



Dear contact.firstname,

This has been a difficult quarter for everyone, especially the world's hardest hit and most vulnerable populations, given the COVID-19 pandemic – but also a revealing one. We have learned in dramatic fashion that, when faced with a crisis whose urgency everyone agrees on, societies around the world are able to institute rapid, far-reaching changes, with a large degree of public support.

It's too soon to tell how these events might affect the world's collective approach to climate change, but it seems fair to say that people across the globe are going through a period of reflection and adaptation that could have some lasting consequences.

I share some of these thoughts in the blog '[C2G in the age of COVID-19](#)', and my colleague Nick Harrison on what it means for our work in the piece '[C2G adapts online to COVID-19](#)'. In brief, we saw some significant shifts in attitudes towards climate-altering technologies in the early months of 2020 (pre-pandemic), and while our issues have temporarily taken a back seat, the need for informed, anticipatory governance has become clearer than ever.

Internally, we are taking this time as an opportunity to consider new online offerings. We have streamlined [our website's homepage](#), and created an easy to use [guide for those who are newcomers to the issue of climate-altering technologies](#). Please check back with us in the coming days and tell us what you think of our 'newcomers' guide. We will be doing more of this as time goes on.

To that end, we would be delighted to explore with you how we might work together on webinars, online learning materials, informal chats or any other digital offering which can help keep these climate governance issues in mind over the coming months. When this difficult period ends, as it will eventually, we will need to resume, more than ever, these conversations in person with policymakers across the globe, and across all sectors of society.

—Janos Pasztor, Geneva, April 2020

New from C2G



C2G in the age of COVID-19

By Janos Pasztor

These are unsettling times, and C2G's experience has been no exception. In January and early February, we saw some signs that the world was potentially entering a new political phase on climate. And then COVID-19 became a global pandemic. This has meant that we, as everyone, have had to reconsider how we pursue our goals the coming months.



C2G adapts online to COVID-19

By Nicholas Harrison

With the COVID-19 pandemic now causing significant disruption internationally, and in-person meetings seriously curtailed for potentially many months ahead, C2G is adapting its delivery approach through the development of a range of 'no travel' online engagement and outreach options.



Carbon Removal: The dangers of mitigation deterrence

By Duncan McLaren, Lancaster University

Because of the past success of denial and delay, it is already likely that to avert the worst impacts of climate change humanity will need to deploy carbon removal, possibly at a very large scale. The key question we sought to answer, therefore, is how to promote the development of carbon removal without deterring rapid emission reductions.



Gender and Climate Engineering: A View From Feminist Science

By Tina Sikka, Newcastle University

Climate engineering technologies should be taken up in ways that attend to gender-specific concerns. These could take account of differentiated impacts on women, their lack of power in decision-making, and the gendered nature of vulnerability. Feminist science studies take up gender in ways that centre on the inequalities felt by women, from the standpoint of women's lives.



Altering the Climate: Youth and Communicating the Tough Decisions Ahead

By Roop Singh, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre

What would happen if someone had the option to spray 'magical dust' in the atmosphere to bring down the global temperature, but with potentially dangerous consequences? The way people respond to this question isn't always so obvious – and young people are no different.



A better understanding of non-Western views is needed for inclusive Solar Radiation Modification governance

By Masahiro Sugiyama, University of Tokyo; Shinichiro Asayama, Waseda University; and Takanobu Kosugi, Ritsumeikan University

Public perception of research on solar radiation modification (SRM) has been so far limited largely to the countries of Europe and North America. To help fill this gap, we conducted an online survey of university students in six Asia-Pacific countries. The results revealed some fascinating differences, and underlined the urgent need for wider consultations.



Green Moral Hazards

By Gernot Wagner and Daniel Zizzamia

While moral hazard may, in fact, be a misnomer for what's perhaps better described as 'mitigation deterrence,' the catchiness of the phrase has made this framing impossible to ignore. Moral hazard's malleability and tendency to encapsulate incredible complexities makes it unhelpful as a guide for policy. Still, there is good reason to dig deeper and query its origins within the environmental movement.

C2G Outreach

The C2G team began the quarter with activities around the world, to raise awareness and build capacity among key stakeholders. Notably, we took part in a major effort amongst country delegations to the United Nations in New York to explore the geopolitical and security implications of SRM. These efforts came to a rapid halt, however, with the COVID-19 pandemic, and March saw us recalibrate our activities for the coming months.



Santiago, Chile

On 12 March, C2G co-organized a side event with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, during the Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean: 1st Conference on Scientific Evidence and Public Policy.



Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

From 3 to 5 March, C2G's Executive Director spoke at two G20 preparatory meetings: the Climate Stewardship Working Group, and the Energy Sustainability Working Group.



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

C2G met with officials from the African Union, UN Economic Commission for Africa, and country missions to the African Union from 29 February to 6 March.



Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

From 24 to 27 February, C2G participated in the 6th African Regional Sustainable Development Forum in Zimbabwe. C2G met with relevant officials and actors from African states, development organizations, and development banks, to brief on carbon dioxide removal (CDR) and discuss potential pathways for African actor engagement in governance development.



Geneva, Switzerland

C2G's Executive Director met with the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and briefed her on our work.



Ottawa, Canada

C2G visited Ottawa to meet with the Climate Change Ambassador at Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), and to brief ECCC staff on CDR and SRM.



New York and Washington DC, USA

In New York, C2G participated in a first briefing on SRM and its geopolitical and security implications to representatives to the United Nations, hosted by Belgium. In Washington DC, C2G met with CSOs and think tanks to brief them on our work, and why their engagement with policy conversations about SRM and CDR research, in the US and in the UNFCCC, is important.



Evidence Brief: Governing Solar Radiation Modification ([中文](#)) ([Español](#)) ([Français](#))

Summary

This briefing summarizes the latest evidence around Marine Cloud Brightening (MCB) and Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI), two important types of Solar Radiation Modification climate-altering technologies. It describes the techniques, explores their technical readiness, current research, applicable governance frameworks, and other socio-political considerations. It provides an analysis of the types of geopolitical issues and concerns, including security, that the technologies may give rise to and how existing governance does or does not help address those. It also provides an overview of key existing governance instruments of relevance to their governance.

About C2G

The Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G) has no position on whether SAI or MCB should be researched, tested or deployed. It seeks to raise awareness and provide impartial information about these proposed climate-altering technologies with policymakers and catalyze debate about their future governance. C2G has prepared several other briefs exploring various carbon dioxide removal and solar radiation modification technologies and associated issues. These are available [here](https://www.carnegiecouncil.org/publications/issue-briefs).



C2G Videos



What effect could COVID-19 have on the climate policy debate? – Janos Pasztor

For more videos from this series, [click here](#).



C2G and its Impartiality

For more videos from this event, [click here](#).



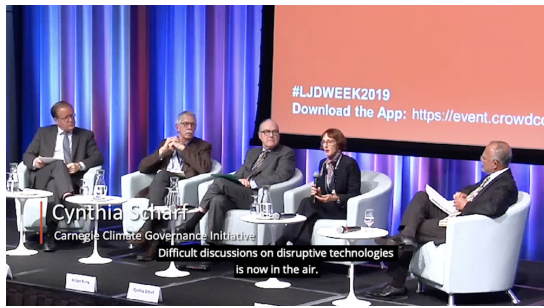
Governing Emerging Marine Climate-Altering Techniques – Mithika Mwenda

For more videos from this event, [click here](#).



Is the world ready for large-scale CO₂ removal? – Thelma Krug

For more videos from this event, [click here](#).



C2G at the World Bank: Technology Innovation for Climate Action: Legal and Governance Aspects

For more videos from this event, [click here](#).



Governing Climate-Altering Technologies in the Arctic – Jason Box

For more videos from this event, [click here](#).

C2G News Briefings

Carbon Dioxide Removal at Davos: Net zero vs real zero

World attention focused last week on contrasting approaches to the climate crisis at Davos. Of particular importance to C2G's work was the intensifying attention paid to proposals for large-scale carbon dioxide removal – and the important questions it raises about governance of these approaches, as well as the ways governance can help society sort through difficult choices.

Microsoft announces intention to go carbon negative by 2030

Microsoft has pledged to go carbon negative by 2030, and remove all its direct and indirect historical carbon emissions by 2050. It will invest \$1bn over the next four years into carbon removal technologies. C2G notes Microsoft's decision to address governance issues in its announcement.

From C2G Partners

IKEA Foundation: Why we need to keep talking about climate change

Both climate change and COVID-19 reflect the profound and unprecedented extent to which humans are altering the global environment. People are already making connections between issues, realising that it isn't just about COVID-19, but the nature of crisis and future crises.

CCEIA: Ethics, International Affairs, & the COVID-19 Pandemic

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have deep implications for the future of international relations; how nations are using artificial intelligence, surveillance, and big data; and the ways that private citizens, corporations, and states communicate and receive information online, as disinformation and pseudoscience become even more dangerous.

Climate Interactive: Why We Can't Ignore the Link Between COVID-19, Climate Change and Inequity

That's a lot of win-wins, but unfortunately synergies don't just happen. They must be planned and designed for, which is why we must as soon as possible – in our cities, states and nations – convene emergency task forces to tackle equity, the pandemic and climate change as an integrated whole.



C2G, an initiative of [Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs](#), seeks to catalyse the creation of effective governance for emerging climate technologies and approaches, in particular for solar radiation modification and large-scale carbon dioxide removal. To achieve this, it aims to expand the conversation from the scientific and research community to the global policy-making arena, and to encourage society-wide discussions about the risks, potential benefits, ethical and governance challenges. C2G is impartial: it is not for or against the research, testing or potential use of any proposed method or technology. These are choices for society to make.

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