

Sustainability | Individual communication

IC - (21359) - EXPLORING PERCEPTIONS OF CDR IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

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Background and objectives

Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) is increasingly viewed as a necessary approach to help tackle climate change alongside other measures, with research into a variety of strategies ongoing around the world. This project aims to explore perceptions around CDR in the Global South with a focus on South-East Asia and particularly Malaysian Borneo, where agriculture and palm oil crops are crucial.

Process and methods (for empirical research)

Stakeholder interviews (N=20) were conducted with respondents mainly in Malaysia and the UK including NGOs, scientists, and government bodies to examine perspectives on the use of CDRs and the potential implications. One strategy known as enhanced weathering involves crushing and spreading minerals over land to absorb carbon dioxide with materials eventually ending up in the ocean thus removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. It is expected to be particularly effective in tropical regions due to the climatic conditions of high temperatures and rainfall. However, these regions are also some of the most biodiverse on the planet with a wide variety of species found only in such locations.

Main results (or main arguments in the case of critical reviews)

Initial findings shall be presented exploring understanding of CDRs including enhanced weathering, issues of biodiversity and land-use, as well as concerns about long-term impacts in this region both of CDR and climate change. It is clear that adaptation, development of green technology, and so called 'nature-based' approaches like reforestation are perceived as most appropriate for this region due to the already severe climate impacts endured, however there is support for public engagement with environmental education seen as a key priority.

Implications for research and practice/policy | Importance and originality of the contribution

Typically those in the Global North produce most of the knowledge in this field and little is known about perspectives of those in the Global South. This research provides stakeholders and communities the opportunity to share their insights into potential proposals helping to inform future decisions around research and development of technologies.

Palavras-chave : Carbon Dioxide Removal, Global South, Risk Perceptions