

Air Flight CO_2 Emissions associated to IETF meetings

Hot RFC Lightning Talks 2022-03-20

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Can the IETF continue with business as usual ?

- In-person IETF meetings involve ≈ 1000 international air flights
- Science urges us to reduce our CO_2 emissions
 - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) has partially been published
 - UN Secretary-General António Guterres called it a "**code red for humanity**" *
 - The Guardian described it as "starkest warning yet" of "major inevitable and irreversible climate changes"*

What should we do ? / What can we do ?

We started asking ourselves some sub-questions:

- How the IPCC recommendations would impact the IETF ?
- What is the amount of CO_2 emitted by an IETFer ?
- How following the trend for a sustainable aviation would impact the IETF ?
- How can the IETF being operated in a sustainable way ?

Material:

- Code, publication, data are available here: <https://mglt.github.io/co2eq/>
- Presented in the IAB [Analyzing IETF Data](#) (AID) Workshop.

We will present our analysis in [shmoo](#) on Thursday March 24 14:30-16:30



Initial results suggest that the costs of holding multiple in-person IETF meetings per year are likely unsustainable, although the analysis is ongoing. [[AID report](#)]

Our conclusions remain the same:

- Holding 3 in-person meetings a year is unsustainable:
 - Whatever path we take, we suggest no more than one meeting a year
- Sustainability goes beyond CO_2 emissions
 - We recommend IETF adheres to sustainability programs

See you in shmoo Thursday Afternoon session II 14:30-16:30 !

Thanks!