

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2006

AVOIDING DANGEROUS CLIMATE CHANGE

Professor John Schellnhuber CBE
Potsdam Institute, Germany, and Oxford University, UK



Helmut Biess © PIK

Tuesday 21 February, 6–7pm

The Shine Dome, Gordon Street, Acton.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

RSVP and enquiries: nie@anu.edu.au or 6125 6599

Global warming affects natural and social systems on all continents. Greenhouse gas emissions from human activities will continue to heat the planet until the end of this century. Is this just an inconvenient side-effect of economic growth or a hazardous gamble with our very lives and livelihoods?

Based on evidence from paleo-studies, field observations and computer simulations, Professor John Schellnhuber will assess the big risks associated with man-made climate change. He will also demonstrate that most of these risks can still be avoided if powerful climate and energy policy measures are implemented. Finally, he will argue that if designed and managed properly, these measures will increase – rather than diminish – human prosperity.

Hans Joachim (John) Schellnhuber became the Founding Director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research in 1991. Since 2001 he has been engaged in promoting the development of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research in Norwich, UK, as its Research Director. In 2005 he was appointed Visiting Professor in Physics and Visiting Fellow of Christ Church College at Oxford University.

Professor Schellnhuber serves on many national and international panels providing advice on scientific strategies and policy advice for environment and development matters. He has written more than 150 articles and books on solid state physics, the theory of complex non-linear systems, coastal zone research, and regional and global environmental analysis.

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