

Dedication

Sir John Houghton

(30 December 1931 – 15 April 2020)



The Working Group I Contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis* is dedicated to the memory of Sir John Houghton, who was one of the key figures in the creation of the IPCC in 1988, and served as Chair and Co-Chair of Working Group I for the IPCC's first three assessment reports from 1988 to 2002.

Sir John's work was a major factor in the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the IPCC in 2007, shared with former U.S. Vice-President Al Gore. He contributed to the development of climate science and building international cooperation based upon climate research. Sir John played a key role in ensuring a robust science-policy interface, used in the IPCC process, but his role in international scientific research extended beyond the IPCC, for instance in contributing to the establishment of the World Climate Research Programme, which he chaired from 1982 to 1984.

Sir John was a brilliant communicator among scientific colleagues, policymakers and the public at large, explaining the fact and threat of climate change with clarity and directness.

