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NCAR SCIENTISTS AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS IPCC REPORT

March 27, 2014

BOULDER - The latest major assessment from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will be released on March 30. This report will focus on the potential impacts of climate change and how society can try to adapt. Three scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) who served as authors of the assessment will be available for interviews after the report is released.

The IPCC conducts periodic assessments of climate change science, involving hundreds of experts from around the world, under the auspices of the U.N. Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization. It is producing a series of major assessments from each of its three working groups in 2013-14. The March 30 report from IPCC Working Group II will focus on climate change impacts, both globally and by continent, and discuss societal vulnerabilities and options for adapting to climate change.

The IPCC's Working Group I, which focused on the physical science of climate change, released its summary last September. Working Group III, which is investigating options for mitigating climate change, will release its summary on April 11. Complete reports will follow the respective summaries by several months, after which a synthesis report will be released.

The following NCAR scientists served as authors of the Working Group II assessment. For inquiries prior to release of the report, please use the media relations office contacts above. Starting Monday, March 31, these authors will be available via the contact information below.

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Lead Author, Chapter 21 (Regional Context)

Mearns is an interdisciplinary climate scientist with expertise in climate analysis and future climate scenarios. She specializes in regional climate change, the potential effects of global warming on agriculture, and variability and uncertainty in climate change studies.

Brian O'Neill
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Lead Author, Chapter 19 (Emergent Risks and Key Vulnerabilities)

O'Neill works on integrated analyses of climate and societal change. His participation in the IPCC report focused on the relative importance of climate change and societal development to future climate impacts, and on key climate change risks to society as summarized within the Chapter 19 section on "Reasons for Concern."

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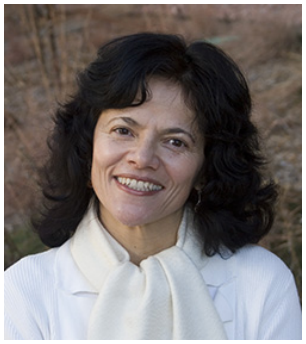

Romero Lankao is an interdisciplinary sociologist who studies the causes and societal impacts of climate change, especially as applied to urban areas. Her work explores the dynamics of urbanization – such as demographics, density, and urban planning – that shape urban emissions, environmental risk, and the vulnerability of populations. Her research includes examining why and how particular cities attempt to meet the challenges of reducing emissions while improving their resilience to heat waves, flooding, and other impacts.

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