



Workshop “Disentangling Climate Curiosities – If Climate Cannot Make Up Its Minds, How Can We Make Up Ours?”

9 April 2014, IASS Potsdam, Germany

Agenda

9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:30 Welcome and Introduction (Klaus Töpfer and Mark Lawrence, IASS)

The Hiatus and the “Science-Policy-Communication”-Triangle

10:00 The “Hiatus” – Scientific Introduction, Views from Science, Policy & Communication (Mark Lawrence)

Scientific Introduction

- **Jochem Marotzke, Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Germany**
“Recent temperature trends and their implications”
- **Klaus Hasselmann, Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Germany**
„Policy implications of the hiatus“
- **Axel Bojanowski, Der Spiegel, Germany**
"Don't mention the Hiatus! The problem of imaginary certainty from the perspective of the mass media."

Science – Views

Explanations and theories of the hiatus from the natural science perspective

- **Kevin Cowtan, University of York, United Kingdom**
“How much of the ‘pause’ is real?”
- **Stefan Rahmstorf, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany**
“Is there an exceptional pause?”

Discussion

11:30 Coffee break

11:45 Public and Communication – Views (Klaus Töpfer)



Perception of the hiatus in the media and the public and relevance of the hiatus in the discussions on climate change in the media and the public

- **Nick Nuttall, UNFCCC**
- **Christopher Schrader, Scientific Journalist, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Germany**

Discussion

Picture of Workshop Participants

12:45 Lunch

13:30 Policy – Views (Klaus Töpfer)

Implications of complex scientific findings that may seem contradictory for the credibility of climate science, communication of climate science, and policy makers

- **Manfred Konukiewitz, Green Climate Fund/IASS**
- **Steffi Richter, Federal Environment Agency, Germany**
- **Susanne Dröge, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Germany**
“How to ensure a credible role for (climate) science in times of ‘believers’ and ‘non-believers’?”

Discussion

14:15 Implications of climate curiosities – panel discussion (Mark Lawrence)

- **Eli Kintisch, Science Correspondent, United Kingdom**
- **Ulrich Cubasch, Free University of Berlin, Germany**
- **Christoph Bals, Germanwatch, Germany**
- To which degree do we (still) trust in the results from climate science?
- Do we trust the scientists and the messengers of scientists as credible and legitimate sources and do contested results inappropriately undermine confidence in results that are cited?
- Which role do new media such as blogs, twitter and on-line commenting play in forming public opinions on climate change findings?
- How do media and policy makers deal with the uncertainties in scientific findings?
- Are uncertainties in climate change science linked to not taking faster action against global warming?

Discussion (45 minutes)



15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Climate Curiosities – The Way Forward? (plenary discussion with interventions) (**Klaus Töpfer**)

- **Lucien Chabason, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), France**
 - **Eberhard Faust, Munich RE**
 - **Joseph Alcamo, University of Kassel, Germany**
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- How can we achieve societal transformation when exact steps may not be clear and there might be considerable uncertainties in the science?
 - Which role can transdisciplinary research play in this context?
 - Is there a need for improvement or change? What are implications for the interaction of science, communication, and policy in the future?

Open discussion

- What is needed from science in order to improve the accessibility of complex findings to the general public and policy makers?
- How could an improved interaction between science, policy and communication look like (institutions, structures, etc.)?

17:30 Summary and closing (Klaus Töpfer and Mark Lawrence, IASS)