In the 21st century, living conditions on Earth are changing as profoundly as never before. With more than 700 employees at about 30 institutes of KIT, the KIT Climate and Environment Center develops strategies and technologies to secure the natural bases of life. The grand challenges emerging from climate change are subject of the KIT Climate Lectures.

Program

- Welcome
  Prof. Dr. Erwin Zehe, Scientific Spokesman KIT Climate and Environment Center
  Prof. Dr. Almut Arneth, Institute of Meteorology and Climate Research

- The 2019 KIT Climate Lecture:
  Climate change, scientific assessments and society choices
  Dr. Valérie Masson-Delmotte, Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l’Environnement

- Reception

Climate change, scientific assessments and society choices

This presentation will build on key findings and lessons learnt from the preparation of three IPCC Special Reports on Global warming of 1.5°C; climate change and land; and the ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate.

Dr. Valérie Masson-Delmotte is a senior scientist from Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l’Environnement, Institut Pierre Simon Laplace. She is the Co-chair of IPCC Working Group I for the AR6 cycle. Her research interests are focused on quantifying and understanding past changes in climate and atmospheric water cycle, using analyses from ice cores in Greenland, Antarctica and Tibet, analyses from tree-rings as well as present-day monitoring, and climate modelling for the past and the future. She has worked on issues such as the North Atlantic Oscillation, drought, climate response to volcanic eruptions, polar amplification, climate feedbacks, abrupt climate change and ice sheet vulnerability across different timescales. She is active in outreach for children and for the general public and has contributed to several books on climate change issues. Her research was recognized by several prizes (European Union Descartes Prize for the EPICA project, 2008; Women scientist Irène Joliot Curie Prize, 2013; Tinker-Muse Prize for science and policy in Antarctica, 2015; Thomson Highly Cited Researcher since 2014; CNRS silver medal, 2019).