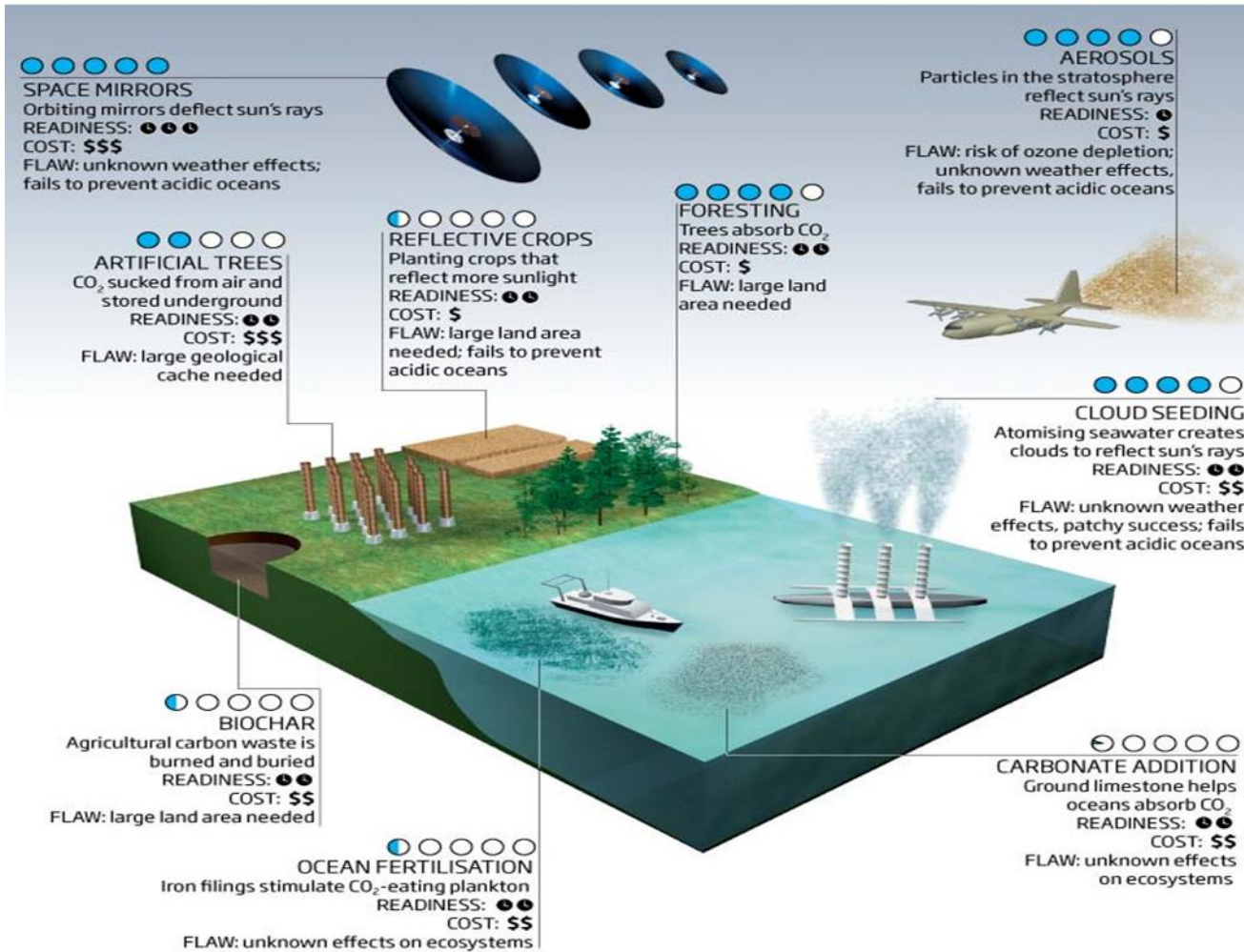


Deliberating geoengineering

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Geoengineering weighed up



Cooling factor:	Readiness:	Cost:
potential to change Earth's energy budget	● - Within years	\$ - Cheap relative to cutting emissions
	●● - Within decades	\$\$ - Significant compared to cost of cutting emissions
	●●● - Within centuries	\$\$\$ - Cutting emissions might be cheaper

- 4 (1 day) deliberative workshops (Feb-April 2012), 44 public participants in total
- ‘Funnel design’ from CC>>Responses to CC>>Geoengineering>>4 example technologies
- Our framings:

Most important questions

Geo compared to what?



Climate change & geo

- Geo more appealing to sceptics than other responses?
- ‘Galvanising’ – it must be serious if THIS is being considered
- But mitigation overwhelming priority – only v. small minority ‘prefer’ geo

Research & deployment

- Very little fear of Pandora's box, or slippery slope

“I'm a bit wary of it, but definitely not ‘no thanks’” (Mel, Glasgow)

- Favourable towards research – IF **safe**, transparent, incremental etc – but no consensus on how much is too much

Framing geo

- ‘In an emergency’ was not dominant – and we did not introduce it (leading question?)
- A common framing was ‘geo as stopgap’:

“Yeah, that’s the way I look at it, it will give us a bit of time until we do perfect a renewable source of energy, and we do have things under control, that maybe this would be a stopgap” (Rose, Norwich).

Making things worse

“I think everybody in here notices it, the plusses and minuses, you know, and the minuses (of geoengineering) seem to be catastrophic really, you know, I mean how can you start affecting a whole region, a whole area, how can you start affecting their weather and how much rain you get, or how much drought there’s going to be in that area?” (George, Glasgow).

Governance & role of scientists

- ‘Eurovision politics’ – you scratch my back and I’ll scratch yours

“Every one of these ideas will have one man behind it who that has been their life’s work and they will, to the hilt, tell you that it’s the best thing since sliced bread and they, this is their job, if they don’t convince you that’s their life work down the drain so you’ve also got to consider that when you’re making your decisions because they’re going to present all the statistics and all their findings...”

(James, Birmingham)

Messing with nature

- This was everywhere – a complex, multi-faceted theme that bridged to many other key findings
- Geo unprecedented? Everything messing with nature? Nature = God? Intentionality matters?
- Frankenstein's monster...myxomatosis...

(see forthcoming paper for more!)

Disposable society

- Geo represents a (moral) failure to rein in consumption: therefore is representative of greed and materialism
- Lots of un-prompted discussion around this (not just geo)

The Big IF

“I mean, geo-technology is obviously, it’s the outcome isn’t it, that’s the benefit. It’s the final outcome that is the benefit, it’s as simple as that. There’s no...if they work, you know...” (Oliver, Cardiff).

Final points

- Fascinating range of views and perspectives
- We now need to translate these data into ‘criteria’ and combine with stakeholder data (somehow)
- Recent Canadian ‘rogue’ geoengineering exp shows this isn’t going away...

Thanks to

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