

Energy Policy, Carbon Emissions and Global Trade

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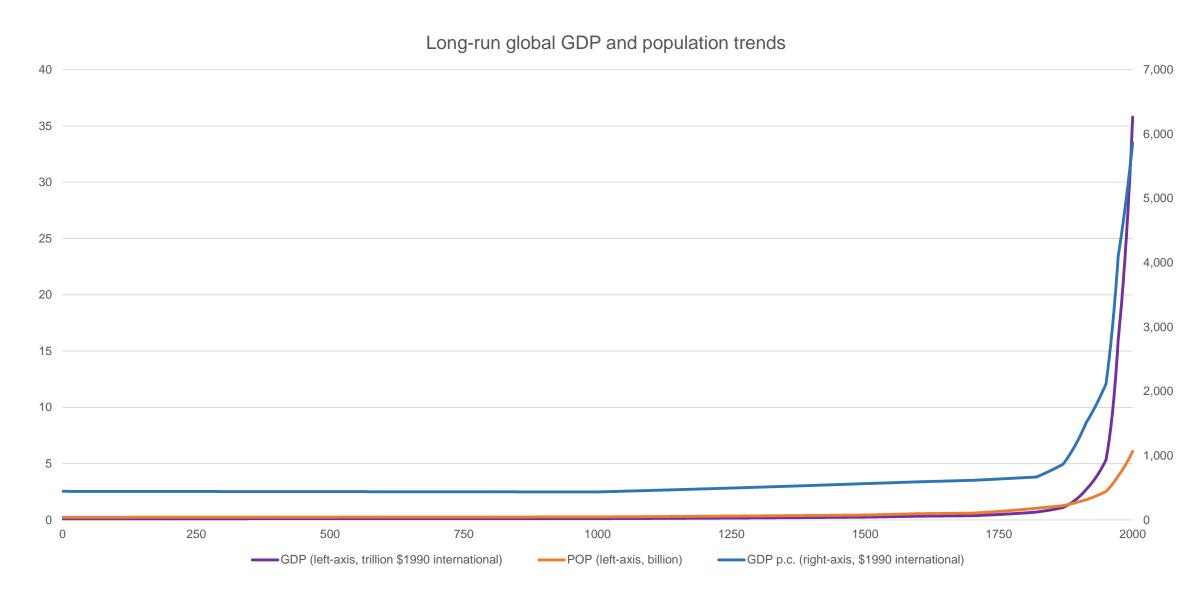
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Outline

- Energy needed for growth and economic well-being
- Conventional energy use is leading to rising atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and is very likely leading to global climate change
- Global energy policies are highly distortionary
 - Vary significantly across countries, end-users and energy carriers
 - Affect competitiveness and trade
 - And have macro-economic consequences
- Taxes on commodities should have clear objectives
 - Local and global emissions, health, congestion, other externalities
- Cooperative solutions lead to efficient outcomes

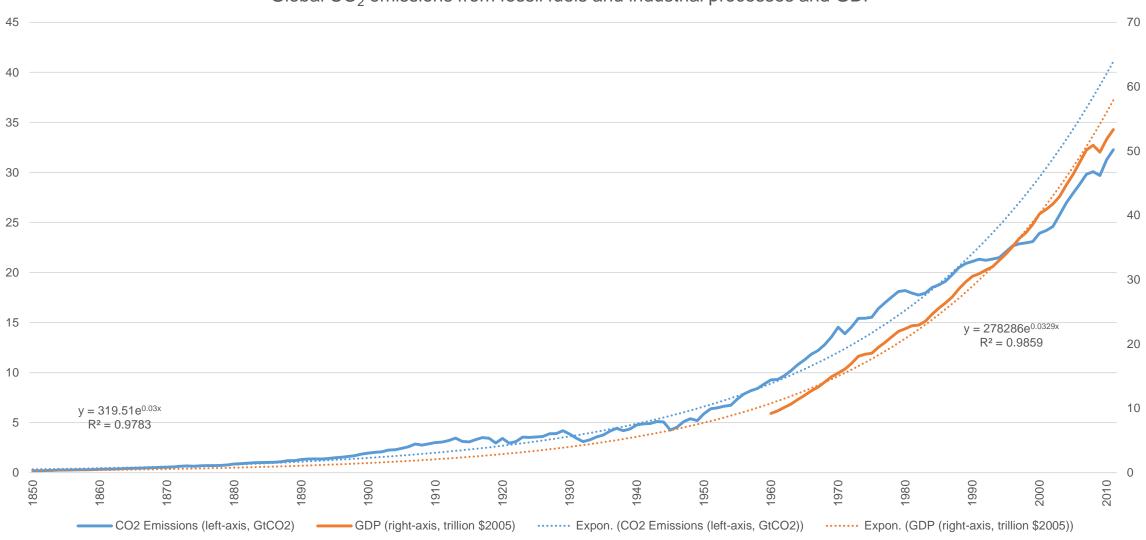


Industrial revolution ended a lengthy period of dismal growth



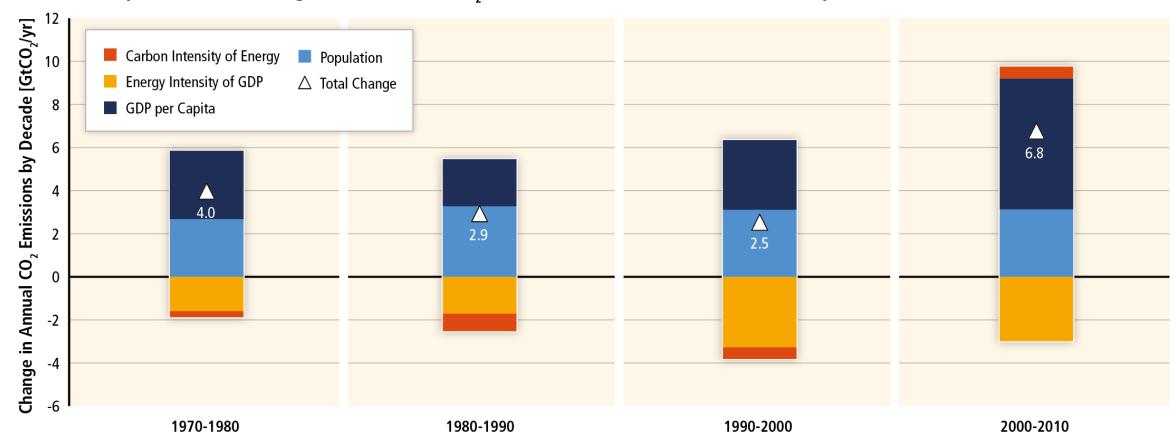
Tight link between GDP, energy and CO₂ emissions

Global CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and industrial processes and GDP



Population and GDP growth main drivers of emissions growth

Decomposition of the Change in Total Annual CO₂ Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion by Decade



Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2014, WGIII, SPM (http://www.ipcc.ch/report/graphics/index.php?t=Assessm

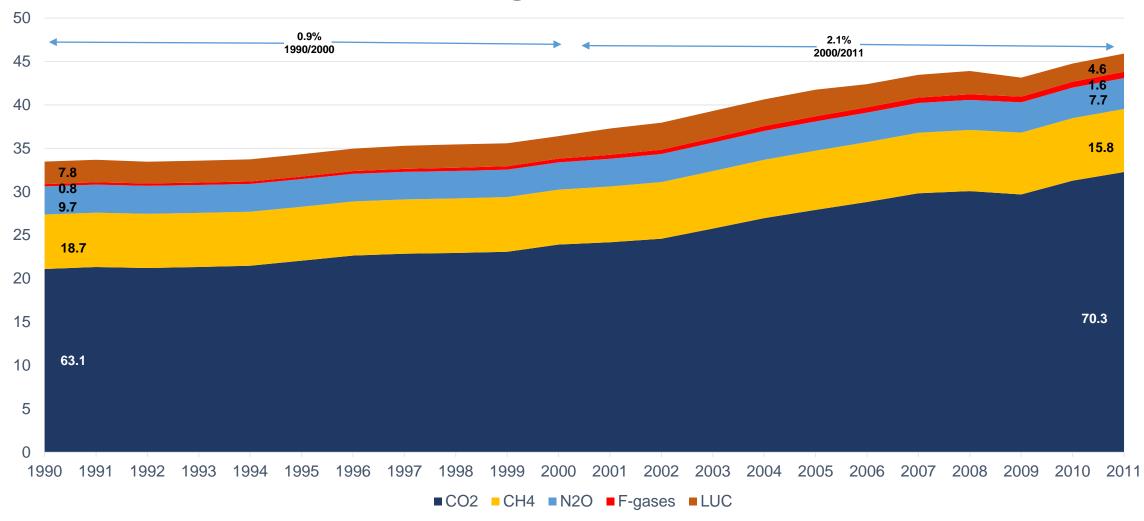
(http://www.ipcc.ch/report/graphics/index.php?t=Assessm ent%20Reports&r=AR5%20-%20WG3&f=SPM, accessed 5-Dec-2014.)

$$Emi = Pop \times \underbrace{\left(\frac{GDP}{Pop}\right)}_{\text{Per capita income}} \times \underbrace{\left(\frac{NRG}{GDP}\right)}_{\text{Energy intensity of output}} \times \underbrace{\left(\frac{Emi}{NRG}\right)}_{\text{Carbon intensity of energy}}$$



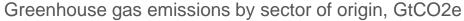
Other sources of greenhouse gas emissions are also prominent

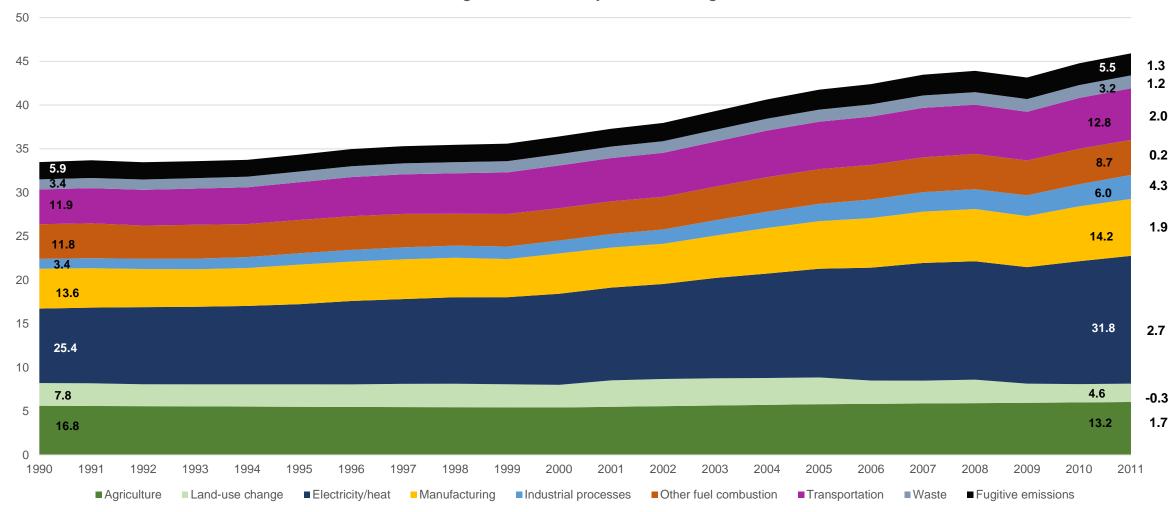
Greenhouse gas emissions, GtCO2e



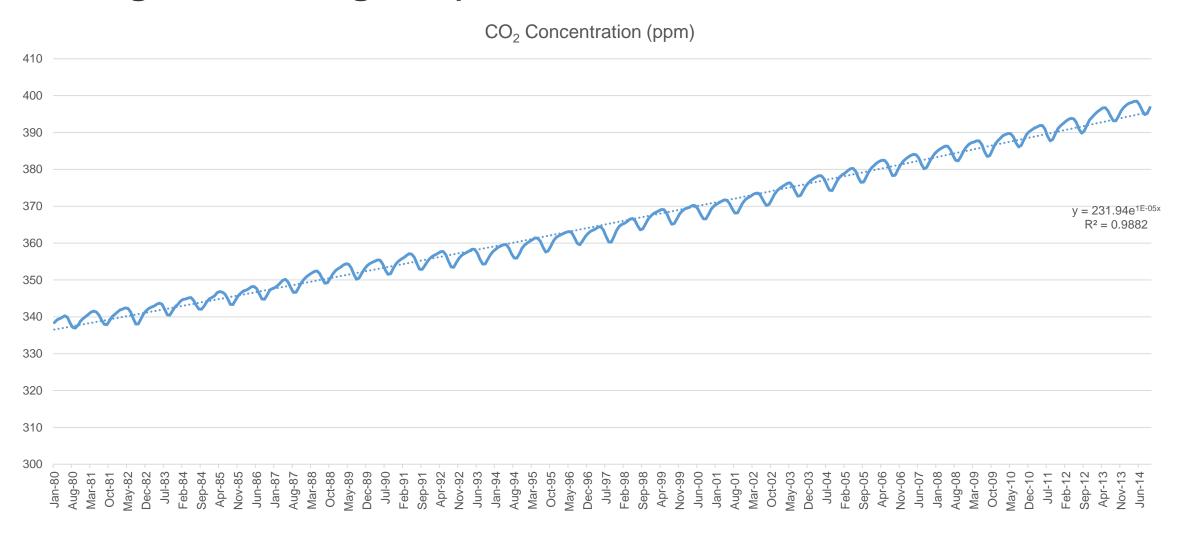


Rapid growth of emission for electricity, heat and industry



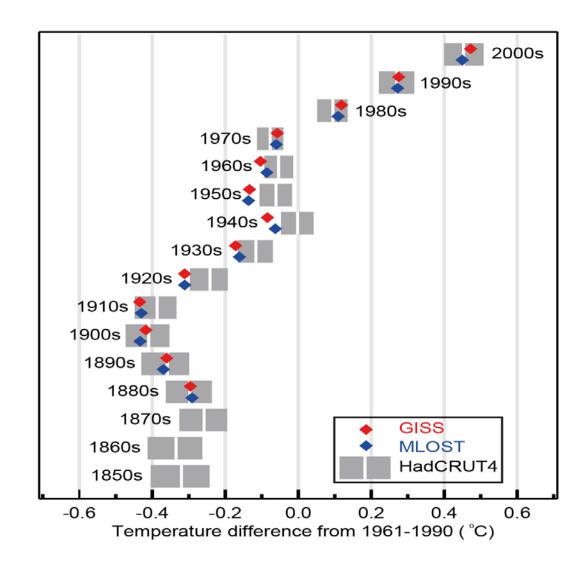


Rising measurement of atmospheric concentration of CO₂ (and other greenhouse gases)

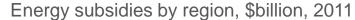


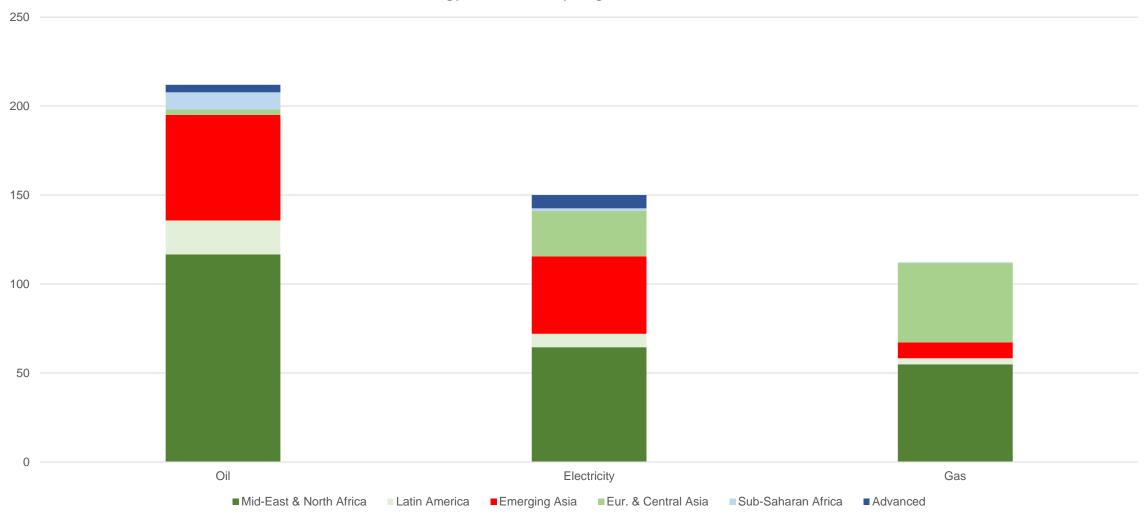


Recent decades warmest since the 1850's

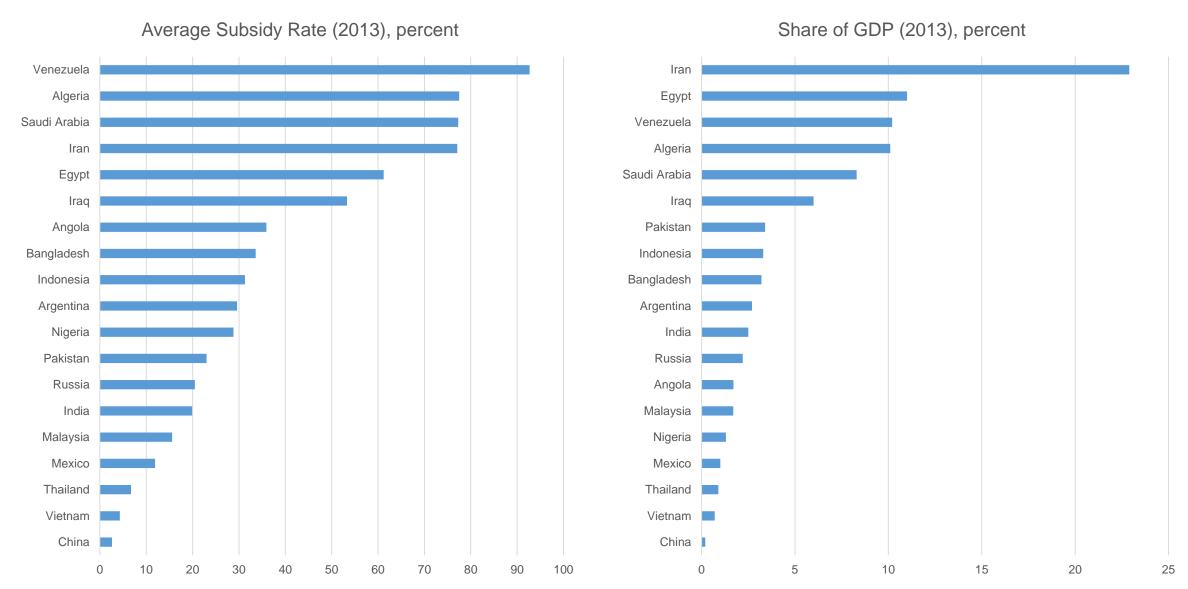


Energy subsidies high in developing countries

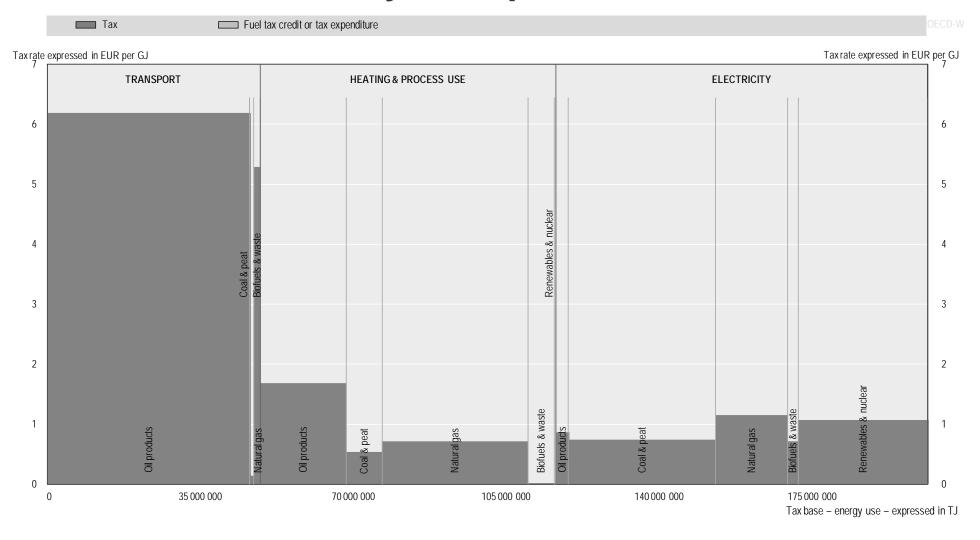




High fiscal costs and inefficient use of resources



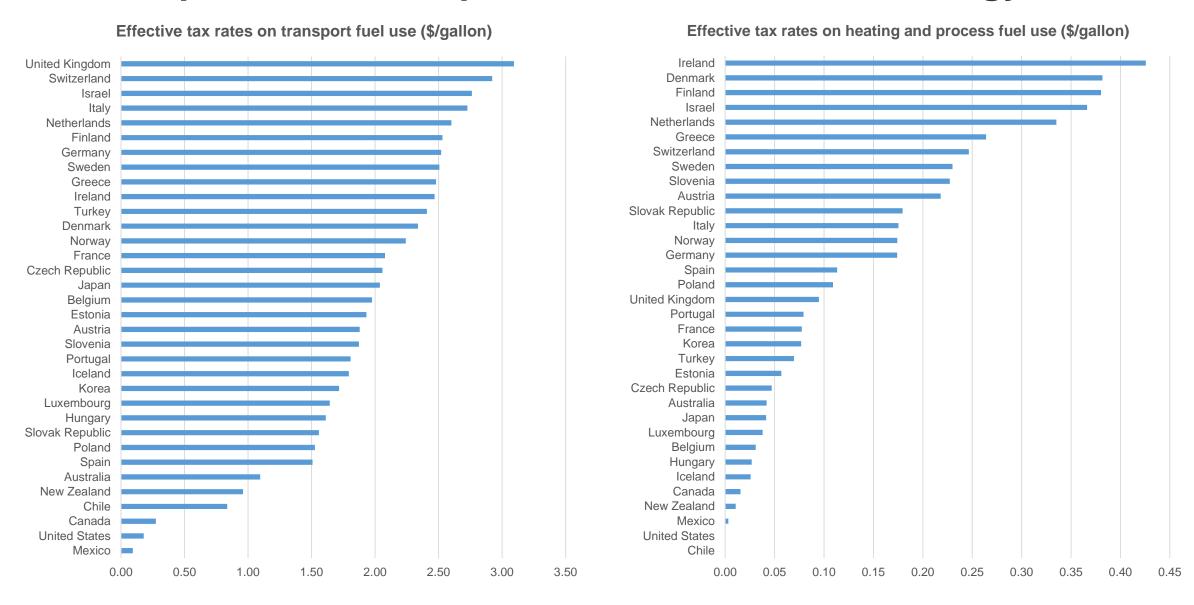
OECD countries tax mostly transport



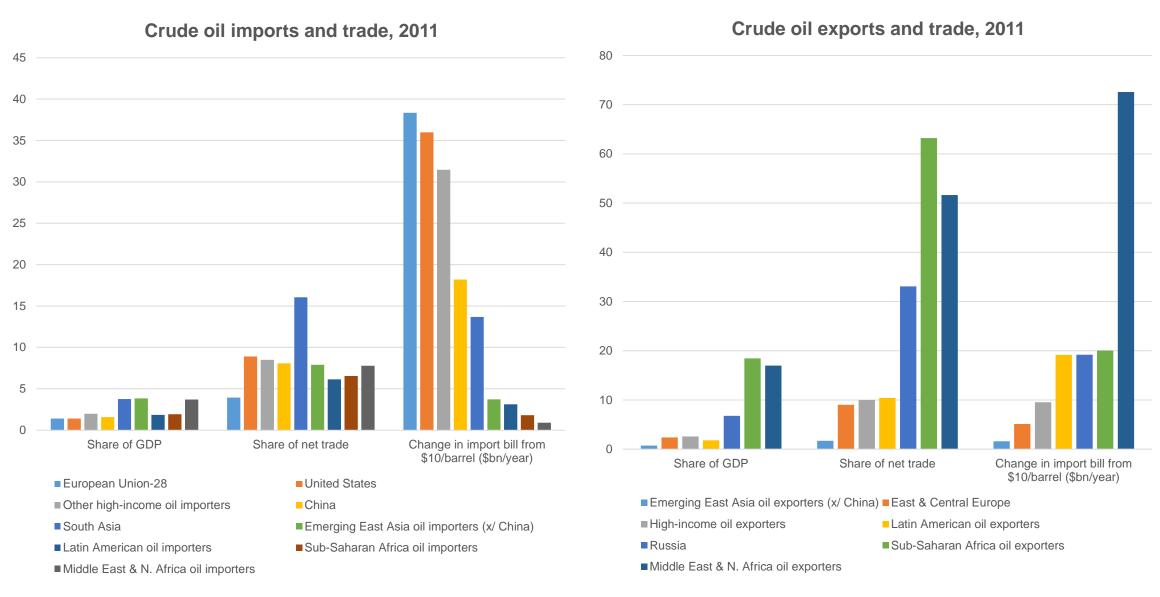
Note: 6.12€/GJ ≈ \$1/Gallon

Source: OECD 2013. Taxing energy: a graphical analysis.

Wide dispersion in transport taxes, less on other energy uses



Energy trade has macroeconomic impacts



Social cost of carbon

• Emissions:

• 2.88TCO₂/TOE (average for refined oil) → 0.00899TCO₂/gallon

Carbon tax implications

- Carbon tax is an excise tax, percent impact depends on end-user price of energy, i.e. likely to have greater impact in the US than in Europe or Japan where energy prices are higher.
- Impact is higher on coal-based electricity (more emissions per unit of energy) and less on natural gas-based electricity.

Carbon tax (\$/TCO ₂)	Cost per gallon
\$10	9¢
\$50	45¢
\$100	90¢

Carbon tax and trade

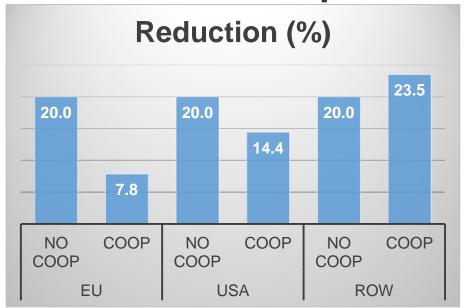
- The carbon tax rises with the level of ambition (R)
- The carbon tax is higher if initial energy prices are high (P)
- The carbon tax is higher if the initial energy system is clean (ρ)
- The carbon tax is higher if economy is less flexible (σ)

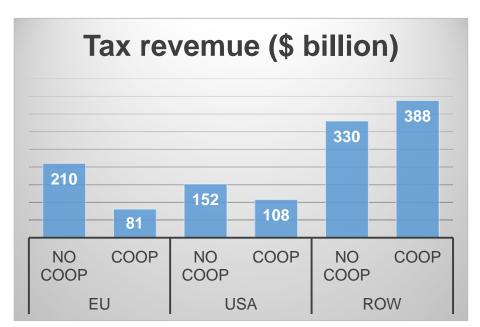
$$\tau = \frac{P}{\rho} \left[\left(1 - R \right)^{-1/\sigma} - 1 \right]$$

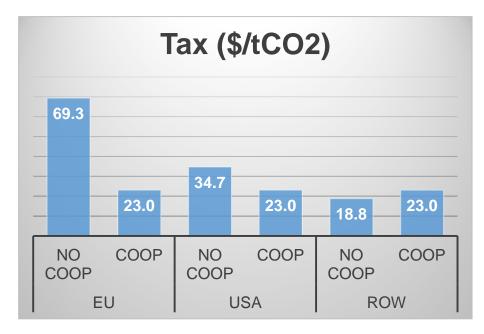
Implications

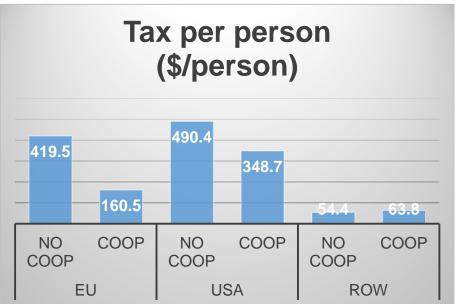
- Carbon tax (for same level of ambition) will be higher in Europe/Japan than in the US, and will be higher in the US than in developing countries
- A uniform level of ambition with no 'carbon' trading, will lead to changes in relative competitiveness and therefore trade.

Carbon tax and cooperation









Implications of 'go-it-alone' on carbon tax policy

Emissions 'leakage'

Aggregate estimates are around 10%--can be higher by sector

Border tax adjustments

- Raise tariffs on 'carbon embedded' in imported goods
 - Which technology to use? How to monitor?
- Can help with domestic competitiveness, may lower even further competitiveness on other markets

Conclusion

- Energy and growth are tightly linked
 - Strong role nonetheless for energy efficiency improvement
- Energy markets are huge
 - Taxes/subsidies influence efficient use of energy, competitiveness and investment decisions
 - Also influence macroeconomic indicators (for example exchange rates)
- De-carbonization of energy use will be necessary to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
 - Will require an optimal mix of existing and new technologies
 - Will be less costly if it entails international cooperation