

The second edition of this acclaimed text has been fully updated and substantially expanded to include the considerable developments (since publication of the first edition) in our understanding of the science of climate change, its impacts on biological and human systems, and developments in climate policy. As well as being completely revised throughout, major updates include:

Considerable expansion of the sections on climate impacts on early societies in history, and biological impacts;

Updated data and graphs on energy production and consumption;

Completely new chapter sections on: climate thresholds; the Kyoto II conference; Canadian, Australian and New Zealand energy and climate policy;

A new appendix on 'Further thoughts for consideration' to encourage discussion by students and others.

Written in an accessible style, this book provides a broad review of past, present and likely future climate change from the viewpoints of biology, ecology, human ecology and Earth system science. It has been written to speak across disciplines. It will again prove to be invaluable to a wide range of readers, from students in the life sciences who need a brief overview of the basics of climate science, to atmospheric science, geography, geoscience and environmental science students who need to understand the biological and human ecological implications of climate change. It is also a valuable reference text for those involved in environmental monitoring, conservation and policy-making seeking to appreciate the science underpinning climate change and its implications.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) cited the first edition as one of the top climate change science books of the 21st century.

Jonathan Cowie has spent many years conveying the views of learned societies in the biological sciences to policy-makers, and in science communication (promotion, publishing, and press liaison). His earlier postgraduate studies related to energy and the environment. He is a former Head of Science Policy and Books at the Institute of Biology (UK). He is also author of *Climate and Human Change: Disaster or Opportunity?* (1998).