



Air Transport and the Environment

By Ben Daley

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Air Transport and the Environment provides an overview of the main issues relating to aviation environmental impacts. It explains the challenge facing policymakers in terms of sustainable development, focusing on the importance of balancing the industry's economic, social and environmental costs and benefits, both for people living now and for future generations. Individual chapters review the current scientific understanding of the main aviation environmental impacts: climate change, local air pollution and aircraft noise. Various responses to those issues are also considered, including a range of policy options based on regulatory, market-based and voluntary approaches. Key concepts such as environmental capacity, radiative forcing and carbon offsetting are explained. In addition, the book emphasises the main implications of aviation environmental issues for policymakers and for the management of the air transport industry. Debates about the environmental impacts of flying often generate strongly polarised reactions, yet this book adopts a constructive approach to the subject and attempts to present the environmental issues in a clear, straightforward manner. It aims to provide a policy-relevant synthesis of a wide range of perspectives rather than advocating one particular viewpoint. Yet the central purpose of this book is to bring the sustainable development challenge facing the air transport industry to the fore, and so to inform effective policy responses. Air transport plays a critical role in supporting economies and societies that are increasingly interconnected by globalisation; this book presents the view that the vital economic and social benefits of the air transport industry should not be lost - and in fact could be distributed far more widely and equitably - but that the environmental impacts of air transport nevertheless require urgent and effective management. Air Transport and the Environment has been written primarily for professionals in the air transport industry, policymakers and regulators. It is also intended for use by academic researchers, students and others who are interested in the complex relationship between air transport and the environment.

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Air Transport and the Environment By Ben Daley Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #4252069 in Books
- Published on: 2010-11-28
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.75" h x 6.75" w x 1.00" l, 1.45 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 274 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

'This is a thorough and very readable review of the environmental and social impacts of aviation, as both the industry and policymakers struggle to reconcile aviation growth with environmental limits. For those wanting a concise but detailed understanding of the issues and literature, this book is a very good place to start.' Paul Upham, University of Manchester, UK 'Given the highly charged debates surrounding aviation's environmental impacts, and their consequences for public policy, no publication currently available covers the issues adequately. Ben Daley's book more than fills this gap. In lucid and uncompromising terms, he spells out the impacts objectively and convincingly, with climate change, air quality, noise and sustainable development receiving extended treatment. This is thought provoking and challenging material that demands our attention.' David Gillingwater, Loughborough University, UK 'His explanations of each key area lay the groundwork for detailed discussions of the problems and policy options facing the industry and its regulators.' Dawna L. Rhoades, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, USA 'Ben Daley's book provides a comprehensive, readable, and balanced introduction to the complex field of aviation and the environment. It argues that swift and radical change will be needed to achieve sustainable development in the sector, for which trade-offs between environmental and economic concerns will have to be accepted. The book deserves to be widely read by policy-makers and all those interested in measurable progress on these matters.' Stefan Gossling, Linnaeus University, Sweden 'Sustainable development is a formidable challenge for aviation. Air Transport and the Environment presents the scope of this challenge within a scientifically-comprehensive, critical and thought-provoking analysis. By drawing together detail on pollution, noise and climate change whilst introducing the broader policy landscape, Daley is well placed to delve into arguably more contentious issues surrounding sustainable development. His final chapter questioning aviation's economic contribution, in light of the unequal benefits accrued, provides an insightful addition to this book and the wider debate.' Alice Bows, Sustainable Consumption Institute, University of Manchester, UK

About the Author

Dr Ben Daley is a Lecturer in Environmental Management at the Centre for Development, Environment and Policy, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. His work focuses on environmental change and environmental history, including studies of the environmental effects of the air transport industry. He has worked on several projects to investigate potential environmental improvements at airports resulting from revised air traffic management technologies and procedures, as well as from revised operational procedures. He also works on the relationship between air transport and climate change. The Centre for Development, Environment and Policy undertakes research and postgraduate teaching in the fields of applied economics, environment and biodiversity, and sustainability and development.

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