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Do we need to darken the sun?

Solar radiation management as a solution to the climate crisis?

Wednesday 27th August 2025, 19:00 to 21:00

Palais Eschenbach, Eschenbachgasse 11, 1010 Wien



The 22nd International Conference on Nucleation and Atmospheric Aerosols (ICNAA) brings together around 200 scientists with a research focus on the formation of small liquid or solid particles in the atmosphere, so-called aerosols. Aerosols play a crucial role in the climate system and air pollution.

Environment
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Imagine a **giant dimmer switch** for the planet - an emergency brake on global warming. Solar Radiation Management is a bold and controversial idea that aims to reflect a small fraction of sunlight back into space to cool the Earth. One leading approach involves injecting tiny aerosols into the upper atmosphere, mimicking the cooling effect of volcanic eruptions.

Could this be a powerful tool to buy time in the climate crisis? Or are we opening a Pandora's box with unpredictable consequences?

Kick-Off Talk

Markku Kulmala, University of Helsinki

How atmospheric new particle formation affects interlinked environmental grand challenges

Panel Discussion

Experts from the ICNAA conference will be discussing with other scientists about the Do's and Don't of Solar Radiation Management and related research:

Ulrike Felt, Expert in Science and Technology Studies and Responsible Research, University of Vienna

Zoran Ristovski, Expert in Nanoparticle Formation and Artificial Cloud Brightening, Queensland University of Technology

Blaž Gasparini, Expert in Cloud Micropysics and Geoengineering, University of Vienna

Moderation

invited by WWTF – The Vienna Science and Technology Fund:

Raffael Himmelsbach, Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft