

Science Dialogue - Climate Engineering: Lessons from the Oxford Geoengineering Programme



Keynote Prof. Steve Rayner, Oxford University

Panel Discussion with UZH, ZHAW & ETH Researchers

Friday, May 20th 2016 | 09.15 AM – 11.15 AM

University of Zurich, Building RAA, Room G15,
Rämistrasse 59

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9:15

Welcome

Christoph Beuttler

Deputy CEO, Risk Dialogue Foundation St. Gallen

Dr. Philipp Aerni

Director Center for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability, University of Zurich

9:30

Keynote: The Oxford Geoengineering Programme

Prof. Steve Rayner

Co-Director Oxford Geoengineering Programme,
Oxford University

10:30

Panel Discussion: Climate Engineering Research in Switzerland - Toward an Interdisciplinary Perspective

Prof. Steve Rayner

Co-Director Oxford Geoengineering Programme

Dr. Axel Michaelowa

Head of research "International Climate Policy", UZH

Prof. Anthony Patt

Dep. of Environmental Systems Science , ETHZ

Dr. Regina Betz

School of Management and Law, ZHAW

Dr. Philipp Aerni

Director CCRS, UZH

Panel Chaired By: Matthias Honegger,
Risk Dialogue Foundation St. Gallen

Background: Many argue with increasing fervour, that limiting warming to safe levels will require not only a transformation of the global economy away from fossil fuels, but that capturing and storing already emitted greenhouse gases from the atmosphere will be needed. Even limiting the amount of solar energy reaching the earth could eventually be debated as a policy option if action on greenhouse gases remains inadequate.

Objective: In view of the far reaching consequences climate engineering would have, it is essential that research, decision makers and the public take part in an informed and constructive dialogue. It is only through such participation that ultimately policy decisions can be made in a way that mirrors the complexity and multi-faceted reality of climate change and the possibility of climate engineering. Fostering an interdisciplinary perspective is the first step.

Steve Rayner is James Martin Professor of Science and Civilization and Director of the Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS) in the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography at Oxford University from where he also Co-directs the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, the Oxford Martin Programme on Resource Stewardship and the Oxford Geoengineering Programme. He is also Honorary Professor of Climate Change and Society at the University of Copenhagen and Senior Fellow at the Breakthrough Institute of Oakland, California. He has served on various US, UK, and international bodies addressing science, technology and the environment, including Britain's Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Royal Society's Working Group on Climate Geoengineering. He has received numerous awards, including the 25th Homer N. Calver Award from the Environment Section of the American Public Health Association, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Director's Award for R&D Excellence and two Martin Marietta Energy Systems Awards for groundbreaking work in risk analysis and global climate change policy analysis respectively. He was included in the 2008 Smart List by Wired Magazine as 'one of the 15 people the next US President should listen to'.

As a non-profit organisation the **Risk Dialogue Foundation St. Gallen** has more than 25 years experience in the analysis and facilitation of risk debates as well as in risk consultancy and communication. Taking the public's anxieties and hopes into consideration, the foundation developed tools for a modern risk dialogue. In addition the foundation offers risk expertise and in-depth knowledge of specific issues such as energy transition and infrastructures, natural hazards and climate change as well as research in individual and collective behaviour of people exposed to risk.

The Oxford Geoengineering Programme, the Risk Dialogue Foundation and CCRS seek to engage with society about issues associated with geoengineering. Neither institution advocates implementing geoengineering in any way.
