

Previous work on geoengineering

Helena Paul co-director of EcoNexus – www.econexus.info

I helped to achieve the Convention on Biological Diversity's (near) moratorium on geoengineering in 2010 and contributed to *Geoengineering in Relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity: CBD Technical Series 66, 2012*.

I have participated in debates and events regarding the proposed governance of geoengineering at the CBD and UK universities.

I have researched the impacts of carbon and biodiversity offsets, particularly on forests and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities

With Rupert Read I wrote a chapter: **Geoengineering as a response to the climate crisis – right road or disastrous diversion?** This was for a book published by the Green House UK entitled: **Facing up to Climate Reality: Honesty, Disaster and Hope.**

I wrote [Biochar Knowledge Gaps](#), a commentary on the Book 'Biochar for Environmental Management - Science and Technology' by Johannes Lehmann and Stephen Joseph, Earthscan 2009

<https://www.econexus.info/publication/biochar-knowledge-gaps>

I have been involved in the international negotiations of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) since 2006, and (until 2016) the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with regard to agrofuels, bioeconomy, geoengineering, agriculture, agricultural biodiversity, forests, land use and climate change.

In the UK

I critiqued **The Stratospheric Particle Injection for Climate Engineering (SPICE)**: balloon and hose. This was later cancelled.

I participated in the **Oxford Geoengineering project** with Tim Kruger and Andrew Parker – and was always a critical voice

I helped to make a film critiquing Geoengineering in Spanish. It is based on a presentation requested by the following organisations in 2015: FLACSO, Ecologistas en Acción, WWF España, Greenpeace, Seo/BirdLife, FUHEM with Universidad de Salamanca, Universidad Camilo José Cela. It seemed valuable to have a resource in Spanish available to researchers, so we decided to turn the presentation into a film, using the slides.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQVvLekCHjo> English trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MkYFEGE9Rg> film part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWVLXRdfTxM> film part 2

I also attended Climate Engineering conferences in 2014 and 2017: organised by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam.

I made a presentation at the meeting in 2014: Civil Society and geoengineering: Who's Engaging Whom?

As I wrote then:

The imbalance of power signalled by such an experiment is a major problem, as we see those mainly responsible for the emissions that are causing climate change are now proposing their own solutions without consultation with those most affected by their actions. The obvious question is, will these proposed solutions cause as many problems as the emissions they are supposed to be addressing, and who will feel the impacts of such experiments (eg: possible interference with monsoon patterns)?

... These fantasy projects divert attention from the real need: for those who emit most climate forcing gases to reduce their emissions unilaterally and immediately.