

Key Characteristics of Five Shared Socio-Economic Pathways

from section 2.3.1.1 of the October 2018 IPCC report, [Global Warming of 1.5 °C](#)

Socio-Economic Challenges to Mitigation	Socio-Economic Challenges to Adaptation		
	Low	Medium	High
High	<p>SSP5: Fossil-fuelled development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low population • very high economic growth per capita • high human development • high technological progress • ample fossil fuel resources • very resource intensive lifestyles • high energy and food demand per capita • economic convergence and global cooperation 		<p>SSP3: Regional rivalry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • high population • low economic growth per capita • low human development • low technological progress • resource-intensive lifestyles • resource-constrained energy and food demand per capita • focus on regional food and energy security • regionalization and lack of global cooperation
Medium		<p>SSP2: Middle of the road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • medium population • medium and uneven economic growth • medium and uneven human development • medium and uneven technological progress • resource-intensive lifestyles • medium and uneven energy and food demand per capita • limited global cooperation and economic convergence 	
Low	<p>SSP1: Sustainable development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low population • high economic growth per capita • high human development • high technological progress • environmentally oriented technological and behavioural change • resource-efficient lifestyles • low energy and food demand per capita • economic convergence and global cooperation 		<p>SSP4: Inequality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium to high population • Unequal low to medium economic growth per capita • Unequal low to medium human development • unequal technological progress: high in globalized high-tech sectors, slow in domestic sectors • unequal lifestyles and energy /food consumption: resource intensity depending on income • Globally connected elite, disconnected domestic work forces