

# Quotes from International Civil Society on Solar Radiation Management

## **Tom BK Goldtooth, Executive Director, Indigenous Environmental Network**

"As Indigenous Peoples, we are unified in our opposition to all forms of geoengineering. As human beings, we are entirely dependent upon our respectful relationship with the natural world. Everything the dominant world does has far reaching consequences that we cannot predict. We are now faced with many of those consequences from the exploitation of the natural world that threaten the future existence of all life on Mother Earth. To assert that human knowledge has advanced so fully that we can predict with absolute certainty that no harm will be a consequence of our actions is categorically false. Our Indigenous traditional teachings, lifestyles, spirituality, cultures and leadership of our people has sustained us for millennia and will do so for countless future generations but only if the world adheres to the Natural Laws of Creation and the Precautionary Principle."

## **Karin Nansen, Chair of Friends of the Earth International**

"Geoengineering is a dangerous and risky distraction from real solutions to the climate crisis. We need a complete transformation of our energy systems, food systems, economic systems. But rich countries, transnational corporations and other powerful vested interests are desperate to divert our attention from system change, and from radical emissions reductions needed at source. Friends of the Earth International rejects large-scale geoengineering as an unproven technology which could lead to land or resource grabbing and dispossession of local communities."

## **Vandana Shiva, Navdanya, India**

"The mechanical mind of mastery and control is at the root of the ecological crisis including climate change. It cannot be the basis of addressing the climate problem through more reckless manipulation as geoengineering. As Einstein warned us "You cannot solve a problem with the same mindset that created it. Our fragile, complex self organised Earth cannot be subject to more violent manipulation. In ecological agriculture, which returns organic matter to the soil we have a non violent, tested and proven solution to cooling the planet, while growing more and better food."

## **Nnimmo Bassey, HOME Foundation, Nigeria**

"It is unacceptable that while nations suffer the brutal impacts of climate change profit-driven corporations plan to colonize the sky through geoengineering, deny global warming and lock in climate inaction. The world must be weaned from fossil fuels, cut emissions at source and not permit any manipulation of the climate that has the potential to pile more harm on Africa and other territories."

**Barbara Unmüßig, Heinrich Böell Foundation, International**

“Our climate is a common good that concerns all of mankind. No one has the right to unilaterally tinker with the global thermostat. Outdoor experiments of solar radiation management, aimed at manipulating our climate on a global scale, risk unleashing technofixes for our climate crisis without tackling its root causes. Basic democratic principles of legitimisation and accountability must instead be upheld that ensure that the precautionary principle is adhered to and all possible risks and side effects of new technologies are considered, before they are put into practice.”

**Elizabeth Bravo, Acción Ecológica, Ecuador**

“Como defensoras de los derechos de la naturaleza, nos oponemos a la geoingeniería porque consideramos que la geoingeniería viola los derechos de la naturaleza, tal como son reconocidos por nuestra Constitución, porque interfiere en los ciclos biológicos y evolutivos, lo que podría conducir a cambios evolutivos impredecibles. Los efectos de la SRM podrían afectar la soberanía alimentaria de los pueblos, los cambios en la radiación solar generarán cambios en los patrones de lluvias y vientos, así como en la vegetación y la biodiversidad, generando incertidumbres en las redes tróficas y en la disposición de alimentos”

Translation:

*“As defenders of the rights of nature, we oppose geoengineering because we consider that it violates the rights of nature, as recognized by our Constitution, because it interferes with biological and evolutionary cycles, which could lead to unpredictable evolutionary changes. The effects of SRM could affect peoples' food sovereignty, as changes in solar radiation will lead to changes in rainfall and wind patterns as well as on vegetation and biodiversity, creating uncertainties in food webs and harvests”*