

*The National Academies of*  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

*Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education  
Board on Environmental Change and Society*

**Moving on From Paris:  
Implementation Lessons from Social Science**

The National Academy of Sciences Keck Center - Room 100  
500 5th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

April 28, 2016

**Purpose of this meeting:** The Board on Environmental Change and Society (BECS) is holding this seminar to explore the consequences of the 2015 UNFCCC Paris climate summit. This summit drew 196 countries, the majority of which agreed to formulate individual Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's), or national climate plans, to meet internationally negotiated global mean temperature targets by 2100. In contrast to past international climate efforts, including the 1992 Kyoto protocol, NDC pledges were completely voluntary and represent a new, bottom-up approach to international climate agreements. This seminar will explore the benefits and risks of this voluntary bottom-up approach, as well as how the behavioral and social sciences might help inform national climate plan implementation efforts at multiple levels of organization. (See [Background Paper](#))

**To Register:** <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/bc1ae51021f5>

**AGENDA**

**10:00 am**      **Registration**

**10:30 am**      **Welcome, introductions, seminar background and objectives**

*Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair*

*J. Timmons Roberts, Brown University, BECS member*

**10:35 am**      **Introduction to the Paris climate summit negotiations**

*Reed Schuler, Department of State*

**10:50 am**      **Panel 1: The bottom-up approach for international agreements, and the uncertainties in meeting the climate targets of national climate plans**

*Moderator: Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair*

*Guiding Questions:*

- What is understood about how bottom-up approaches work and achieve their objectives at the international level?
- Are there examples that serve as guides (or warnings)? More generally, what do we know and still need to know about how different forms of international agreements result in emissions reductions?
- What do Integrated Assessment Models (IAMs) indicate about the outcome of Paris agreements for global mean surface temperature? Do they make assumptions about behavioral and societal changes that might affect IAM results?
- What role can NGOs play in achieving national climate plans and how can they be meaningfully engaged?

*David Victor, Director of the International Law and Regulation Laboratory,  
University of California-San Diego (Via WebEx)*

*Nathan Hultman, University of Maryland*

*Leon Clarke, Joint Global Change Research Institute*

*Gavin Schmidt, Director NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies*

*Keya Chatterjee, Executive Director US Climate Action Network*

**12:15 pm**      **Lunch**

**1:00 pm**      **Panel 2: Institutional and behavioral responses to policy and technology initiatives**

*Moderator: J. Timmons Roberts, Brown University, BECS member*

*Guiding Questions:*

- What do we know about the social science of implementation of other similar programs in the past? What are the possibilities to improve implementation?
- How do we keep the majority of fossil fuel in the ground as required to meet emissions targets?
- What should we realistically expect in terms of emissions reduction, by economic sectors, by level (national, community, individual/household), and by types of tools adopted (such as market approaches, regulation, etc.)?
- How do institutions support and thwart energy system transitions, including by affecting technological innovation and policy creation?

*Joseph Aldy, Harvard University*

*Jennie Stephens, University of Vermont*

*Michael Vandenbergh, Vanderbilt Law School*

*Tom Dietz, Michigan State University*

**2:30 pm**      **Closing Remarks/Discussion**

*Hallie Eakin, Arizona State University, BECS Member*

**3:00 pm**      **Adjourn**