

Governance challenges:
how to guide the implementation
of removals and storage

In a African perspective

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STEPS 1

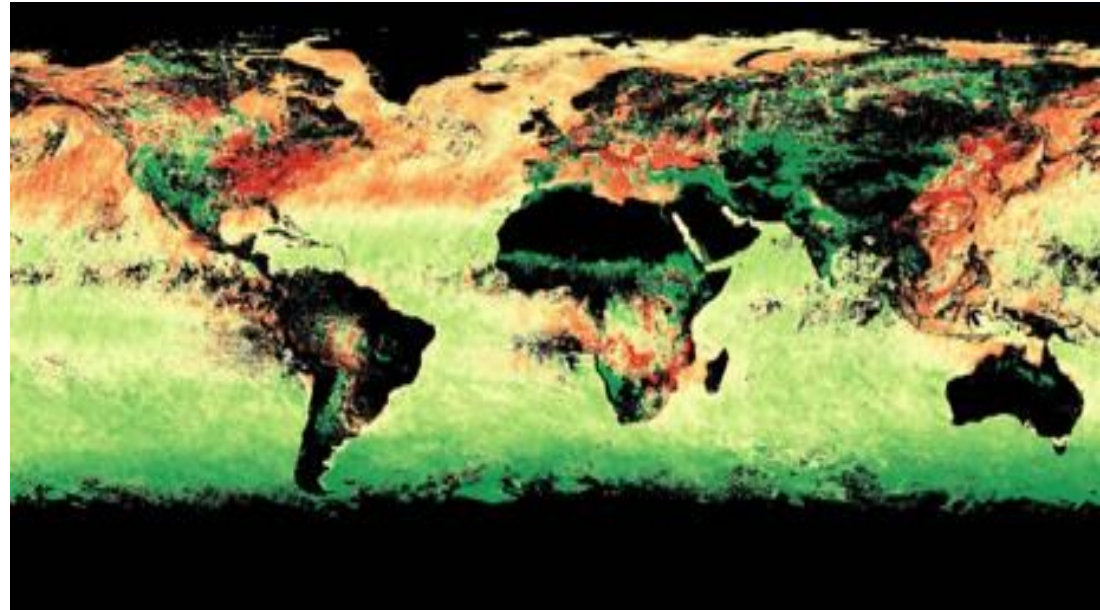
STUDY ON GEOENGINEERING AND AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES: PROBLEMS, VULNERABILITIES, ELEMENTS FOR POSITIONING AND REFINING AFRICA ON GEOENGINEERING AND ITS GOVERNANCE

GEOENGINEERING ISSUES FOR AFRICA

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STEPS 2

**STUDY AFRICAN CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP
WORKSHOP ON GEOENGINEERING,
NAIROBI, KENYA,
13 and 14 January 2022**

SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES AND HIGHLIGHTS

**AFRICAN CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP WORKSHOP ON GEOENGINEERING,
NAIROBI, KENYA, 13 and 14 January 2022
SUMMARY OF KEY MESSAGES AND HIGHLIGHTS**

The African climate change group of negotiators met in a hybrid format in Nairobi on the 13-14 January 2022, to begin creating awareness on the risks, impacts, opportunities, and other implications for Africa of geoengineering technologies.

In the discussion participants highlighted that:

Africa is deeply concerned that:

Current levels of global ambition of commitments to address the global climate change crisis are insufficient and will not limit global average temperature increase to 1.5°C; and

This will result in severe impacts on an African continent that is already extremely vulnerable, and with the least capacity to adapt to climate impacts.

That the potential impacts of geoengineering CDR and SRM technologies will add a further burden on a continent already experiencing climate change and its impacts.

- Further, Africa is also extremely concerned that the focus on financing experimentation with and studies on these technologies, largely in developed countries, will result in countries shying away from their UNFCCC obligations to implement and finance mainstream proven policies, technologies, and measures to achieve:
 - Actual and real reductions in global GHG emissions at source; and the
 - Building of resilience and adaptative capacity, particularly in developing countries.
- Additionally, Africa is concerned that a focus on negotiating a governance system for these emerging CDR and SRM technologies will take time, and potentially further divert political will and resources away from obligations to implement and finance proven policies, technologies, and measures under the UNFCCC framework.
- In the light of these concerns, and high degrees of uncertainty around these technologies, Africa should not support their application at this stage but should rather support the development of an authoritative scientific synthesis and review of the state of knowledge of these technologies, assessment of their potential benefits, costs, risks, impacts and other implications.
- This scientific assessment should be conducted by a mandated body such as the IPCC with a view to informing any possible international policy debate on science- and risk-based international management of potential implications, if necessary.

- Africa is further concerned, that the geoengineering CDR and SRM technologies:
 - In terms of the current state of knowledge, will have potentially severe transboundary impacts and implications across multiple sectors and areas of legal jurisdiction.
 - Given the global and transboundary nature of these potential impacts, it is important for any concerns related to these technologies to be considered by relevant mandated bodies within the UN system involving all African countries (AMCEN) at scientific, technical, administrative, political, and legal levels.

- While recognising the importance of international controls to prevent unilateral advancement of geoengineering technologies and that ensures African concerns are fully addressed, pending an authoritative review of the current state of knowledge of these technologies, as well as the need for further capacity building and consolidation, Africa is not yet ready to support any engagement on possible broader international governance matters related to these technologies given the above-mentioned:
 - Limited levels of understanding; and
 - Considering that existing bodies within the UN system have the mandate to address any immediate geo-engineering concerns that may arise.
 - To the African Group of Negotiation on Climate, for consideration and report to AMCEN

STEPS 3

During AMCEN :

- No report from the AGN
- this agenda item was treated in other matters
- Need an African view : when ?