Policies to deliver sustainable aviation fuel

It will take many complementary steps to drive change in aviation and increase the production and widespread use of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) globally. These include both government policies and partnerships between industry and governments aimed at stimulating supply and demand.

The main policies needed are:

- SAF mandates to create demand, such as the European Union’s proposed ReFuelEU Aviation SAF blending mandate;
- Price stability mechanisms, such as tax credits and contracts for difference to incentivise investment, for example the Blenders Tax Credit in the USA that can reduce the cost difference between SAF and conventional jet fuel and help to scale up production;
- Loan guarantees and grants to stimulate finance and capital support;
- A rising carbon price to bridge the cost difference between SAF and conventional jet fuel; and
- Support for flexibility in the choice of feedstock in the early stages to allow technologies to ramp up and to encourage early development of SAF.

Partnerships, including public-private partnerships such as the UK Jet Zero Council, and industry coalitions such as the World Economic Forum’s Clean Skies for Tomorrow Coalition, are essential to help develop these policies and to create commitments to use SAF.

Read about Shell’s calls for more action on aviation emissions.

Read all our climate and energy transition policy positions
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