



FSR Climate Annual Conference 2020

Friday 27 November @ 14.00 - 14.40 CEST

Guest Speaker & Chair on Environmental Taxation

Linus MATTAUCH | University of Oxford

Building public support for environmental taxes beyond carbon

Authors: Linus Mattauch (based on joint work with Inge van den Bijgaart, Franziska Funke, Cameron Hepburn, David Klenert, Michael Pahle, Stephan Sommer and Simona Sulikova)

ABSTRACT

At the centenary of Pigou's "The Economics of Welfare", the theoretical case for effective and equitable environmental taxes is stronger than ever, as global environmental problems become yet more severe. Yet environmental taxes remain distinctly unpopular with citizens, who are not convinced that they are environmentally effective. The talk will discuss new approaches to designing Pigouvian taxes so that they become more popular with European citizens, including lessons learned from policy responses to the pandemic. It will make the case for a more holistic approach to taxes on transport fuels and on meat, emphasizing tangible direct health benefits.