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In 1990, Dr. Petrus Tans discovered that trees, plants and soils in the Northern Hemisphere provide a substantial portion (several billion tons of carbon annually) of the natural uptake of carbon dioxide emitted by humans during the burning of fossil fuels. This discovery indicates that unlike carbon dioxide ocean uptake, it may be possible to increase uptake on land, for example through the growth of trees, and through agricultural practices that increase the carbon content of soils. The discovery allows for more accurate climate projections, and was the stimulus for the North American Carbon Program, aimed at understanding the uptake of carbon dioxide in North America. Through funding by the President's Climate Change Research Initiative, Dr. Tans has begun to build "Carbon America" a network of small aircraft and tall communications tower platforms to understand regional carbon dioxide uptake across the U.S., which will provide science-based data for carbon management.