

Discover the **OECD**

TOGETHER WE CREATE BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES



Who **we are**

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for **better lives**.

Our goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. We draw on almost 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.

Together with governments, policy makers and citizens, we work on establishing international norms and finding evidence-based solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges. From improving economic performance and creating jobs to fostering strong education and fighting international tax evasion, we provide a unique forum and knowledge hub for data and analysis, exchange of experiences, best-practice sharing, and advice on public policies and global standard-setting.





How we work



Engage

We bring policy makers and policy shapers together – governments, parliaments, business and labour representatives, civil society and academia - to exchange ideas, share experiences and forge progress across a range of policy areas.

140 000+

policy makers and shapers visit the OECD annually

300+

thematic committees, expert and working groups underpin our work



Influence

We provide knowledge and advice to inform better policies. As one of the world's largest and most trusted sources of comparative socio-economic data and analysis, we help steer decision making.

500+

major reports and country surveys annually

5 billion+

datapoints annually



Set standards

We encourage countries and partners to do better by developing international agreements, guidelines and standards so that everyone plays by the same rules and co-operates to reach shared objectives.

450+

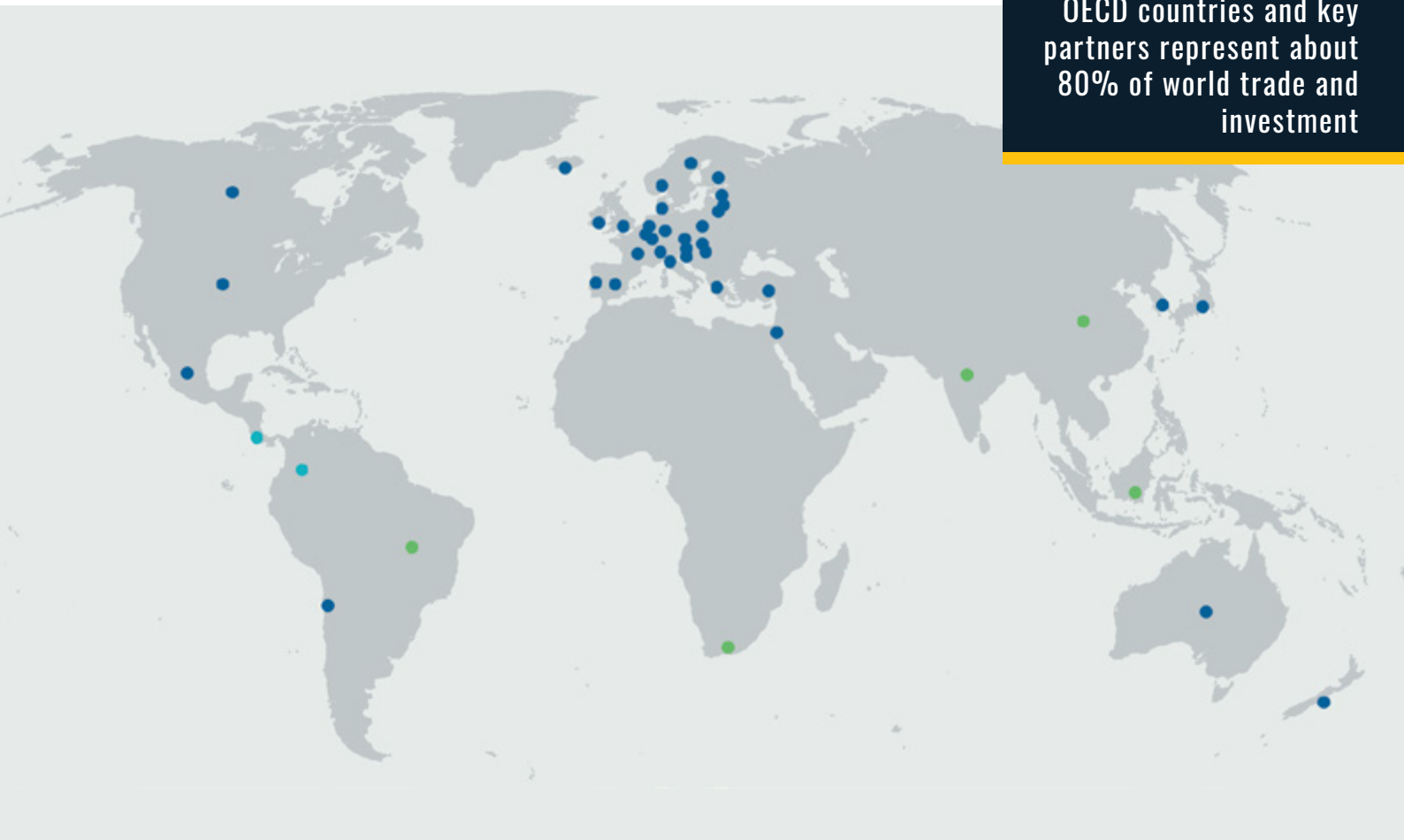
international standards over the past 58 years



Our global reach

The OECD brings together member countries and partners that collaborate closely on key global issues at national, regional and local level. Through our standards and initiatives, our work helps drive and anchor reform in more than 100 countries around the world, building on our collective wisdom and shared values.

OECD countries and key partners represent about 80% of world trade and investment



Member countries

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Canada
Chile
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia

Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel

Italy
Japan
South Korea
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Mexico
Netherlands

New Zealand
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden

Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States
European Union

OECD candidates

Colombia
Costa Rica

Key Partners

Brazil
China
India
Indonesia
South Africa

Regional initiatives

Africa
Eurasia
Latin America

Middle East and North Africa
Southeast Asia
South East Europe

Member countries

Today, our 36 Member countries span the globe. They are represented by ambassadors, who are part of the OECD Council that oversees and advises our work, as set out in the **OECD Convention**. The European Commission participates in our work, but it does not have the right to vote nor does it take official part in the adoption of standards submitted to the Council.

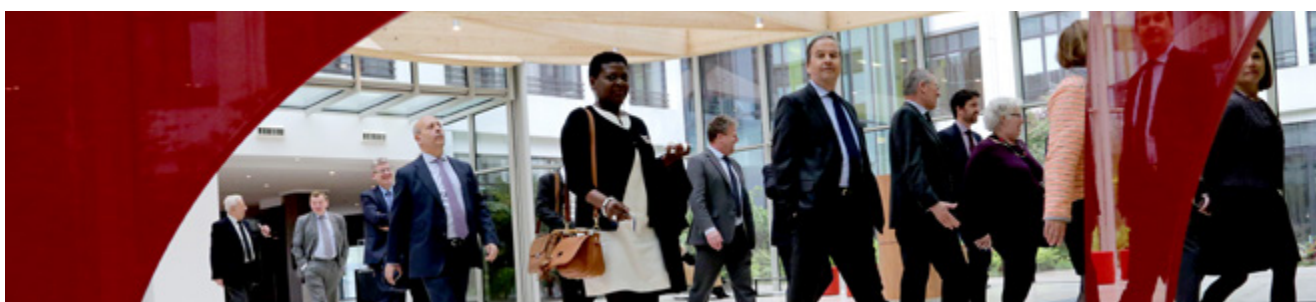


OECD candidates

In 2018, Colombia was invited to join and its accession is imminent. In April 2015, we began accession discussions with Costa Rica. To become a member, countries may apply or be invited to open an **accession process** by the OECD Council. An accession roadmap is then developed to determine terms, conditions and processes. After all conditions are met, each country must ratify membership domestically before becoming members.

Key Partners

The OECD works closely with **Key Partner** countries, which include some of the world's largest economies. They participate in the OECD's daily work, bringing useful perspectives and increasing the relevance of policy debates. Key Partners participate in policy discussions in OECD Committees, take part in regular OECD surveys and are included in statistical databases.



Regional initiatives

We work across countries at a regional level, notably through **regional initiatives**, which help facilitate policy benchmarking and the exchange of good practices between countries in a specific geographical area. The **OECD Development Centre**, which includes countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America, also facilitates policy dialogue for and with developing and emerging economies.



How we engage with...

Governments

Officials at senior and working levels from member and partner countries join our discussions in committees, expert and working groups to advance policy formulation and implementation. They continue the conversation in their countries, accessing online resources and sharing ideas from abroad. Officials from other countries may request specific OECD expertise as part of a Country Programme or review. We also collaborate with **international organisations** and regional bodies through joint projects and the exchange of information and expertise. The OECD is an active partner of the **G20 group** of major developed and emerging economies, of the G7 and of regional groups.

Parliaments

We maintain close relationships with parliamentarians through the Global Parliamentary Network, which provides access to OECD analysis and serves as an exchange forum among peers. It also enables the OECD to stay informed of constituents' concerns and expectations from across the world.

Civil Society

We bring in the views of **civil society** as part of our conferences, consultations and committee discussions. Business and labour representatives have been included in all of our work since the early days, through two formal consultative bodies: the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (**BIAC**) and Trade Union Advisory Committee (**TUAC**). Both bodies represent their members' positions and interests at the OECD, and have a long-standing policy shaping role. Major NGOs and community organisations, think-tanks, research organisations and academia are also key voices in helping to inform and craft policies through participation in our committees and advisory groups.





Shaping **#BetterLives**

This is a glimpse of how we help countries forge a path towards better lives while saving billions of dollars for taxpayers and boosting prospects for stronger, fairer and cleaner economies and societies.

IMPROVING
#EDUCATION SYSTEMS



600 000
students

The number of students evaluated in 2018 across 79 countries and economies as part of the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

COMBATING INTERNATIONAL
#TAX AVOIDANCE



125+
countries

The number of countries taking part in the base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) initiative to put an end to tax avoidance by corporations.

ACCELERATING
#DEVELOPMENT



\$445
million

The amount of additional tax revenues collected to date by administrations participating in the Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) initiative

FIGHTING TRANSNATIONAL
#CORRUPTION



800
sanctions

The number of sanctions obtained since the entry into force of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention, which makes it a criminal offence to bribe officials in cross-border business deals.

GUIDING
#ECONOMIC REFORMS



81% less

The drop in price for mobile broadband in Mexico after a series of reforms were undertaken, starting in 2013, to make the telecommunications industry more competitive.

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE
#BUSINESS CONDUCT



48
countries

The number of countries that adhere to the OECD Guidelines for Responsible Business Conduct, encouraging companies to incorporate social, human rights and environmental considerations.

PROMOTING LOCAL AND
REGIONAL #DEVELOPMENT



1000+
regions and cities

The number of regions and cities in the OECD and partner countries that will be able to measure progress on SDGs using OECD guidance.

COORDINATING
#HEALTH AND SAFETY TESTING



\$309
million

The annual savings to society thanks to our test methods, data quality standards and sharing of chemical safety testing and assessments.



Our approach

Our approach to informing policies and creating global standards is based on a robust process of multi-stakeholder collaboration, intensive peer learning and mutual policy monitoring on a voluntary basis. By working together, and relying on evidence, we are ensuring that together, we help deliver better policies



Our work and actions are driven by the following core values :

- **OBJECTIVE** : Our analyses and recommendations are independent and evidence-based.
- **OPEN** : We encourage debate and a shared understanding of critical global issues.
- **BOLD** : We dare to challenge conventional wisdom starting with our own.
- **PIONEERING** : We identify and address emerging and long term challenges.
- **ETHICAL** : Our credibility is built on trust, integrity and transparency.



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In a world where all countries and people are intrinsically interconnected, the only way forward is to strengthen international co-operation and make it more inclusive. Never has the general public been as important in shaping public policy as it is today.

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary General



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The OECD has been at the forefront of global co-operation, offering top-notch analysis and policy advice. With age and experience come responsibility and expectation. Today, the world looks to the OECD for leadership.

Queen Rania Al Abdullah, Jordan



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The OECD is conducting important work to address some of the most pressing issues on the global agenda. To find solutions, we must join together and start a conversation.

Richard Branson, Founder of the B-team



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Global earnings for working people have been falling for the past three decades, and income inequality has grown in more than half of countries. The Inclusive Growth Framework that the OECD developed can bring the right policy ideas to the challenges we face.

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)



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The OECD plays an important role in sharing information, data and measuring progress on poverty eradication or inequality, and in bringing to the forefront solutions pertinent for the betterment of humanity and children

Kailash Satyarthi, Child activist and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate



History of the OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2021. Our roots go back to the rebuilding of Europe after the Second World War, when world leaders decided that the best way to ensure lasting peace was to encourage co-operation and reconstruction.

The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) was established in 1948 to administer the US-financed Marshall Plan for reconstruction. By the end of the 1950s, with the job of rebuilding Europe complete, world leaders felt that the OEEC could be adapted to fulfil a global role.

A resolution was reached to create a new body that would promote sustainable economic growth, jobs and prosperity, support multilateral trade, and devise policies to assist developing countries. The OECD was officially founded on 30 September 1961, when the Convention entered into force.



Make a difference with us

We collaborate daily with representatives from governments, parliaments, international organisations, business and labour, civil society, academia, as well as citizens from across the globe.

The OECD needs your views. Whether by attending an event, using our analysis or joining a public consultation, there are many ways for you to engage with us. Visit oecd.org/about/engage

Discover more about the OECD at oecd.org/about



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