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*Monetary compensations in climate policy  
through the lens of a general equilibrium assessment  
The case of oil-exporting countries*

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**ABSTRACT**

This paper investigates the compensations that major oil producers have claimed for since the Kyoto Protocol in order to alleviate the adverse impacts of climate policy on their economies. The amount of these adverse impacts is assessed through a general equilibrium model which endogenizes both the reduction of oil exportation revenues under international climate policy and the macroeconomic effect of carbon pricing on Middle-East's economy. We show that compensating the drop of exportation revenues does not offset GDP and welfare losses because of the time profile of the general equilibrium effects. When considering instead compensation based on GDP losses, the effectiveness of monetary transfers proves to be drastically limited by general equilibrium effects in opened economies. The main channels of this efficiency gap are investigated and its magnitude proves to be conditional upon strategic and policy choices of the Middle-East. This leads us to suggest that other means than direct monetary compensating transfers should be discussed to engage the Middle-East in climate policies.

Keywords: monetary transfers; oil exporters; climate policy

JEL classification: C68, Q32, Q54

***Monetary compensations in climate policy  
through the lens of a general equilibrium assessment:  
The case of oil-exporting countries***

The compensation of developing countries for the adverse impacts of climate change and climate policies is one of the constant stumbling blocks of international climate negotiations. These adverse impacts encompass three distinct issues: climate change damages, higher energy prices affecting households' purchase power and firms' production costs and the reduction of exportation revenues in fossil fuel producing economies. Historically, it is under pressure of Middle-East countries and the Organization of the Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) that these concerns have been officially acknowledged at different stages of international negotiations, since article 4.8 of the UNFCCC<sup>1</sup> and article 3.14 of the Kyoto protocol<sup>2</sup> (Barnett and Dessai, 2002) until, more recently, Article 1 of the 2009 Copenhagen Agreement<sup>3</sup>.

This repetition is the sign that no tangible progress could be made about this sticking point of climate negotiations in the past decades. This impasse has obvious political roots, i.e. the reluctance of developed countries to grant large transfers towards countries perceived as rent seekers, especially in a context of public budget constraint. But, beyond this political dimension, compensations based on monetary transfers raise questions about both their amount and their efficiency for sustaining economic activity in a general equilibrium vision. This paper tries and frames these two sides of the compensation problem.

The first question relates to the evaluation of climate policy losses in oil-exporting countries, which defines the compensations but remains a controversial topic in the literature. General equilibrium energy-economy models predict significant costs<sup>4</sup> whereas dynamic partial equilibrium models find moderate losses<sup>5</sup>. These opposite conclusions are related to the

assumptions underlying the two approaches. The former conventionally assumes optimized trajectories under perfect foresight and flexible technical and market adjustments, which comes down to overlooking the potential co-benefits of climate policies permitted by the correction of baseline sub-optimality. The latter do not consider the feedback effects of the oil sector on macroeconomic indicators and hence do not account for the reduction of world oil demand under climate policy, a potentially major adverse impact on oil-exporting economies. One ambition of this paper is thus to provide a comprehensive assessment of the cost of climate policy in oil-exporting countries through a combination of these two approaches, i.e. in a hybrid top-down/bottom-up framework (Hourcade et al, 2006).

The second question relates to the effect of monetary transfers on economic activity and welfare in the recipient country, which has been investigated in a large body of literature on the empirics of “development aid and growth”. A recent survey by (Doucouliagos and Paldam, 2011) shows however that no univocal message can be derived from existing assessments. Some support the idea that development aid promotes growth,<sup>6</sup> whereas others find it growth-neutral<sup>7</sup> or even contributing to depress activity through indirect mechanisms undermining aid effectiveness (Rajan and Subramanian, 2005). Among these, (Rajan and Subramanian, 2011) typically demonstrate the role of real exchange rate overvaluation when trade effects and structural lock-ins are accounted for. This mechanism is a source of the ‘natural resource curse’ through its negative effect on local competitiveness and socio-economic development (e.g., Sachs and Warner, 2001; Frankel, 2010; Ross, 2012). It is a particularly important dimension for the evaluation of monetary compensations in Middle-East countries and it calls for endogenizing terms-of-trade adjustments..

We try and respond these two methodological challenges through a hybrid Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) energy-economy model that captures the limited flexibility of technical and economic adjustments under imperfect foresight, describes the domestic effects

of adjustments on the terms-of-trade and endogenizes long-run structural change in response to price signals and geopolitical strategies (Section 1). This model is used to estimate the socio-economic consequences of an international climate policy on oil markets and its adverse impacts on Middle-East countries in terms of exportation revenues and macroeconomic activity (Section 2). This assessment serves as a basis for estimating the monetary transfers Middle-East countries may claim for in a climate policy context under two options depending whether they compensate losses of oil revenue or of economic activity (Section 3). An analytical study demonstrates that general equilibrium effects in a second-best setting create the risk of an efficiency gap, i.e. that the *ex-post* benefit of transfers is lower than predicted with an *ex-ante* calculation, and isolates its crucial determinants (Section 4). Finally, numerical assessments confirm the relatively poor efficiency of monetary transfers to actually sustain economic activity in Middle-East economies (Section 5). Section 6 concludes on the implications of this analysis for international negotiations and, in particular, on the trap of reducing the compensation problem in climate negotiations to a question of monetary transfers.

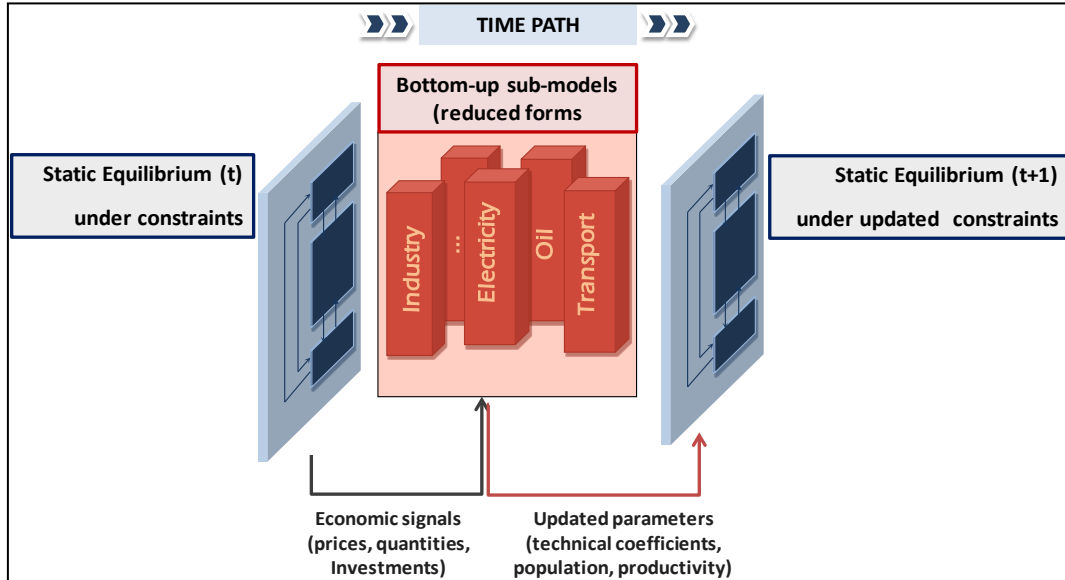
## **1. Modelling long-term oil markets in a globalized economy**

This paper adopts the IMACLIM-R model, which has been developed for the analysis of energy and climate issues at a long-term horizon, and this section summarizes its specificities that are of particular importance for the topics of this paper.<sup>8</sup>

### **1.1 General structure of the IMACLIM-R model**

IMACLIM-R is a recursive CGE model of the world economy, which endogenizes the interplay between the dynamics of oil markets and the macroeconomy over the 2001-2050 period through the recursive succession of annual static equilibria and dynamic modules (Figure 1).

Figure 1: The recursive and modular structure of the IMACLIM-R model



The *static equilibrium* represents short-run macroeconomic interactions at each date  $t$  under technology and capacity constraints. It is calculated assuming Leontief production functions with fixed intermediate consumption, labour inputs and mark-up in non-energy sectors<sup>9</sup>. Households maximize their utility through a tradeoff between consumption goods, mobility services and residential energy uses considering fixed end-use equipment. Market clearing conditions lead to a partial utilization of production capacities, given the fixed mark-up pricing and the stickiness of labour markets. This equilibrium provides a snapshot of the economy at date  $t$  in terms of relative prices, wages, employment, production levels and trade flows.

The *dynamic modules* are reduced forms of bottom-up models, which describe the evolution of structural and technical parameters between  $t$  and  $t+1$  in response to past and current economic signals. At each year, regional capital accumulation is given by firms' investment, households' savings, and international capital flows. On that basis, the across-sector distribution of investments is governed by expectations on sector profitability and technical conditions as described in sector-specific reduced forms of technology-rich models (referred to as Nexus modules and described in details in the Supplementary Material of (Waisman et

al, 2012)). The Nexus modules represent the evolution of technical coefficients resulting from agents' microeconomic decisions on technological choices, given the limits imposed by the innovation possibility frontier including *a*) sector-based information of economies of scale, learning-by-doing mechanisms and saturation in efficiency progress, and *b*) expert views about the asymptotes on ultimate technical potentials, the impact of incentive systems, and the role of market or institutional imperfections. The new investment choices and technical coefficients are then sent back to the static module in the form of updated production capacities and input-output coefficients to calculate the  $t+1$  equilibrium.

This structure comes to adopt a standard putty-clay representation with fixed technical content of installed capital, which allows distinguishing between short-term rigidities and long-term flexibilities (Johansen, 1959).<sup>10</sup> The consistency of the iteration between the static equilibrium and dynamic modules relies on 'hybrid matrices', which ensure an explicit representation of the material and technical content of production processes through a description of the economy in consistent money values and physical quantities (Sands et al., 2005). In this multisectoral framework with partial use of production factors, market imperfections and adaptive expectations, growth patterns may endogenously depart from the natural rate given by exogenous assumptions on active population and labour productivity (Phelps, 1961).

## **1.2 Description of oil markets**

The description of oil supply in the IMACLIM-R model captures three crucial determinants of oil exploitation at different time horizons (Rehrl and Friedrich, 2006):

- heterogeneous (conventional and non-conventional) oil reserves distinguished by their exploitation cost, expressed in dollars per barrel (\$/bbl);



- geological constraints limiting the short-term adaptability of oil supply and its long-term availability;
- the market power of Middle-East countries and their ability to influence world oil prices through their production decisions.<sup>11</sup>

In addition, macroeconomic interplays in IMACLIM-R include lessons from econometric studies on the macroeconomic effects of the first oil shock (Hamilton, 2008). We incorporate five model specifications that have been proven as necessary to reproduce the observed magnitudes of macroeconomic effects consecutive to oil price variations:

- *mark-up pricing* to capture market imperfections (Rotemberg and Woodford, 1996);
- *partial utilization rate of capital* due to limits in the substitution between capital and energy (Finn, 2000);
- *a putty-clay description of technologies* to represent the inertias of capital stock (Atkeson and Kehoe, 1999);
- *frictions in the reallocation of capital across heterogeneous sectors* causing differentiated levels of idle production capacities (Bresnahan and Ramey, 1993);
- *frictions in the reallocation of labor across heterogeneous sectors* causing differentiated levels of unemployment (Davis and Haltiwanger, 2001).

The empirical evidence behind these two groups of model specifications and the implementation of these principles into the IMACLIM-R are more extensively discussed in (Waisman et al, 2012b).

### **1.3 Specifications for international trade**

In IMACLIM-R, all intermediate and final goods are internationally tradable and total demand for each good is satisfied by a mix of domestic production and imports. Energy flows are

represented in physical quantities whereas all other goods are described with Armington specifications to capture imperfect substitutability among goods produced in different regions (Armington, 1969). Domestic as well as international markets for all goods are cleared (i.e. no stock is allowed) by a unique set of endogenous relative prices (the ‘terms-of-trade’), which adjust to maintain the equilibrium of the balance of payments defined by the sum of trade flows and capital flows.

The endogenization of capital flows has hardly been operationalized in global-scale energy-economy models (a notable exception being (McKibbin et al., 1999)) because of a lack of shared empirical evidence<sup>12</sup> and unresolved controversies in the economic literature about capital mobility<sup>13</sup>. This is why we resort to exogenous assumptions on the dynamics of capital flows, defined by the net balance between capital exports and imports, including the return to foreign direct investments. Base year imbalances on capital flows are explicitly represented through the calibration of capital imports/exports observed in 2001 and their dynamics is governed by an exponential decrease representing a progressive correction of international capital imbalances by 2050.

#### **1.4 The climate policy in IMACLIM-R**

A climate policy in the IMACLIM-R model is defined by an exogenous carbon emission profile which defines, at each date, the maximum level of carbon emissions from the production and use of fossil energies (coal, oil and gas) in final goods and in transformation processes. When this maximum is binding (i.e., allowed emissions are lower than in the baseline), a carbon price is introduced: at each date, its level is endogenously calculated so that the increase in the cost of fossil energies triggers a decrease of their use consistent with the climate constraint. Associated revenues are collected by the government which then reallocates them to households and/or firms through transfers. When considering international climate regimes,

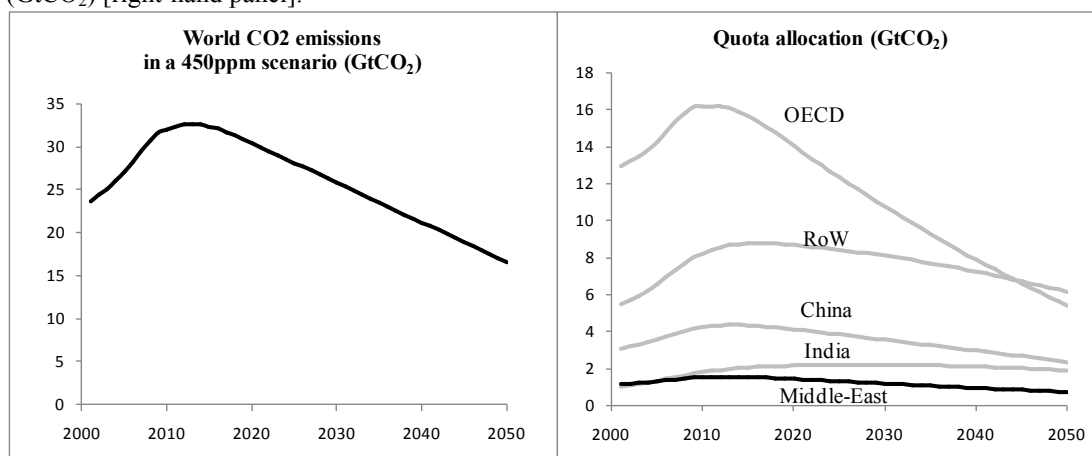
international permit market can be modeled by defining regional allocations and introducing transfers according to the difference between these and real emissions.

## 2. Oil markets and the costs of climate policy

In this section, we consider the ‘ideal’ case of a world agreement on a Kyoto-type climate architecture with full participation, including the free compliance of Middle-East countries<sup>14</sup>. Although this assumption may seem unrealistic, this scenario defines a useful benchmark to assess the adverse impacts of a climate policy on major oil producers.

For the sake of comparability of the results, we consider a unique climate objective throughout the paper, defined by a stabilization of CO<sub>2</sub> atmospheric concentration at 450 ppm (parts per million). This target limits the temperature increase to +3°C, which seems more realistic than the +2°C objective conventionally put forward in climate negotiations, and comes down to imposing a peak of world CO<sub>2</sub> emissions between 2010 and 2020 and a decrease by 30% in 2050 with respect to 2000 levels (Barker et al., 2007, Table TS2) (Figure 2a). For the sake of simplicity, emission allowances defining the regional distribution of mitigation efforts are decided according to a “Contraction and Convergence” principle in all scenarios (Figure 2b)<sup>15</sup>

Figure 2. (a) World CO<sub>2</sub> emissions under climate policy (GtCO<sub>2</sub>) [left-hand panel]; (b) Regional quota allocation (GtCO<sub>2</sub>) [right-hand panel].



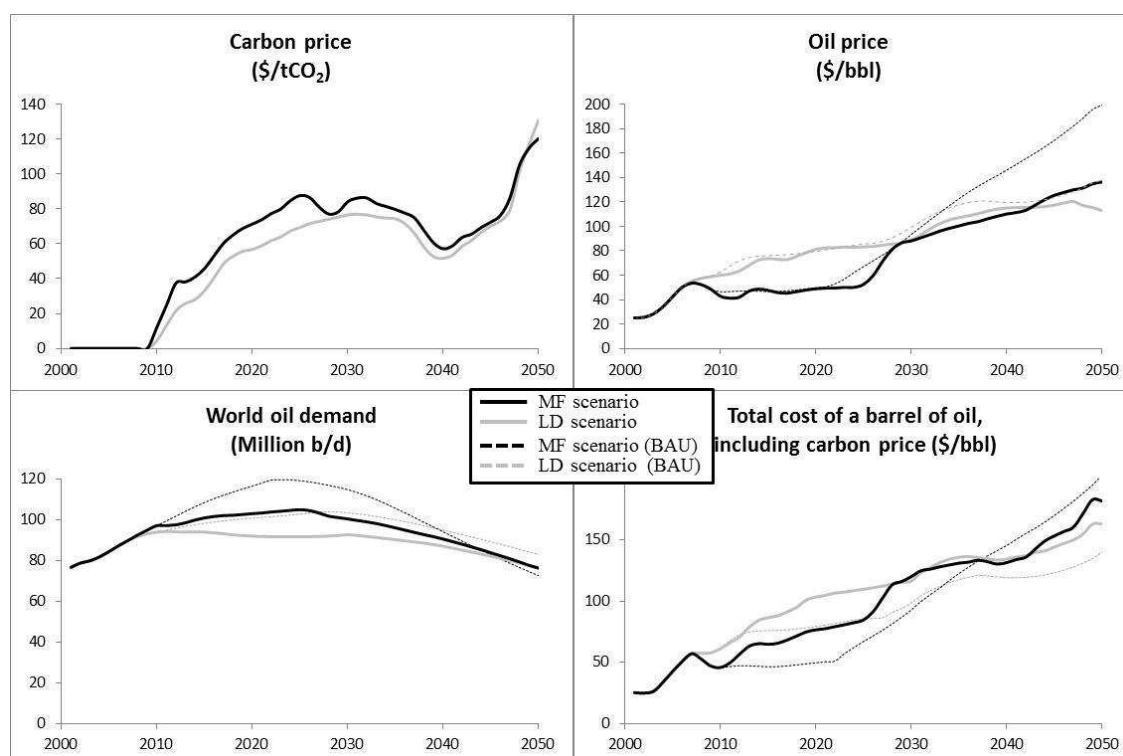
For the sake of simplicity, we assume common assumptions on all the technical and behavioral determinants of energy-economy trajectories, but sensitivity of model outcomes to these assumptions are studied in other specific papers<sup>16</sup>. The only variant concerns oil price trajectories, about which the literature on the strategic response of OPEC to various profiles of carbon prices often concludes that major oil producers would adopt a limited deployment of production capacities (IPCC, 2001, section 8.3.2.3). The rationale behind such behavior is to cut back production to trigger price increases and hence maintain revenues despite the drop of oil consumption (e.g., Berg and al., 1997b). However, low short-term oil prices may also have some advantages in a climate policy context by simultaneously accelerating short-term oil consumption and limiting the incentive for oil-free technical change to sustain long-term oil demand. This is why we consider two oil pricing trajectories mimicking alternative reactions of Middle-East producers:

- *The Limited Deployment scenario (LD)*: Middle-East producers refrain from investing in new capacity and maintain the medium term oil price around  $p_{high}=90\$/bbl$ . This scenario follows the standard conclusion of high prices permitting to extract oil rents as soon as possible before the climate policy reduces significantly oil demand.
- *The Market Flooding scenario (MF)*: Middle-East producers expand their production capacities and bring the oil price back to its pre-2004 level,  $p_{low} = 50\$/bbl$ . This strategy is an example of the “green paradox”, according to which the introduction of a climate policy is an incentive for oil producers to accelerate the extraction of resources (Sinn, 2008)

## 2.1 Carbon pricing and oil markets under climate policy

The carbon price follows a similar trajectory under the two oil pricing strategies, with three distinct periods (Figure 3a).

Figure 3. (a) Carbon price (\$/tCO<sub>2</sub>) [upper-left panel]; (b) Oil price (\$/bbl) [upper-right panel]; (c) World Oil demand (Million b/d) [lower left panel]; (d) Total cost of a barrel of oil, including carbon costs (\$/bbl) [lower-left panel]



During the first years of the climate policy (2010-2025), Middle-East producers have enough leeway on the deployment of their production capacities to control oil prices, which are therefore almost unaffected by the climate policy (Figure 3b). High carbon prices are necessary to ensure a steady increase of the cost of oil for final users (Figure 3d) in turn triggering the decrease of oil consumption necessary to comply with the reduction of carbon emissions (Figure 3c). Under the MF scenario, the increase of carbon prices is sensibly steeper (89\$/tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2025 vs. 70\$/tCO<sub>2</sub> under the LD scenario), but total oil demand remains more important (105 Million b/d at the maximum vs. 97 Million b/d in the LD scenario) because of lower total cost of a barrel.

Between 2025 and 2040, carbon prices stagnate and even decline in both scenarios but remain above 50\$/tCO<sub>2</sub> (Figure 3a). This level proves sufficient to tap most mitigation potentials in power, residential and industrial sectors, which represent the core of emissions reductions at that medium-term stage of the climate policy (Barker et al., 2007, Figure TS27). Oil demand declines continuously (Figure 3c), because the post Peak Oil rise of prices (Figure 3b) triggers a steady increase of end-use costs (Figure 3d). During this period, carbon prices remain lower under the LD scenario, because the economy benefits from accelerated carbon-free technical change triggered by a higher cost of fossil fuels in the previous period.

After 2040, the exhaustion of all cheap mitigation options forces a steep increase of carbon prices in both scenarios (from around 60 \$/tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2040 to 120\$/tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2050). This rise of carbon prices is necessary to tap the high-cost mitigation potentials in the transportation sector, which become important only above 100\$/tCO<sub>2</sub> (Barker et al., 2007, Figure TS27). Oil prices are lower than in the baseline scenario since carbon pricing accelerates fossil-free technical change and thus reduces the long-term oil dependency of the economy. This impact of carbon prices on oil prices is moderate in the LD scenario, while particularly important in the MF scenario (Figure 3b), which is very dependent on oil in the baseline.

Although the MF scenario confronts a depressing effect on oil prices and short-term oil rents, Middle-East countries may find a rationale for adopting this strategy in a climate policy context. In particular, maintaining low oil prices like in the MF scenario helps oil exporters to protect the oil share in energy markets under a climate policy, by redirecting the mitigation efforts towards a more intense reduction of coal. Indeed, in the MF scenario, consumer oil prices (including the carbon tax) are lower than in the LD scenario during almost all the period (Figure 3d), and world oil demand proves to be higher over the whole period 2010-2050, with a significant cumulative difference amounting to 94 Billion bbl (12.9 GToe). Table 1 shows a similar effect for gas (19% higher cumulated gas consumption in the MF scenario)

because of the indexation of gas prices on oil prices when they remain sufficiently low. Given the identical climate objectives forcing identical carbon emissions in total the higher oil and gas consumption under MF scenario must be offset by lower coal production (12% less cumulative production over 2010-2050). Although the numerical differences are moderate in terms of cumulated production, the next section will show that this will have significant impacts on exportation revenues over the period.

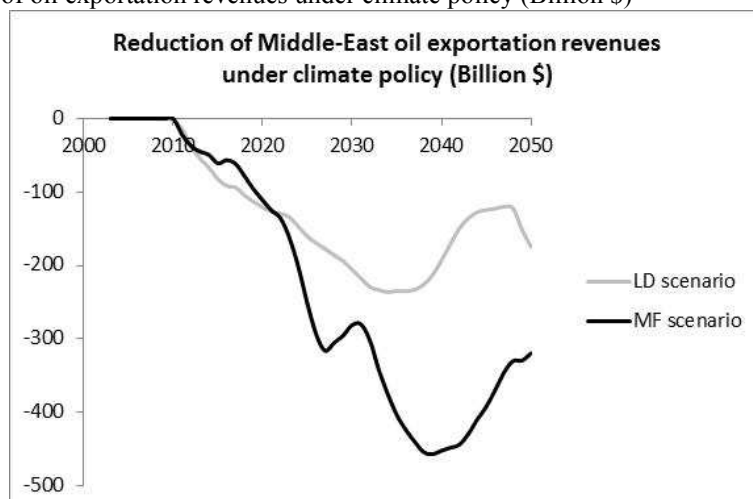
Table 1. Cumulated production of fossil fuels under climate policy over the period 2010-2050 (GToe)

	<b>Oil</b>	<b>Gas</b>	<b>Coal</b>
LD scenario	182.3	97	162.6
MF scenario	195.2	115.1	142.9
Relative difference (MF vs LD)	+ 7%	+ 19%	- 12 %

## **2.2 The climate policy and Middle-East countries' economy**

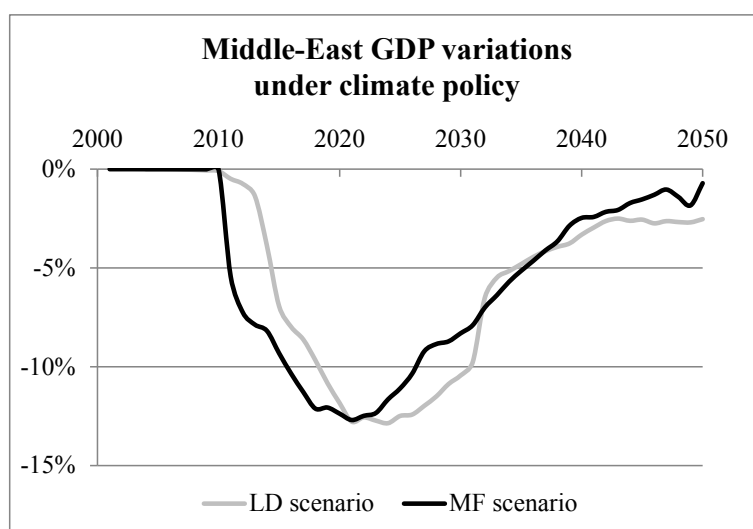
Unsurprisingly, whatever the oil pricing strategy, the introduction of a carbon price induces a significant drop of oil revenues in Middle-East countries (Figure 4). Note that this measure compares the level of revenues reached in the two different baselines with that under climate policy. This comes down to assuming that Middle-East's choice between MF and LD is less influenced by the climate policy than by the intrinsic time preference characterizing the trade-off between short- and long-term effects.<sup>17</sup>

Figure 4. Reduction of oil exportation revenues under climate policy (Billion \$)



In the short-term, as discussed in section 2.1, price levels are almost unaffected by the climate policy and the reduction of oil exportation revenues is due to the drop of oil demand. In the longer term, price effects enter into play and magnify the revenue losses, especially in the MF scenario where costs reach \$10 700 Billion over the whole period, or 26% of cumulated oil revenues,. This is because the climate policy delays Peak Oil and minors its consequences in terms of rising prices, hence strongly limiting the high long-term profits Middle-East countries receive in the baseline case. This effect is also at play under the Low Deployment scenario but with a lower magnitude so that cumulative losses are limited to \$6 000 Billion over 2010-2050, or 16% of total oil revenues.

Figure 5. GDP variations under climate policy.





Less intuitive is the somewhat different picture obtained by observing the macroeconomic losses in Middle-East countries (Figure 5).

Over the short-term (2010-2020), the contraction of economic activity reaches a very significant 12.5% losses, which corresponds to an average 1% reduction of growth rates over 2010-2020 (3.5% instead of 4.5%). This is due to the sharply upward-oriented carbon prices at this time horizon and to inertias on the renewal of technologies and end-use equipment which inhibit the capacity of producers and consumers to escape the increase of their energy bill. These effects cause significant increases of production costs and final prices undermining competitiveness of non-energy sectors and consumers' purchase power. Those effects combine to generate a drop in final demand, a contraction of production, higher unemployment and an additional weakening of households' purchase power. Although valid for any region, these mechanisms are particularly important in Middle-East countries because of the high fossil-intensity of production process driving high energy costs (especially when compared with labour costs), and of the high share of energy expenditures in households' budget.<sup>18</sup>

Over the long run, despite the permanent gap in oil revenues, macroeconomic activity experiences a recovery phase and GDP levels in 2050 are very close to baseline levels (only 1% and 3% losses under MF and LD scenarios, respectively). This means that a drop of oil revenues as experienced under a climate policy is not necessarily univocally penalizing for economic activity. This can be analysed as the end of the 'natural resource curse' (Sachs and Warner, 2001). In the present case of an exogenous assumption about the current account balance, lower oil exportation revenues imply a lower exchange rate of local currencies favoring the competitiveness of domestic industries. The climate policy then fosters local production at the expense of industrial goods importation and induces a faster industrialization in Middle-East countries which better prepares Middle-East's economies to

the post oil era. Long-run economic activity is less sensitive to oil revenues and those revenues fall into a more mature production structure apt to absorb them efficiently. This is critically illustrated by the MF scenario, in which almost the same GDP levels are reached in 2050 despite 25% lower oil revenues at that time horizon.

Figure 6. Surplus variations under climate policy

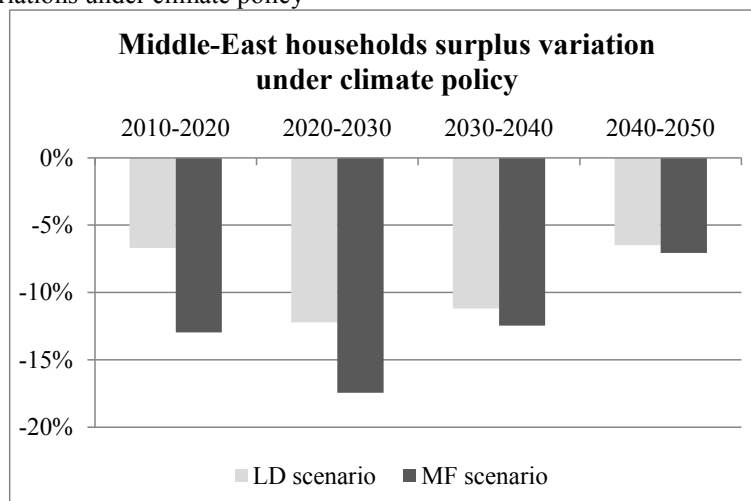


Figure 6 provides the corresponding variations of households' surplus  $\Delta S$  between baseline and policy scenarios, as defined by  $\Delta S = \Delta R - CVI$ , where  $\Delta R$  and  $CVI$  are the effective and compensative variation of income respectively. This indicator is commonly admitted as a better indicator than GDP in the context of important changes of the structure of prices because it accounts for the policy effects on households given their consumption preferences and constraints (see the survey on the decomposition of welfare effects in CGE models in (Gohin, 2005) and the applications to the context of climate change in (Bernard and Vielle, 2003))

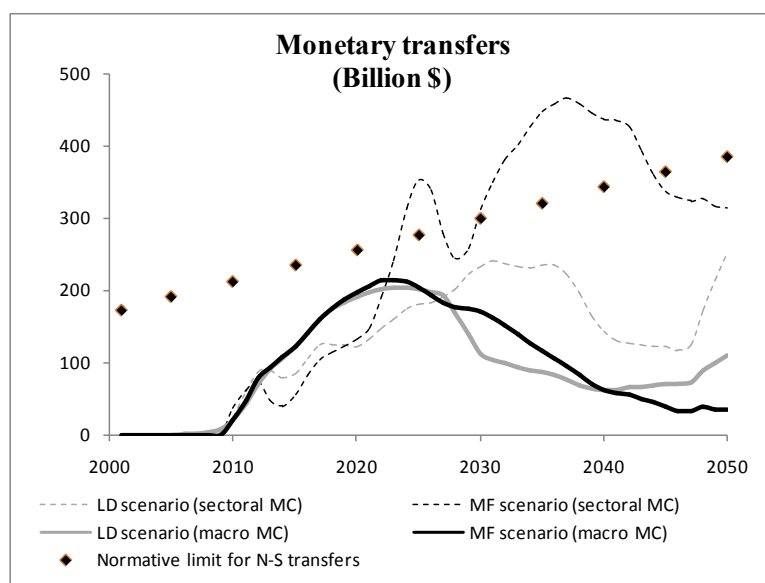
The general surplus trend is similar to GDP variations with important losses in the short-term and a long-term partial recovery. But, contrary to GDP trends, the magnitude of the effects is notably different in function of the pricing scenario. This is particularly true in the short-term where welfare losses are amplified under MF scenario (up to 18%). In this case indeed, the introduction of a carbon price has an important effect on end-use energy prices compared to a low baseline oil price. Therefore, it undermines more households' purchase power. At a

longer term horizon, the recovery of surplus levels proves to be less important than the recovery of GDP: surplus levels are still around 5% lower than in the baseline in 2050. Again, the inertias limiting the changes of consumption patterns hamper the reduction of oil-intensity for final demand. In particular, constrained mobility needs for daily travels (essentially, commuting and shopping) force the consumption of fossil fuels without increasing welfare levels.

### **3. Climate policy and Monetary Compensations (MC) for oil producers: framing the debate.**

The previous section has demonstrated that, although the costs of the climate policy are significantly reduced when considering economic activity instead of oil revenues, macroeconomic assessments still feature a risk of high costs in Middle-East economies, especially in the transitory period. This assessment confirms the intuition that the international community will have to think of complementary measures to limit the adverse impacts of climate policies to gain the compliance of major oil-exporting economies. We consider now the simplest of such measure, i.e. the implementation of Monetary Compensations (hereafter denoted as MC) for which two rationales can be envisaged. Their amount and time-profile can be calculated to compensate either the losses of oil exportation revenues (sectoral MC) or the drop of economic activity (macroeconomic MC) (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Monetary compensations



The first option compensates the drop of exportation revenues due to the climate policy (dotted lines in Figure 7). To appreciate whether such transfers could be acceptable, we compare them with total North-South transfers for development aid as a point of comparison to appraise their acceptability in contributing countries. Considering the orders of magnitude, it is sufficient to observe that, the transfers would be close or even exceed 0.7% of GDP that is set as the UN target for global development aid for Middle-East only (diamond points in Figure 7). This shows that the compensation of exportation losses is highly unlikely for political reasons all the more so as they remain relatively low in the short-term when the core of macroeconomic losses is experienced.

For these reasons, we exclude this type of compensations to consider instead that the transfers should compensate economic activity losses, measured by the reduction of Middle-East's GDP (solid lines in Figure 7). They still represent a relatively important amount (around 0.24% of OECD GDP on average over 2010-2050 in both scenarios), but they always remain well below the 0.7% benchmark. In IMACLIM-R, those transfers are taken from OECD

countries' state budget in proportion of each country's share in total OECD GDP, and are given to Middle-Eastern in the form of capital flows.

The next sections assess the efficiency of such forms of compensations in their purpose to sustain Middle-East economy. They do so by investigating, analytically in section 4 and quantitatively in section 5, the mechanisms at play and the consequences of their implementation when a general equilibrium perspective is adopted.

#### **4. The macroeconomy of monetary transfers. An analytical detour**

Under a partial equilibrium framework, the additional revenue coming from monetary compensations would directly translate into an identical increase of domestic economic activity. But, when general equilibrium interactions are taken into account, the impact of monetary compensations becomes less straightforward because of their feedback effect on the terms-of-trade, which causes adjustments on international markets affecting domestic production and labour markets.

This section proposes an analytical framework to isolate the general equilibrium effects of monetary transfers when these three dimensions of interaction are taken into account. The specifications used hereafter in equations (1), (2) and (3) are similar to the ones adopted in the IMACLIM-R for the representation of goods supply, labour markets and international trade (as described by equations (SM-7), (SM-10), (SM-19)-(SM-22) respectively in the Supplementary Material of (Waisman et al, 2012a)).

##### **4.1 Model specifications**

We consider an energy-exporting economy, which produces a composite good  $Q$  sold at price  $p$  and energy  $E$  sold at price  $p_E$ .

The composite good is produced with energy and labour as production factors. Unitary energy and labour requirements for production are defined by  $e$  and  $l$ , respectively, the wage rate is noted  $w$  and a mark-up rate  $\pi$  over production costs captures imperfect competition. The price level is then given by

$$p = e.p_E + w.l + \pi.p \quad (1)$$

Labour markets are described by a wage curve introducing an inverse relationship between the wage rate and unemployment.<sup>19</sup> This means that the real wage level is an increasing function of the number of employed workers  $L = lQ$ :

$$\frac{w}{p} = \bar{w}L^\alpha \quad (2)$$

Here,  $\bar{w}$  is a constant and  $\alpha > 0$  is the elasticity of the wage curve: the higher  $\alpha$ , the more flexible the labour markets.

Finally, the trade balance for the composite good is an increasing function of the price differential between local prices  $p$  and world price  $p_w$ : the higher the local production price (relatively to international levels), the more agents have incentives to rely on imported goods  $M$  and to reduce exportations  $X$ . For the sake of simplicity; we assume a simplified dependence between the trade balance  $p_w M - pX$  and relative prices  $\frac{p}{p_w}$ :

$$p_w M - pX = \bar{I} \left( \frac{p}{p_w} \right)^\beta \quad (3)$$

Here  $\bar{I}$  is a constant and  $\beta > 0$  is the elasticity of the trade balance to price differentials: the higher  $\beta$  the more the trade balance is sensitive to price variations.

Setting the world price as the *numéraire* ( $p_w=1$ ), the equilibrium of the balance of payments gives:

$$p_w M + K = pX + p_E X_E + T \quad (4)$$

Here,  $K$  measures (relative) capital exportations and  $T$  represents the transfers received for compensation of the adverse impacts of the climate policy.

## 4.2 Results and interpretation

Capital export  $K$  is exogenously set (see discussion in section 1.3), and is therefore independent from the level of monetary transfers. Given the small size of transfers with respect to total income in oil-consuming countries (around 0.24% of OECD), we make the additional assumption that energy demand is not altered and hence that energy variables  $p_E$  and  $X_E$  are not affected by the introduction of monetary transfers.

By noting  $p_0$  and  $Q_0$  the price and production levels in absence of monetary compensations, the Laspeyres index of economic activity, which measures GDP levels in quantity units after the introduction of monetary transfers, is defined by:

$$GDP = p_E X_E + p_0 Q \quad (5)$$

We introduce the “efficiency index of monetary transfers”,  $\eta_T$ , as the ratio of GDP variations due to monetary compensation over the amount of transfers:

$$\eta_T = \frac{GDP - GDP_0}{T} \quad (6)$$

A value  $\eta_T$  means that 1\$ in monetary compensation brings  $\eta_T$  \$ of economic activity. Cases where  $\eta_T > 1$  mean that monetary transfer have a more than proportional stimulating effect on economic activity, whereas on the contrary  $\eta_T < 1$  mean that general equilibrium interactions trigger a negative feedback effect limiting the stimulation of economic activity.

A direct calculation (see Appendix) gives

$$\eta_T \approx \frac{1-v}{v} \frac{\varepsilon}{\alpha\beta(1-u)} \quad (7)$$

Here, three parameters characterizing the domestic economy (in terms of production structures and exposure to international competition) prove to play a crucial role:

- $\varepsilon = \frac{p_E e}{w_0 l}$  the ratio of energy costs to labour costs in production processes
- $v = \frac{p_E X_E}{GDP_0}$  the dependence of the local economy on energy exportations.
- $u = \frac{K}{p_E X_E}$  the relative importance of capital exports to energy exports.

The effect of monetary transfers on ex-post economic activity is stronger, as captured by higher  $\eta_T$ , when (i) labor market rigidities are important (low  $\alpha$ ) and production processes are energy-intensive (high  $\varepsilon$ ). Under the assumption of equilibrated balance of payments, the transfers must be compensated by additional exports and hence a gain of competitiveness. Rigid labor markets mean that these adjustments do not affect significantly real wages and hence households' purchase power, but rather rely on international effects on terms-of-trade. This is even truer in economies where labor represents a moderate share of production costs so that the efforts towards more competitive production processes affects through non-labor inputs; (ii) domestic sectors are less exposed to international trade, as captured by less intense competition on industrial goods (low  $\beta$ ), less dependence on energy exportation revenues (low  $v$ ) and high capital exports (high  $u$ ). In this case indeed, monetary transfers play a minored role in the position of the local economy on international markets.

Table 2 provides numerical assessments of  $\eta_T$  when considering numerical values adopted in the IMACLIM-R model. Two general comments can be derived from this quantification. First, the efficiency of monetary transfers is far lower than one, which means that general equilibrium interactions under market imperfections (on labour markets, international trade and industrial production) limit the positive stimulus given by monetary transfers. Second, the



effect is stronger under the MF scenario, where exportation flows are relatively less important in economic activity than under the LD scenario.

Table 2. Numerical values coming from the IMACLIM-R model.

	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$u$	$\varepsilon$	$\nu$	$\eta_T$
LD scenario	0.55	7	$\ll 1^*$	0.46	0.42	<b>0.16</b>
MF scenario	0.55	7	$\ll 1^*$	0.46	0.32	<b>0.25</b>

\*given the assumption of gradual convergence of capital imbalances

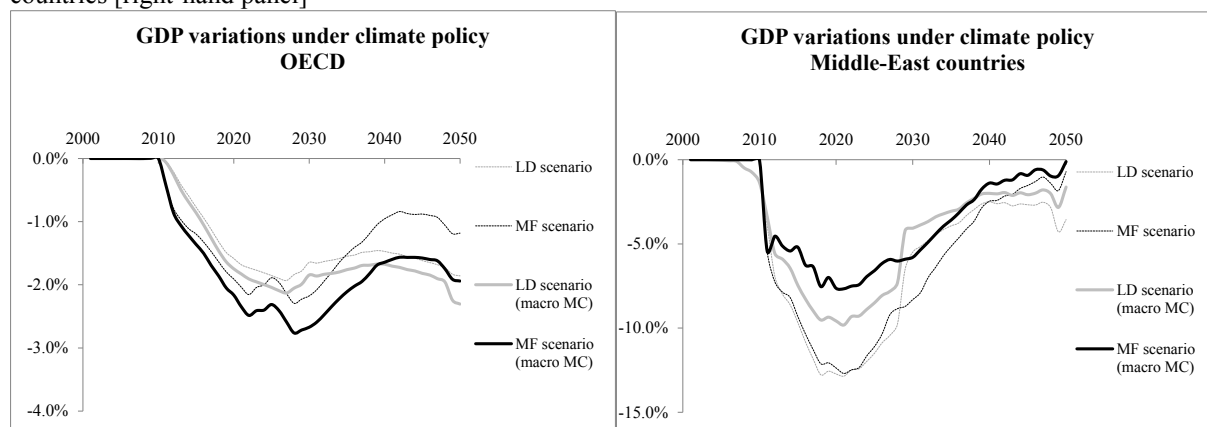
## 5. The macroeconomy of monetary transfers. A numerical assessment

The analytical study proposed in previous section has permitted to demonstrate that the nature of macroeconomic adjustments, and in particular of market imperfections, importantly affects the consequences of monetary transfers. However, this simplified approach is not sufficient to give a comprehensive overview because it ignores both the dynamic effects (including technical change and learning-by-doing effects) and the structural dimensions (in particular the evolution from energy-intensive to low-carbon industries). To quantify more precisely these effects, we provide here assessments of monetary transfers in the multisectoral and dynamic approach defined by the IMACLIM-R model.

The implementation of monetary transfers alters significantly GDP trajectories in both contributing countries (Figure 8a) and recipient countries (Figure 8b). On the one hand, the transfers unsurprisingly increase climate policy costs in OECD but the additional burden remains moderate. Long-term losses in 2050 range from 2% to 2.5% of GDP if transfers are implemented instead of 1% to 2% in absence of transfers (Figure 7a). On the other hand, the

monetary transfers help reducing the transitory costs induced in Middle-East countries down to 7.5% of GDP (in the MF scenario) or 9.5% (in the LD scenario) instead of 12.5% in the benchmark case (Figure 8b). This assessment confirms that, although the costs are reduced, the monetary transfers do not permit to offset completely the losses because their efficiency is limited by general equilibrium effects. This is confirmed by the quantitative estimates in the first column of Table 3 which feature positive, but significantly lower than one, values of the total efficiency index (0.21 and 0.63 in the LD and MF scenario, respectively).

Figure 8. Relative GDP variations under climate policy (a) in OECD [left-hand panel]; (b) in Middle-East countries [right-hand panel]



To identify the mechanisms behind these effects, we decompose the efficiency index according to domestic vs. trade activities (Table 3). More precisely, we define the domestic efficiency index  $\eta_T^{(d)}$  (resp. trade efficiency index  $\eta_T^{(t)}$ ) by the variations of domestic activity (resp. trade balances) consecutive to the introduction of monetary transfers

Table 3. “Efficiency index” of monetary transfers: ratio of variations due to monetary compensation over the amount of transfers

	$\eta_T$	$\eta_T^{(d)}$	$\eta_T^{(t)}$
LD scenario	0.21	0.91	-0.70
MF scenario	0.63	0.68	-0.05

Monetary transfers foster importantly local activity with a positive (and close to one) efficiency index (0.91 in the LD scenario and 0.68 in the MF scenario). But this positive effect on local economic activity happens at the expense of a degradation of the trade balance with a negative value of the trade index in both scenarios (-0.70 in the LD scenario and -0.05 in the MF scenario). This is due to a twofold trade effects. First, under the assumption of equilibrated balance of payments, additional national inflows in the form of transfers must be compensated by additional exports through terms-of-trade adjustments on industrial goods. Second, oil exports are reduced because of lower wealth in oil-importing countries which contribute to the transfers. This negative effect is particularly important in the LD scenario because of high short-run oil prices: they delay investments in industrial production capacity in Middle-East countries, hence further undermining its competitiveness over the long term, and they induce oil-free technical change in oil-importing countries, hence increasing the oil price elasticity of OECD consumption and encouraging a drop of oil imports when their revenue is reduced by the transfers. Those numerical results confirm that in a context of limited flexibility of technical and economic adjustments and international trade interactions, monetary transfers might not prove as efficient as expected.

## **6. Conclusion**

This paper discusses the question of compensation for the adverse impacts of a climate policy in a ‘thought’ experiment considering monetary transfers schemes and taking Middle-East countries as an example. This exercise helps pointing out mechanisms and orders of magnitude to identify the potentials and intrinsic limits of such approaches of compensation problems. Its major insight is about the impasses of a diplomatic language basing these compensations on observable indicators (here the oil exports) and ignoring the magnitude of the efficiency gap caused by general equilibrium effects.

In a general equilibrium model representing the interactions between oil markets and the macroeconomy, we first show a time-lag between losses of oil exports and of macroeconomic activity measured in GDP. Oil export losses remain moderate in the short term, especially under a ‘low deployment strategy’ of oil production, while the GDP losses can be very high because Middle-East countries cannot quickly adjust to very high increase of their (currently very low) domestic energy prices. This mismatch explains why compensating transfers based on oil revenue losses cannot solve the transition problem.

But, even fine-tuning compensations according to GDP losses proves to compensate only partly the economic slowdown due to a carbon constraint because of general equilibrium feedbacks which undermine the macroeconomic efficiency of monetary transfers. This ‘efficiency gap’ of transfers results in particular from the dependence of the domestic output to oil exportation revenues, the sensitivity of non energy sectors to price competition and the labour market rigidities which restrict the adaptive capacity of economies to changing conditions.

In addition to this intrinsic limit to the effectiveness of transfers, our results show that the magnitude of the GDP losses to be compensated cannot rely on observable parameters since the magnitude of the efficiency gap of transfers is determined by the strategic choices of the Middle-East and also by the capacity of domestic policies to block Dutch disease mechanisms.

These results show, beyond the specific case of oil exporters, the trap of reducing the compensation problem in climate negotiations to a question of monetary transfers. Other options are to be envisaged like technological transfers (Barrett, 2001, 2003) or innovative devices in climate finance (Hourcade et al. 2012) to ease the structural transition towards low carbon development paths and, in the case of Middle-East countries, towards the “beyond oil” era.

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## ENDNOTES

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<sup>1</sup> It commits parties to give: “full consideration to [...] to the specific needs and concerns of developing country parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change and/or the impact of the implementation of response measures, especially on [...] countries whose economies are highly dependent on income generated from the production, processing and export of fossil fuels and associated energy-intensive products”.

<sup>2</sup> It requires developed countries to implement their Kyoto commitments “in such a way so as to minimize adverse social, environmental and economic impacts on developing country parties”, particularly those identified in Articles 4.8 and 4.9 of the Convention.

<sup>3</sup>, which recognizes “the potential impacts of response measures on countries particularly vulnerable to its adverse effects”.

<sup>4</sup> In a survey of modeling exercises, (Barnett et al., 2004) estimate that the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol would reduce oil exportation revenues by 9.8% to 13%, and decrease real income by up to 3% in 2010. At a longer term horizon, (Van Vuuren et al., 2003) estimate that a 550ppm target would induce a 35% decrease of oil revenues in OPEC countries in 2050 and (WBGU, 2003) obtains that the total abatement cost can reach approximately 2 per cent of GDP in Middle East at the same horizon.

<sup>5</sup> Some studies even obtain that a climate policy can be beneficial to the producers of conventional oil by affecting more the cost of their substitutes (unconventional oil, coal) (Persson et al., 2007) or by fostering an increase of conventional oil rents in OPEC if they can exert their market power (Johansson et al, 2009).

<sup>6</sup> See, among others, (Burnside & Dollar, 2000; Guillaumont and Chauvet, 2001; Collier and Dollar, 2002; Dalgaard et al, 2004; Minoiu and Reddy, 2010)

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<sup>7</sup> e.g., (Boone, 1996; Easterly et al., 2004; Easterly, 2005)

<sup>8</sup> The IMACLIM-R model has been used in several publications about oil markets (Rozenberg et al., 2010; Waisman et al, 2012b) and the comprehensive description of its analytical structure and numerical assumptions is given in (Waisman et al., 2012a)

<sup>9</sup> For an extensive discussion about production/cost functions in the energy field, see (Saunders, 2008)

<sup>10</sup> This iteration between the technical and production dimensions of the economy is a way to address the technical challenge to energy economists, raised by (Saunders, 2013), that is to “include *measured, flexible* cost/production functions [...] and use *measured* technology gains for *all* factors of production”.

<sup>11</sup> The persistence of this market power under climate policy is conditional upon the ability of OPEC countries to elaborate coordinated strategies despite intra-cartel tensions caused by the lowering of oil revenues. In line with (Berg et al, 1997a) who show that gains from cartelization are hardly impacted by global carbon taxes, we admit that the climate policy will not affect the cartel discipline.

<sup>12</sup> For example, in a historical study of capital flows over the long term (1865-1992), (Hogendorn, 1998) demonstrates that no simple rule emerges for capital flows dynamics, given the fluctuations of capital mobility over time in parallel with different phases of international monetary and financial governance: high capital mobility during the gold standard period (1880-1913), almost closed economies during the Interwar and Bretton Woods periods (1914-1969) and increasing mobility in the modern period (1970-1992).

<sup>13</sup> The issue of capital mobility has given rise to a large controversy since the econometric study by (Feldstein and Horioka, 1980), who demonstrated low capital mobility over 1960-1974, in contradiction with widely shared ideas. This ‘puzzle’ was the starting point of a large body of literature trying to identify the major drivers of capital flows, but which has failed to reach consensual answers (see (Apergis and Tsoumas, 2009) for a survey).

<sup>14</sup> We do not consider the case where Middle-East countries withdraw from the climate policy, since this would make the debate on monetary compensations, at the core of the present study, irrelevant.

<sup>15</sup> (Luderer et al, 2012) analyses the effect of alternative regional distribution of emission allowances on climate policy costs.

<sup>16</sup> eg, (Waisman et al, 2012a) on the role of technical, resource and behavioral assumptions; (Tavoni et al, 2012) on the sensitivity to the availability of certain technologies (Nuclear, CCS, renewable); or (Guivarch et al, 2011) on the role of labor market rigidities.

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<sup>17</sup> (Waisman et al, 2012b) obtains for example that, in absence of climate policy, Middle-East producers would prefer the MF scenario only if their discount rate is lower than 6%.

<sup>18</sup> Note that this effect is measured under the assumption that Middle-East governments maintain the current levels of energy subsidies but do not seek to increase it to offset the increase of fuel prices due to the climate policy because it would involve a non-affordable amount for public spending

<sup>19</sup> Microeconomic evidence for such formulation was given in a seminal contribution by (Blanchflower and Oswald 1995) and extensive theories have been developed to support such representation of the labour market (see (Layard et al., 2005) for an overview). The basic idea is that high unemployment represents an outside threat that leads workers to accept lower wages as from either the bargaining approach (Layard and Nickell, 1986) or the wage-efficiency approach (Shapiro and Stiglitz, 1984).

## **Appendix: analytical resolution of model in Section 4**

To simplify notations, we introduce:

- $x = \frac{T}{p_E X_E}$  the ratio of monetary transfers over total energy exportation revenues, which

measures the magnitude of monetary transfers.

- $v = \frac{p_E X_E}{GDP_0}$  the dependence of the local economy on energy exportations.
- $u = \frac{K}{p_E X_E}$  the relative importance of capital exports to energy exports.
- $\varepsilon = \frac{p_E e}{w_0 l}$  the ratio of energy costs to labour costs in production processes.

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Combining (5) and (6), we have:

$$\eta_T = \frac{1}{x} \left( \frac{1-v}{v} \right) \left[ \frac{Q}{Q_0} - 1 \right] \quad (\text{A-1})$$

By introducing  $w_0$  the wage rate in absence of transfers ( $T=0$ ), a direct calculation with (1)-(4) gives

$$\left( \frac{Q}{Q_0} \right)^\alpha = 1 + \varepsilon \left[ 1 - \left( 1 + \frac{x}{1-u} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\beta}} \right] \quad (\text{A-2})$$

By reporting (A-2) into (A-1), we obtain:

$$\eta_T = \frac{1}{x.v} (1-v) \left[ \left[ 1 + \varepsilon \left[ 1 - \left( 1 + x \frac{1}{1-u} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\beta}} \right] \right]^\alpha - 1 \right] \quad (\text{A-3})$$

Under the assumption that, for large energy exporters the transfers are small compared to total exportation revenues ( $x \ll 1$ ), equation (A-3) can be simplified in:

$$\eta_T \approx \frac{1-v}{v} \frac{\varepsilon}{\alpha \beta (1-u)} \quad (\text{A-4})$$