



RESOURCES
FOR THE FUTURE

Resources for the Future

ECONOMIC THINKING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ABOUT US

Resources for the Future (RFF) is an independent, nonpartisan organization that conducts rigorous economic research and analysis to help leaders make better decisions and craft smarter policies about natural resources and the environment.

For more than 60 years, RFF experts have been helping governments, organizations, businesses, and communities face complex environmental and natural resource challenges and better prepare for the future. RFF brings together respected economists and leading environmental researchers to develop smart solutions that balance the need for both economic growth and environmental stewardship.

How We Stand Apart

- Recognized as independent and nonpartisan
- Focused on the economics of environmental and natural resource policy
- Trusted by public, private, and nonprofit leaders
- Located in Washington, DC, only minutes away from the White House and Capitol Hill
- Committed to intellectual excellence and practical solutions
- Respected for providing nonproprietary, publicly available research



Our Core Values

With a focus on environmental economics, RFF is committed to utilizing research excellence and independent analysis to deliver practical solutions.

Our Experts

RFF brings together the largest collection in the world of PhD economists and other leading experts focused on environmental, natural resource, and energy issues. Former government officials often serve as visiting scholars at RFF to provide insight into the policy process.

Our Governance

RFF's Board of Directors includes industry and environmental leaders, as well as former state and federal policymakers and preeminent scholars.

Our Support

As a 501(c)(3) organization, RFF is supported by donors who understand the role that rigorous, objective research plays in formulating sound public policies.

OUR IMPACT

RFF experts are frequently called upon to testify before Congress on critical policy questions, interpret the changing regulatory landscape for industry leaders, and advise government agencies and organizations such as the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences. These relationships enable RFF to be a convener of thought leaders and a place of new ideas.

Joseph Stiglitz
2001 Nobel Laureate
in Economic Sciences;
University Professor,
Columbia University

“RFF is the most important think tank in the world on the issue of resources.”

Kathryn S. Fuller
Former President,
World Wildlife Fund;
Chair, Smithsonian
National Museum of
Natural History

“The future of conservation greatly depends upon getting the economics right. RFF is the go-to place for actionable economic insights.”

Kenneth Arrow
1972 Nobel Laureate
in Economic Sciences;
Professor Emeritus,
Stanford University

“RFF developed the techniques and did the empirical work that made it possible to put wilderness preservation on an equal footing with economic development.”

Preston Chiaro
Group Executive,
Technology and
Innovation, Rio Tinto

“I have always seen RFF as a shining example of the best in policy research.”

William K. Reilly
Former Administrator,
US Environmental
Protection Agency

“Using marketable discharge permits to control acid rain, an approach long-championed by RFF, is saving US consumers billions of dollars each year.”





extreme events oceans and coasts
regulation invasive species
alternative fuels biodiversity
outdoor recreation natural gas
forestry energy
sustainable development
energy efficiency air quality
renewable energy
water risk analysis
climate change resilience
natural disasters shale gas
space debris ecosystem services
resource scarcity electricity
vehicle pollution fuel taxes
biomass
regulatory costs endangered species
oil and gas transportation
parks and wilderness
Clean Air Act emissions pricing

OUR WORK

RFF experts are dedicated to bringing the best possible analysis to bear on the world's natural resource and environmental challenges. Since 1952, they have provided leaders with the tools to improve the way policy decisions are made, strengthening both the environment and the economy. Specifically, RFF experts are best known for the following work:

- developing ways to cost-effectively reduce carbon emissions and enhance US energy security;
- evaluating the social and economic benefits of investments in conservation;
- analyzing the risks and benefits associated with the increased production and use of natural gas;
- examining how the management of today's environmental risks will affect future generations;
- identifying ways to adapt to the consequences of a changing climate;
- weighing trade-offs to address resource scarcity;
- investigating the cost-effectiveness of environmental regulations; and
- building frameworks for valuing intangibles, such as clean air and water.

RFF experts also examine issues that reach beyond the United States, from coal power plants in India to forest conservation in Mexico and shale gas development in China, as well as international agreements on climate goals.





Founded in 1952, RFF pioneered the field of environmental and natural resource economics.

Today, RFF helps decisionmakers strengthen both the environment and the economy.



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