

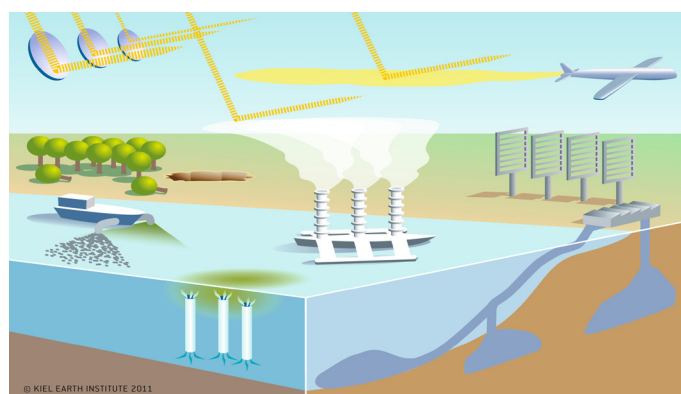


“Large-Scale Intentional Interventions into the Climate System? Assessing the Climate Engineering Debate”

Interdisciplinary scoping report commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Climate engineering, perceived as a potential future option for tackling climate change through atmospheric carbon dioxide removal or radiation management raises numerous questions of fundamental importance: Which proposals are scientifically viable? Can they be technically implemented, and how effective are they likely to be? What interactions and side-effects (e.g. in the climate system) are to be expected? How large are the efficiency advantages of specific technologies in a comprehensive macroeconomic consideration? Will climate engineering become an endurance test for society and international relations? Is selective intervention in the Earth system ethically acceptable or justifiable?

In order to provide an initial, sound scientific background for the growing discussion, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in Germany has appointed an independent team of scientists to compile current knowledge on climate engineering. Furthermore, the scientists were asked to assess it on the basis of their expertise, and to clearly indicate contentious issues and gaps in knowledge. The interdisciplinary outcome of this research, the final report “Climate Engineering: Large-Scale Intentional Interventions into the Climate System? Assessing the Climate Engineering Debate”, was coordinated and published by the Kiel Earth Institute. This report is seminal in its thematic scope and inter-



disciplinary approach, combining natural with social science expertise while furthermore assessing ethical implications. It provides a well-founded knowledge base and guidance for scientific and public debate as well as political decision-making regarding climate engineering.

In addition to the German version (published October 2011), an English version of the full report is now available on:

http://www.kiel-earth-institute.de/activities/research/scoping_reportCE.pdf

contact:

Dr. Wilfried Rickels
Institut für Weltwirtschaft
Tel. +49 431 8814 408
wilfried.rickels@ifw-kiel.de