



Workshop on Science and Governance of Solar Radiation Management

Please save the date and join us for a participatory workshop on the science and governance of Solar Radiation Management (SRM) geoengineering – a controversial proposal for addressing some of the risks of climate change.

The workshop will explore SRM and have a particular focus on the most pressing current challenge: the governance of research. It will review the climate threats faced by Brazil and will provide an introduction to the science of SRM, as well as the socio-political and ethical issues it raises. Moving quickly from presentations to group exercises, however, it will emphasize discussion and interaction.

Participants will work together to explore their hopes and concerns about SRM, and the governance challenges that its development raises.



This workshop will be hosted by Earth System Science Center of the National Institute for Space Research (CCST-INPE) and the Solar Radiation Management Governance Initiative (SRMGI), and is developed by the following steering group:

- Prof. Paulo Artaxo, University of São Paulo
- Prof. Carlos Nobre, Brazil's National Institute of Science & Technology for Climate Change
- Dr. Jean Ometto, CCST-INPE
- Mr. Andy Parker, SRMGI
- Prof. Roberto Schaeffer, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
- Prof. John Shepherd, University of Southampton
- Prof. Eduardo Viola, University of Brasilia

The event will take place on **Tuesday, November 22, 2016** from 9:00 –18:00 at the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) in São José dos Campos, Brazil. Limited travel aid and subsistence allowance may be provided by INCT, SRMGI, or Rede CLIMA.

To register for the event please contact Alessandra Costa at alessandra.costa_bsservices@inpe.br by November 11. Attendance limited to 80 participants.

SRM Background

Solar radiation management (SRM) geoengineering is a controversial proposal for addressing some of the risks of climate change by blocking a small fraction of inbound sunlight. Its potential importance should not be underestimated, as it is the only known method for quickly slowing (or even reversing) rises in

global temperatures. This means that it has the potential to be a helpful complement to mitigation and adaptation in the fight against climate change. However its environmental and political effects are still poorly understood and would not be restricted by national boundaries. Therefore SRM also has the potential to be very damaging.

While it is unclear whether SRM would be helpful or harmful overall, one thing is clear: many developing countries would stand to gain or lose the most if SRM were ever used. They are often less resilient to environmental change, whether caused by global warming or by any SRM geoengineering attempts to address it. Despite this, most research and discussion has taken place in developed countries.

Goals of this workshop

Brazil is one of the ten largest economies in the world and consequently key to any effort of building up global governance, but the level of awareness about SRM geoengineering issues is low amongst Brazil's climate change community. One main workshop goal is to raise the level of awareness about geoengineering issues in Brazil, appropriate to its importance in the international system.

Additional goals include introducing the science of SRM geoengineering and the numerous ethical and governance issues that it raises, then to encourage participants to share their opinions and ideas on SRM and governance of research, and how Brazil can become more involved in global discussions. The ultimate goal is to start a conversation and to develop the capacity of Brazilian academics, NGO representatives and policymakers to have their voices heard in future international discussions.

Partner Background

CCST-INPE generates interdisciplinary knowledge for national development with equity and reduces environmental impacts in Brazil and worldwide as well as provides technical and scientific information quality to guide public policies for mitigation and adaptation to global environmental changes.

SRMGI is an international NGO-driven initiative launched in 2010. SRMGI does not take a position on SRM geoengineering and seeks to expand the global conversation around the governance of SRM research, particularly to developing countries.