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Rodrigo Gonzalez, J Earth Sci Clim Change 2017, 8:10(Suppl) DOI: 10.4172/2157-7617-C1-036

4th World Conference on

CLIMATE CHANGE

October 19-21, 2017 | Rome, Italy

Environmental impact of aircraft emissions and aviation fuel tax in Japan

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This investigation analyzed the growing impact of commercial aviation on CO_2 emissions, as well as its potential impact on climate change. It reviewed the effects of the Japanese Aviation Fuel Tax (koukuukinenryouzei), which has been levied on fuel loaded into all domestic flights in Japan since 1972. Using a Bayesian structural time series model, based on monthly observations of fuel consumption between 2004 and 2013 provided by the Ministry of Land, Transport, Infrastructure and Tourism - Japan, this research estimated the effect that this tax has had on the national demand for aviation fuel. It was established that the fuel tax has unequivocally reduced the amount of CO_2 emissions from aircraft.

Biography

Rodrigo Gonzalez is a PhD candidate at Keio University, Japan. He has worked on the field of aviation emissions, domestic aviation and regulations in Japan and carbon and environmental taxes. At present, he is researching on revealed preferences and behavior of flyers and non-flyers toward aviation and the environment, as well as alternative means of transportation (such as the bullet train, "Shinkansen") and more recently, the implications of LCC growth for the environment.

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