Bio

Chikara Onda is a PhD candidate in the Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources (E-IPER). His research focuses on the distributional impacts of climate and energy policies, with a focus on jobs and worker mobility. In his dissertation work, he looks at how factors such as industry-specific experience and education level might drive how readily workers can move across industries after being laid off and the wage cuts they might face in their new jobs. Using this insight, he builds a climate policy model linked to a microeconometrically estimated model of labor choice to simulate the impact of carbon pricing on labor and how this impact might differ across income groups. This model can be used to consider different policy designs, with an eye towards mitigating any negative impacts on low-income households.

Chikara worked for the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in 2016, where he worked on the U.S. Mid-Century Strategy for Deep Decarbonization, a long-term planning document submitted to the UNFCCC pursuant to the Paris Accord. Chikara has also worked at the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Chikara was raised in Texas and France. He holds an MPA in Economics and Public Policy from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, and a BA in Economics and Environmental Science from Columbia University.

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS
Chikara studies the distributional impacts of climate and energy policies. His current research builds a climate policy model linked to a microeconometrically estimated labor choice model to simulate the impact of carbon pricing on labor and how this impact might differ across income groups. This model can be used to consider different policy designs, with an eye towards mitigating any negative impacts on low-income households.

Publications

PUBLICATIONS
• DISTRIBUTIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF A NATIONAL CO2 TAX IN THE U.S. ACROSS INCOME CLASSES AND REGIONS: A MULTI-MODEL OVERVIEW CLIMATE CHANGE ECONOMICS
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