	<b>mitigation</b>	In the context of climate change, a human intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. Examples include using fossil fuels more efficiently for industrial processes or electricity generation, switching to solar energy or wind power, improving the insulation of buildings, and expanding forests and other "sinks" to remove greater amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.	UNFCCC
	<b>ocean acidification</b>	Increased concentrations of CO <sub>2</sub> in sea water causing a measurable increase in acidity (i.e., a reduction in ocean pH). This may lead to reduced calcification rates of calcifying organisms such as corals, molluscs, algae and crustacea.	IPCC
	<b>resilience</b>	The ability of a social or ecological system to absorb disturbances while retaining the same basic structure and ways of functioning, the capacity for self-organisation, and the capacity to adapt to stress and change.	IPCC
	<b>risks</b>	The probability of harmful consequences, or expected losses (deaths, injuries, property, livelihoods, economic activity disrupted or environment damaged) resulting from interactions between natural or human induced hazards and vulnerable conditions. Conventionally risk is expressed by the notation Risk = Hazards x Vulnerability.	UNISDR
	<b>sea level rise</b>	An increase in the mean level of the ocean.	IPCC
	<b>vulnerability</b>	The degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes. Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of climate variation to which a system is exposed, its sensitivity, and its adaptive capacity.	UNFCCC
<b>Culture and traditional knowledge</b>			
	<b>cultural heritage and preservation</b>	The preservation of heritage that includes artefacts, monuments, a group of buildings and sites that have a diversity of values including symbolic, historic, artistic, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological, scientific and social significance	UNESCO
	<b>culture</b>	The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.	OED



	<b>language</b>	The system of spoken or written communication used by a particular country, people, community.	OED
	<b>religion and belief systems</b>	Religion: the belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods. Belief system: A set of principles or tenets which together form the basis of a religion, philosophy, or moral code.	OED
	<b>traditional ecological knowledge</b>	The knowledge held by indigenous cultures about their immediate environment and the cultural practices that build on that knowledge. Traditional ecological knowledge includes an intimate and detailed knowledge of plants, animals, and natural phenomena, the development and use of appropriate technologies for hunting, fishing, trapping, agriculture, and forestry, and a holistic knowledge, or "world view" which parallels the scientific discipline of ecology.	US FWS
	<b>traditional knowledge</b>	The knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities around the world. It is developed from experience gained over the centuries and adapted to the local culture and environment.	UNESCO
<b>Disaster risk management</b>		The systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement strategies, policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards and the possibility of disaster.	UNISDR
	<b>adaptation</b>	The adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. It also applies to non-climatic factors such as soil erosion or surface subsidence.	UNISDR
	<b>complex emergency</b>	Complex emergencies combine internal conflict with large-scale displacements of people, mass famine or food shortage, and fragile or failing economic, political, and social institutions. Often, complex emergencies are also exacerbated by natural disasters.	PCCP
	<b>cyclone</b>	A large-scale closed-circulation atmospheric system with low central barometric pressure rotating counter clockwise in the northern hemisphere and clockwise in the southern hemisphere.	PCCP
	<b>disaster management</b>	Policy and administrative decisions and operational activities at all levels to ensure preparedness for, response to and recovery from potential disaster events.	PCCP
	<b>disaster preparedness</b>	The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, professional response and recovery organizations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from, the impacts of likely, imminent or current hazard events or conditions.	UNISDR
	<b>disaster relief</b>	Disaster response that is primarily focused on immediate and short term needs during or immediately after a disaster.	UNISDR
	<b>disaster response</b>	The provision of emergency services and public assistance during or after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected. Some response actions may extend well into the recovery stage.	UNISDR
	<b>disaster risk</b>	The potential disaster losses, in lives, health status, livelihoods, assets and services, which 10 could occur to a particular community or a society over some specified future time period.	UNISDR
	<b>disaster risk reduction</b>	The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to 11 hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events.	UNISDR

	<b>drought</b>	The result of a lack of rain over an extended period of time.	PCCP
	<b>early warning system</b>	The set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities and organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss.	UNISDR
	<b>earthquake</b>	A shaking of the earth caused by a sudden movement of rock beneath the Earth's surface, usually along a geological fault.	PCCP
	<b>fire</b>	Burning of all or part of the natural or built environment as a result of natural or human activity.	PCCP
	<b>flood</b>	The overflowing of water beyond its normal confines, or the accumulation of water by drainage over areas that are not normally submerged.	PCCP
	<b>geological hazard</b>	Geological process or phenomenon that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage. Comment: Geological hazards include internal earth processes, such as earthquakes, volcanic activity and emissions, and related geophysical processes such as mass movements, landslides, rockslides, surface collapses, and debris or mud flows.	UNISDR
	<b>hazard</b>	A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage.	UNISDR
	<b>heatwave</b>	A period of abnormally hot weather. Heat waves and warm spells have various and in some cases overlapping definitions.	IPCC
	<b>hydro-meteorological hazard</b>	Process or phenomenon of atmospheric, hydrological or oceanographic nature that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage. Hydro-meteorological hazards include tropical cyclones (also known as typhoons and hurricanes), thunderstorms, hailstorms, tornados, blizzards, heavy snowfall, avalanches, coastal storm surges, floods including flash floods, drought, heatwaves and cold spells.	UNISDR
	<b>landslide</b>	Downhill movement of natural soil and rock.	PCCP
	<b>loss and damage</b>	Denotes impacts of hazard-related stressors. Loss and damage can result from sudden-onset events (climate disasters, such as cyclones) as well as slow-onset processes (such as sea level rise). Loss and damage can occur in human systems (such as livelihoods) as well as natural systems (such as biodiversity), though the emphasis in research and policy is on human impacts. In popular press, and in statements by some parties in the climate negotiations, the terms loss and damage is often associated with liability and compensation.	Wikipedia (modified)
	<b>mitigation</b>	The lessening or limitation of the adverse impacts of hazards and related disasters. Mitigation measures encompass engineering techniques and hazard-resistant construction as well as improved environmental policies and public awareness. It should be noted that in climate change policy, "mitigation" is defined differently.	UNISDR

	<b>natural hazard</b>	A natural process or phenomenon that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage. Natural hazard events can be grouped into two broad categories: Geophysical (encompassing geological and meteorological phenomena such as earthquakes, coastal erosion, volcanic eruption, cyclonic storms, and drought) and biological (a diverse array of disease and infestation). Other natural hazards such as floods and wildfires can result from a combination of geological, hydrological, and climatic factors. The qualifier "natural" eliminates such exclusively manmade phenomena as war, pollution, and chemical contamination.	UNISDR/ Wikipedia
	<b>resilience</b>	The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions.	UNISDR
	<b>storm</b>	Atmospheric disturbance involving strong agitation of prevailing pressure and wind fields	PCCP
	<b>storm surge</b>	A sudden rise of sea level as a result of high winds and low atmospheric pressure; sometimes called a storm tide, storm wave, or tidal wave.	PCCP
	<b>technological hazard</b>	A hazard originating from technological or industrial conditions, including accidents, dangerous procedures, infrastructure failures or specific human activities, that may cause loss of life, injury, illness or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage. Examples of technological hazards include industrial pollution, nuclear radiation, toxic wastes, dam failures, transport accidents, factory explosions, fires, and chemical spills.	UNISDR
	<b>tsunami</b>	A seismic sea wave generated by displacement of the seafloor by a volcano, earthquake and or landslide, which causes the formation of a small group of water waves with a wavelength equal to the water depth at the point of origin that can be devastating when they reach low-lying coastal areas.	PCCP
	<b>volcanic eruption</b>	An eruption of an opening in the earth's crust whereby gas, ash or molten lava is ejected from the earth's surface.	PCCP
	<b>vulnerability</b>	The characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard.	UNISDR
<b>Economics and finance</b>			
	<b>climate finance</b>	Financial resources provided by developed countries to assist developing countries with respect to both climate change mitigation and adaptation.	UNFCCC
	<b>economic development</b>	The process and policies by which a nation improves the economic, political, and social well-being of its people.	Wikipedia
	<b>economics</b>	The branch of knowledge concerned with the production, consumption, and transfer of wealth.	OED
	<b>finance</b>	The management of large amounts of money, especially by governments or large companies.	OED
	<b>low carbon development</b>	Economic development that encompasses low-emission and/or climate-resilient economic growth	OECD

	<b>sustainable development</b>	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.	UNISDR
	<b>trade</b>	The action of buying and selling goods and services.	OED
<b>Education and training</b>			
	<b>adult education</b>	Educational programs or courses for adults who are out of school or college.	OED
	<b>community education</b>	Instruction provided to a community on a matter of public interest.	OED
	<b>literacy</b>	The ability to read and write.	OED
	<b>preschool education</b>	Education programs for children who are not old enough to go to primary school	OED (adapted)
	<b>primary education</b>	Early or elementary schooling; often involves children between the ages of about five and eleven years.	OED (adapted)
	<b>schools</b>	An institution for educating children	OED
	<b>secondary education</b>	Secondary education normally takes place in secondary schools, taking place after primary education and may be followed by higher education or vocational training.	Wikipedia
	<b>teachers and teaching</b>	Teacher: most usually refers to a professional person who teaches in a school, but the title of 'teacher' also applies in a wider context to include professionals in other educational institutions, as well as those working outside such institutions who nevertheless have a pedagogical role, such as giving instruction in the playing of a musical instrument. Teaching: the occupation, profession, or work of a teacher.	OED/OED
	<b>tertiary education</b>	Education for people above school age, including college, university, and vocational courses.	OED
	<b>vocational education</b>	Education which encompasses all post-compulsory education and training, with the exception of higher education (which is education offered in universities).	OED
<b>Employment</b>		The supply of labour by persons for the production and processing of all primary products (such as the characteristic products of agriculture, forestry, and fishing); the processing of primary commodities to produce such goods as flour, cheese, wine, cloth, or furniture, whether for the market, for barter, or for own consumption; and for the production of all other goods and services for the market.	ODS
	<b>unemployment</b>	The inability to find paid work when one is willing and able to perform work.	ODHRM
	<b>wages</b>	A fixed regular payment earned for work or services, typically paid on a daily or weekly basis.	OED
	<b>working conditions</b>	The conditions under which employees have to work. This includes matters such as permitted breaks, the state of heating, lighting, and ventilation of workplaces, the safety and comfort of machinery, vehicles, and other equipment, normal manning levels, and disciplinary procedures.	OED
<b>Energy</b>		Power derived from the utilization of physical or chemical resources, especially to provide light and heat or to work machines.	OED

	<b>emission reduction</b>	The reduction of carbon pollution (greenhouse gas emissions), for example by promoting more energy efficient homes and businesses, improved industrial and agricultural practices, and cleaner sources of energy for electricity production and transport.	EPA (adapted)
	<b>emissions</b>	Emissions of greenhouse gases from activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, agricultural production, land use and forestry practices.	EPA (adapted)
	<b>energy efficiency</b>	Using less energy to provide the same service or outcome	NSW DIRE
	<b>low carbon energy</b>	Energy that comes from processes or technologies that produce power with substantially lower amounts of carbon dioxide emissions than is emitted from conventional fossil fuel power generation. It includes power generation sources such as wind power, solar power, hydropower and, including fuel preparation and decommissioning, nuclear power.	Wikipedia
	<b>renewable energy</b>	Any form of energy from solar, geophysical or biological sources that is replenished by natural processes at a rate that equals or exceeds its rate of use. Renewable energy is obtained from the continuing or repetitive flows of energy occurring in the natural environment and includes low-carbon technologies such as solar energy, hydropower, wind, tide and waves and ocean thermal energy, as well as renewable fuels such as biomass.	IPCC
	<b>renewable energy targets</b>	Part of government legislated schemes which require electricity retailers to source specific proportions of total electricity sales from renewable energy sources according to a fixed time frame.	Wikipedia
<b>Government, law and administration</b>			
	<b>climate negotiations</b>	Negotiations between countries and institutions that are Parties to the UNFCCC, with the aim of strengthening the global response to climate change.	UNFCCC
	<b>governance</b>	The process whereby elements in society wield power and authority, and influence and enact policies and decisions concerning public life.	EuroVoc
	<b>international agreements</b>	Use this term for international treaties, protocols, conventions and other agreements between nations.	
	<b>law and regulation</b>	The system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties.	OED
	<b>monitoring and evaluation</b>	Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is a process that helps improve performance and achieve results. Its goal is to improve current and future management of outputs, outcomes and impact. It is mainly used to assess the performance of projects, institutions and programmes set up by governments, international organisations and NGOs. It establishes links between the past, present and future actions.	Wikipedia
	<b>organisations</b>	An organised body, especially a business, government department, charity, etc.	AOD
	<b>panels and working groups</b>	A panel is a body of people dedicated to a particular task or goal, e.g. The IPCC or Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. A working group is an ad hoc group of subject-matter experts working together to achieve specified goals. Working groups are domain-specific and focus on discussion or activity around a specific area subject area. E.g. IPCC Working Groups I, II and III.	Wikipedia

	<b>policy and planning</b>	Policy: a written plan of action that is adopted by an individual or group in order to accomplish some particular social or economic goal. Planning: the act of drawing up plans and establishing a broad outline for goals, policies, and procedures that will accomplish agreed objectives.	ODECON
<b>Health</b>			
	<b>communicable diseases</b>	Any disease that can be transmitted from one person to another. This may occur by direct physical contact, by common handling of a contaminated object, through a disease carrier, or by spread of infected droplets exhaled into the air.	ODN
	<b>disease prevention and control</b>	A primary care strategy that seeks to combine actions to prevent disease with interventions to treat and cure disease.	ODPH (adapted)
	<b>mental health</b>	A person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.	OED
	<b>non-communicable diseases</b>	Any disease that cannot be transmitted from one person to another. Includes chronic diseases (hypertension, diabetes mellitus, atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular diseases, and cancer) associated with over-nutrition and obesity.	ODFN
	<b>nutrition</b>	The process by which living organisms take in and use food for the maintenance of life, growth, and the functioning of organs and tissues; the branch of science that studies these processes.	ODFN
	<b>public health</b>	An organized activity of society to promote, protect, improve, and, when necessary, restore the health of individuals, specified groups, or the entire population.	ODPH
	<b>sanitation</b>	A set of public health policies and actions to provide safe drinking water and hygienic disposal of human, animal, domestic, and industrial waste, thus minimizing the risks of transmitting fecal-oral disease and other conditions attributable to poor community hygiene. Includes sanitary engineering to provide safe water supply, waste disposal, sanitary inspection, food safety and public education.	ODPH
<b>Human settlements</b>		A general term for any established collection of dwellings in which people live. The term applies across the whole range from temporary shelters of nomadic hunters to high-density, high-rise apartments in a modern city.	ODPH
	<b>housing</b>	Dwelling houses, or the provision of these.	NZOD
	<b>land tenure</b>	The system of laws or customs that governs how people use and inhabit the land.	ODSS
	<b>land use</b>	Land use refers to the total of arrangements, activities and inputs undertaken in a certain land cover type (a set of human actions). The term land use is also used in the sense of the social and economic purposes for which land is managed (e.g., grazing, timber extraction, and conservation).	IPCC
	<b>regional planning</b>	The process undertaken by public authorities to identify, evaluate and decide on different options for the use of land [in non-urban areas], including consideration of long term economic, social and environmental objectives and the implications for different communities and interest groups, and the subsequent formulation and promulgation of plans that describe the permitted or acceptable uses.	UNISDR
	<b>rural settlements</b>	A group of houses in the countryside, which can take the form of a dispersed settlement, a hamlet, or a village.	ODECON



	<b>urban planning</b>	The process undertaken by public authorities to identify, evaluate and decide on different options for the use of land [in urban areas], including consideration of long term economic, social and environmental objectives and the implications for different communities and interest groups, and the subsequent formulation and promulgation of plans that describe the permitted or acceptable uses.	UNISDR
	<b>urban settlements</b>	A densely populated settlement, which can take the form of a town, city, metropolis, conurbation, megalopolis, or world city.	ODECON
<b>Industry</b>			ODBIM
	<b>construction and engineering</b>	Engineering: The use of science to design things. Construction: the process of creating or altering a building, structure, or object.	ODCSCE
	<b>insurance</b>	The use of contracts to reduce and redistribute risk. In an insurance contract, the insurer accepts a fixed payment, or premium, from the insured, and in return undertakes to make payments if certain events occur.	ODEC
	<b>manufacturing</b>	The conversion of raw materials into finished goods for sale.	ODECON
	<b>mining</b>	The removal of minerals (such as coal, gold, or silver) from the ground.	ODECON
	<b>telecommunications</b>	The technical systems and associated industries enabling the electronic transmission and reception of data or messages over a distance in analogue or digital form via radio signals, wires, or fibre-optic cables	ODMC
	<b>tourism</b>	Tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business, and other purposes.	OECD
	<b>transport</b>	A system or means of conveying people or goods from place to place. The transport industry includes infrastructure, vehicles and operations.	OED
	<b>waste management</b>	The management of waste materials, usually based on the management of wastes at all stages (production, handling, storage, transport, processing, and ultimate disposal) in such a way as to minimize the risks to human health, wildlife, and environmental systems.	ODECON
<b>Information technology and information management</b>			
	<b>information management</b>	The way in which an organisation plans, identifies, creates, receives, collects, organises, governs, secures, uses, controls, disseminates, exchanges, maintains, preserves and disposes of its information.	QGClO
	<b>geographical information systems</b>	Acronym GIS. A system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of spatial or geographical data.	Wikipedia
	<b>information technology</b>	Any technology that is used to generate, store, process, and/or distribute information electronically, including computers, computer networks, television and the telephone	ODMC

	<b>knowledge management</b>	The systematic management and use of the knowledge (collective data, information, and body of experience) within an organization, to enhance the performance of the organization.	ODECON
<b>Meteorology and weather</b>			
	<b>atmosphere</b>	Air surrounding the Earth. The atmosphere has no precise upper limit, but for all practical purposes the absolute top can be regarded as being at about 200 km.	ODGES
	<b>climate</b>	The atmospheric conditions for a long period of time; generally refers to the normal or mean course of the weather. Includes the future expectation of long term weather, in the order of weeks, months or years ahead.	BOM
	<b>meteorology</b>	The scientific study of the physics, chemistry, and dynamics of the Earth's atmosphere, especially weather and climate.	NOAA
	<b>rainfall</b>	The total liquid product of precipitation or condensation from the atmosphere, as received and measured in a rain gauge.	BOM
	<b>snow and ice</b>	Snow: precipitation in the form of ice crystals, mainly of intricately branched, hexagonal form and often agglomerated into snowflakes, formed directly from the freezing [deposition] of the water vapor in the air. Ice: water frozen into a solid state. Includes ice sheets, sea ice, ice pellets, hail, snowflakes.	NOAA
	<b>temperature</b>	In meteorology, an objective, comparative measure of how hot or cold the atmosphere is.	Wikipedia
	<b>tides</b>	The periodic rising and falling of the earth's oceans and atmosphere resulting from the gravitational forces of the moon and sun acting upon the rotating earth. This disturbance actually propagates as a wave through the atmosphere and along the surface of the waters of the earth.	UNISDR
	<b>weather</b>	The weather of any place refers to the atmospheric variables for a brief period of time.	BOM
<b>Natural resources and the environment</b>			
	<b>air quality</b>	A general term that describes the condition of the air in a particular place and time, reflecting the degree to which it is pollution-free (particularly in terms of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, ground level ozone, and airborne particles).	ODECON
	<b>biodiversity</b>	Short for biological diversity. A measure of variation (the number of different varieties) amongst living things. The word is most commonly used to describe 'species diversity'—the number and relative abundance of different species, within a particular area (local biodiversity) or within the world (global biodiversity)	ODECON
	<b>coastal zone</b>	The shallow part of the ocean that extends from the high-tide mark on land to the edge of the continental shelf, and in which marine and terrestrial environmental systems interact with one another.	ODECON
	<b>conservation</b>	The planned protection, maintenance, management, sustainable use, and restoration of natural resources and the environment, in order to secure their long-term survival.	ODECON



	<b>degradation</b>	The reduction of the capacity of the environment to meet social and ecological objectives and needs. The types of human-induced degradation are varied and include land misuse, soil erosion and loss, desertification, wildland fires, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, mangrove destruction, land, water and air pollution, climate change, sea level rise and ozone depletion.	UNISDR
	<b>ecology and ecosystems</b>	Ecology is the study of the interrelationships between organisms and their environment, including all biotic and abiotic components. Ecosystem is short for ecological system, meaning the natural interacting biotic and abiotic system in a given area, which includes all of the organisms (plants, animals, fungi, and micro-organisms) that live in particular habitat, along with their immediate physical environment. Examples include a lake, forest, or drainage basin.	ODECON
	<b>habitat restoration</b>	Restoring a habitat to its original community structure, by removing exotic species and/or reintroducing native species.	ODECON
	<b>inland waters</b>	Waterbodies (such as lakes, streams, rivers, canals, waterways, inlets, and bays) that have no direct access to the ocean.	ODECON
	<b>landforms and cartography</b>	Landform: a natural feature of the surface of the land that has been created by geological processes, which can vary in scale from the continental (for example the Andes mountain chain which runs through South America) to the local (for example a hillslope, river meander, or beach). Cartography is the production and study of maps and charts.	ODG
	<b>islands</b>	An area of land, smaller than a continent, which is surrounded by water.	ODECON
	<b>natural resource management</b>	The management of natural resources on a sustainable basis, usually in ways that meet multiple objectives including the conservation of wildlife and ecosystems, and the minimizing of environmental impacts and environmental change.	ODECON
	<b>oceans</b>	The body of saltwater that surrounds the continents and covers two-thirds of the surface of Earth.	ODECON
	<b>pollution</b>	The process of contaminating or polluting. Includes air pollution, noise pollution, and water pollution	ODECON
	<b>reefs</b>	A ridge of rocks, often made of coral, that lies submerged near the surface of the sea.	ODECON
	<b>soils</b>	The layer of disintegrated rock particles, organic matter, water, and air that covers most of the land surface	ODECON
	<b>wildlife</b>	Any animal which is now or historically has been found in the wild, or in the wild state, within a particular area (such as a country).	ODECON
	<b>Population and demographics</b>		
	<b>demography</b>	The statistical study of the characteristics of populations, including distribution, age structure and composition, and patterns of fertility, mortality, and migration.	ODECON
	<b>migration</b>	the crossing of the boundary of a political or administrative unit for a certain minimum period of time. It includes the movement of refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people as well as economic migrants.	UNESCO
	<b>population growth</b>	The increase in a population that occurs when the birth rate is higher than the death rate, or when immigration exceeds emigration, or when a combination of these factors is present.	ODB
	<b>Security and conflict</b>		

	<b>conflict</b>	A prolonged struggle, often armed.	OED (adapted)
	<b>international relations</b>	The discipline that studies interactions between and among states, and more broadly, the workings of the international system as a whole.	ODP
	<b>security</b>	A state of mind in which an individual, whether the highest political leader of the land or the average citizen, feels safe from harm by others.	OCPW
<b>Social development</b>			
	<b>ageing</b>	In biology, the process of growing older. In population terms, the growth in the number and/or proportion of elderly people. It is generally caused by a combination of longer life expectancy, falling birth rates, and net migration.	ODHG
	<b>civil society</b>	The intermediate sphere between the public world of the state and the private world of households and individuals. It encompasses a range of educational, political, economic, cultural, and social institutions, such as voluntary organizations, religious groupings, and trade unions.	ODSWSC
	<b>crime</b>	A violation of the law. Crimes are cultural, geographical, and historical constructs and vary between jurisdictions and across time.	ODHG
	<b>gender</b>	The different roles, qualities, and responsibilities attributed to men and women in society. Gender refers to socially constructed characteristics that produce gender roles based on supposed differences that arise from sexuality and physiology.	ODHG
	<b>human rights</b>	Rights and freedom to which every human being is entitled. The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) spells out most of the main rights that must be protected. It includes civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.	ODL
	<b>poverty</b>	A condition of absolute or relative deprivation of material and cultural resources. The term absolute poverty refers to the condition in which the basic resources necessary to sustain life are lacking; relative poverty is the lack of resources in comparison with other members of a given society.	ODSS
	<b>social conditions</b>	A set of measures summarising the circumstances in which people, households, communities or societies live. Typically includes measures of health, housing, living conditions, poverty, education, income, employment, social status and protection.	
	<b>social services</b>	A range of community services provided by agencies that usually function at local government level, often combining publicly administered and funded agencies and a range of private and voluntary services. Typically includes advice and practical help with problems associated with social circumstances.	ODPH
	<b>women</b>	Adult human females. In the context of climate change, women are often considered to be more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than men—primarily as they constitute the majority of the world’s poor and are more dependent for their livelihood on natural resources that are threatened by climate change. However they can also be effective actors or agents of change in relation to both mitigation and adaptation.	UN Women Watch
	<b>youth</b>	The period between childhood and adult age; a young person	OED
<b>Technology</b>		The practical application of knowledge to achieve particular tasks that employs both technical artefacts (hardware, equipment) and (social) information (‘software’, know-how for production and use of artefacts).	IPCC

	<b>technology transfer</b>	The exchange of knowledge, hardware and associated software, money and goods among stakeholders, which leads to the spread of technology for adaptation or mitigation. The term encompasses both diffusion of technologies and technological cooperation across and within countries.	IPCC
<b>Water</b>			
	<b>water quality</b>	The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of a particular waterbody, usually in relation to its suitability for a particular use.	ODECON
	<b>water rights</b>	The right of a user to use water from a water source. This right includes the right to use water from any water source like a river, stream, pond and source of groundwater.	USLegal
	<b>water security</b>	The capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quantities of acceptable quality water for sustaining livelihoods, human well-being, and socio-economic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability.	UN Water
	<b>water storage</b>	The storage of water for later use in natural water sources, such as groundwater aquifers, soil water and natural wetlands, and also small artificial ponds, tanks and reservoirs behind major dams.	Wikipedia
	<b>water supply</b>	The provision of water by public utilities, commercial organisations, community endeavors or by individuals, usually via a system of pumps and pipes.	Wikipedia

## Definition Sources

Abbreviation	Source Name & URL
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BOM	Australian Bureau of Meteorology Glossary, <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/lam/glossary">http://www.bom.gov.au/lam/glossary</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions. <a href="https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions">https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
EuroVoc	EuroVoc: Multilingual Thesaurus of the European Union. Eurovoc.europa.eu, accessed 20/09/2016
GEMET	General Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus version 2.4, 2010-01-13. <a href="http://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/">http://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change Glossary of Terms. <a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_glossary.shtml">https://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_glossary.shtml</a> Accessed 20/09/2016
NOAA	NOAA Climate Glossary. <a href="http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outreach/glossary.shtml">http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outreach/glossary.shtml</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
NSW DIRE	NSW Government Department of Industry Resources & Energy. Energy Efficiency. <a href="http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/energy-consumers/sustainable-energy/efficiency">http://www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/energy-consumers/sustainable-energy/efficiency</a> accessed 20/09/2016
NZOD	New Zealand Oxford Dictionary 2005. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
OCPW	Oxford Companion to Politics of the World (2 ed.) 2004. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODB	A Dictionary of Biology (7 ed.) 2015. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODBM	A Dictionary of Business and Management (6 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODCSCE	A Dictionary of Construction, Surveying and Civil Engineering 2013. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODEC	A Dictionary of Economics (4 ed.) 2013. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODECON	A Dictionary of Environment and Conservation (2 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODED	A Dictionary of Education (2 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODFN	A Dictionary of Food and Nutrition (4 ed.) 2014. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODG	A Dictionary of Geography (5 ed.) 2015. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODGES	A Dictionary of Geology and Earth Sciences (4 ed.) 2013. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODHG	A Dictionary of Human Geography 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODHRM	A Dictionary of Human Resource Management (2 rev. ed.) 2008. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODL	A Dictionary of Law (7 ed.) 2014. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODMC	A Dictionary of Media and Communication (2 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODN	A Dictionary of Nursing (6 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODP	Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics (3 ed.) 2016. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODPH	A Dictionary of Public Health 2007. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODS	A Dictionary of Sociology (4 ed.) 2014. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
ODSS	A Dictionary of the Social Sciences 2002. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016

ODSWSC	A Dictionary of Social Work and Social Care 2014. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
OECD	Glossary of Statistical Terms. <a href="https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/">https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
OED	Oxford Dictionary of English (3 ed.) 2015. Online version. Oxford University Press, accessed 20/09/2016
PCCP	Pacific Climate Change Portal Glossary. <a href="https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/glossary">https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/glossary</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
QGCIO	Queensland Government Chief Information Office 2009. Queensland Government Information Management Policy Framework Definitions. State of Queensland, Brisbane.
UN Water	UN Water Topics: Water Security, <a href="http://www.unwater.org/topics/water-security/en/">http://www.unwater.org/topics/water-security/en/</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
UN Women Watch	WomenWatch: Women, Gender Equality and Climate Change. <a href="http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/climate_change/factsheet.html">http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/climate_change/factsheet.html</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
UNFCCC	UNFCCC Glossary. <a href="http://unfccc.int/essential_background/glossary/items/3666.php">http://unfccc.int/essential_background/glossary/items/3666.php</a> accessed on 20/09/2016
UNISDR	UNISDR Terminology on DRR. <a href="http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/terminology">http://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/terminology</a> accessed 20/09/2016
UN-REDD	United Nations REDD Programme. <a href="http://www.un-redd.org/">http://www.un-redd.org/</a> accessed 20/09/2016
US FWS	Traditional Ecological Knowledge - Basic FWS Information. <a href="https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/traditional-knowledge.html">https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/traditional-knowledge.html</a> , accessed 20/09/2016
USLegal	USLegal Definitions. <a href="http://definitions.uslegal.com/w/water-rights/">http://definitions.uslegal.com/w/water-rights/</a> , accessed 20/09/2016