C2G Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative

An initiative of CARNEGIE COUNCIL for Ethics in International Affairs

Dear friend,

The 3rd quarter of 2020 was another challenging period for climate governance. Despite the easing of travel restrictions in some parts of the world, climate-related meetings continued to be cancelled, delayed or moved online, and many essential informal avenues of discussion remained closed.

C2G used this period to significantly increase our online presence, and to sharpen our strategic focus. In particular , we launched the **C2GLearn** and **C2GDiscuss** series of webinars and discussions, which we link to in more detail below, and started preparations for an interview series **C2GTalk**. We also published an updated **C2G Approach** paper, clarifying our mission and strategy un l 2023.

We welcomed some tangible positive outcomes. For example, the first draft work programme of Horizon Europe now includes specific calls for research on Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR), including its governance. Language on CDR governance gaps was included in the strategy for the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. And we were pleased to see the early access publication of several papers for a forthcoming special issue of Global Policy, to help inform the IPCC's sixth assessment report over the next two years.

Most importantly, we saw several interlocutors take ownership of their own initatives to promote governance, which is C2G's main catalytic goal.

Nonetheless, the governance of CDR and Solar Radiation Modifica on (SRM) remain insufficient for the challenge at hand, and many decision-making communities are s ll uninformed about the issues, or reluctant to engage. The coming months with be crucial to expanding discussions, as countries look for new ways to scale up their ambition five years after the Paris Agreement, and in the run-up to COP26.

—Janos Pasztor, Geneva, October 2020

New from C2G

Join us for C2GLearn and C2GDiscuss!

By Janos Pasztor

As the world continues to face travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, C2G together with more than 50 international experts is rolling out a new series of online events, to learn about and discuss the governance of emerging climate-altering approaches.

5 lessons from COVID-19 for solar geoengineering[1]

Guest post by Olaf Corry

Before COVID-19, a reasonable assumption might have been that if a deadly virus emerged, people would come together to harness modern science in a coordinated effort in the common interest. In reality, the picture has been much more complicated. What lessons might the COVID-19 crisis offer for 'solar geoengineering'?

Safeguarding biodiversity in carbon dioxide removal approaches

Guest post by Kate Dooley, Ellycia Harrould-Kolieb, and Anita Talberg

Thinking about CDR interventions in terms of threats to biodiversity offers a starting point to highlight positive options, while cautioning against pursuing options that clearly contribute to known drivers of biodiversity loss.

Solar Geoengineering, Compensation, and Parametric Insurance: Insights from the Pacific

Guest post by Joshua Horton, Penehuro Lefale, and David Keith

Compensation is a central issue in considering the possible future deployment of 'solar geoengineering'. Corrective justice would require compensating those who are harmed. And without a credible compensation mechanism, many states would likely oppose deployment by imposing high short-term costs.

Building capacity for industry to engage with carbon removal via a Carbon Removal Playbook

Guest post by Francesca Battersby

There is a need to create a more expansive, inclusive, multi-perspective dialogue about the realities, rather than the ideals, for removing carbon. In particular, there is a need to engage the players who are implicitly relied on to finance carbon removal.

Can we end hunger and reduce CO_2 levels at the same time?

Guest post by Martin Frick

Re-greening our planet is the solution at hand to balance our out of whack carbon cycle and tackle the climate emergency. But we will not achieve it if we look at forests, peat lands, ocean grass and other so-called 'nature-based solutions' as carbon sinks only.

Land-based Carbon Dioxide Removal: as urgent and as difficult a policy challenge as ever

Guest post by Richard King and Duncan Brack

We outline three key messages for the policy communities considering the sequestration potentials of bioenergy with carbon capture and storage, and how these interact with more 'nature-based solutions' such as forest management and afforestation.

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[1] C2G refers to solar geoengineering as 'solar radiation modification'

C2G Contributions

Governing Carbon Dioxide Removal and **Governing Solar Radiation Modification**

By Janos Pasztor, The Global Challenges Foundation

Governance is Essential to Manage the Risks of Solar Radiation Modification

By Cynthia Scharf, Wilson Centre

2020 was supposed to be the year of the climate fight. Then came the corona crisis.

By Janos Pasztor, Udenrigs

C2G Collaborations

LEDSLAC

Together with LEDSLAC and ECLAC, C2G delivered the third webinar of a **four-part series**. This session focused on introducing SRM to a Latin American audience and analyzing both the benefits and risks of these approaches in a regional context. This event attracted more than 60 participants from national and local governments, NGOs, academia and the private sector in the region.

New Climate Institute

A C2G-commissioned paper authored by the New Climate Institute '**Options for supporting large-scale Carbon Dioxide Removal**' was published in July and has been promoted and shared widely. The Institute is a respected source of analysis (co-authors for the IPCC, the annual UNEP gap report and Climate Action Tracker). The authors contributed to two C2GLearn webinars on **catalysing large-scale CDR**, which will be repeated in 2021.

Global Policy

Parametric Insurance for Solar Geoengineering: Insights from the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative

By Joshua Horton, Penehuro Lefale, and David Keith

Managing Land-based CDR: BECCS, Forests and Carbon Sequestration

By Duncan Brack and Richard King

Carbon-dioxide Removal and Biodiversity: A Threat Identification Framework

By Kate Dooley, Ellycia Harrould-Kolieb, and Anita Talberg

C2GLearn and C2G Discuss

C2GLearn

C2GLearn is a series of online events, designed to catalyse learning about climate-altering approaches and their governance. Featuring leading international experts and practitioners, events include both formal webinars and informal 'campfire chats', convened regularly throughout the year, with opportunities for questions and answers.

C2GDiscuss

C2GDiscuss is a series of moderated in-depth conversations between diverse experts on some of the governance challenges of climate-altering technologies. They aim to encourage an engaging conversation about some of the toughest questions faced by decision-makers on climate change, now and in the future.

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C2G Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative — An initiative of CARNEGIE COUNCIL for Ethics in International Affairs

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, and 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.