OECD Agricultural Codes and Schemes

2016

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OECD

OECD Agricultural Codes and Schemes
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The OECD’s 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.
Strategic Orientations by the Secretary-General

Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD

“Key Partner and Accession Countries

53. The OECD will continue to integrate Key Partner Countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa) into the work of the OECD. This includes encouraging them to join OECD bodies, adhere to legal instruments and establish mechanisms for jointly identifying mutually beneficial work priorities. The Organisation will build on the strategic relationship developed with China over the past year. This year marks the 20th anniversary of co-operation with China. A joint work programme for 2015-16, includes supporting China in its G20 Presidency, in particular in the fields of inclusive growth, new sources of growth like innovation and skills, trade and investment and the fight against corruption. China has also announced that it will join the Development Centre, which will further strengthen co-operation. A joint work programme with Indonesia provides the basis for deeper engagement with the country in 2015-16 with the support of the newly established OECD Office in Jakarta, which will engage with the whole of Southeast Asia. Brazil has also expressed its willingness to sign a framework agreement with the OECD and to develop a joint work programme. We will also strive to create similar arrangements with India and South Africa.”

Full Report available on the public website www.oecd.org
Meeting of Agricultural Ministers

On 7-8 April 2016, the Directorate for Trade and Agriculture (TAD) hosted a Meeting of Agriculture Ministers at OECD Headquarters. Ministers from OECD countries and partner economies discussed Better Policies to Achieve a Productive, Sustainable and Resilient Global Food System, assessing whether existing government policies are well targeted to address emerging issues and public priorities. The event was a follow-up to the last OECD Agriculture Ministerial meeting held in February of 2010.

The objective of the discussions were to highlight the common policy priorities of governments confronting both opportunities and challenges in feeding a growing world population, managing its resources, and dealing with climate change. For more information about the event please go to the link: http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/ministerial/

Why a meeting of ministers?

Ministers of Agriculture from OECD countries and partner economies around the world met at OECD headquarters in Paris on 7-8 April 2016, to discuss Better Policies to Achieve a Productive, Sustainable and Resilient Global Food System. Ministers explored the new policies needed to achieve this widely shared interest, and exchanged on how to ensure that existing policies begin to shift in these directions more quickly.

Agriculture Ministers last met at the OECD in February 2010, in the midst of volatile world food markets. Six years later, and as requested by Ministers, it is again time to assess whether the policies governments are pursuing are well targeted to address emerging issues and public priorities. Population growth and increasing prosperity are driving and changing demand for agricultural products. The sector will need to adapt to climate change, including to the expected increased frequency of extreme events, and will also have to be part of the mitigation effort. There will be increased competition for limited natural resources, in particular water.

Against this background Ministers:

- exchanged ideas about which policies would best accompany the sector in responding to these opportunities and challenges and how to manage the transition to a new policy framework;
- covered the entire food chain, with a strong focus on the knowledge and innovation systems needed to achieve sustainable productivity growth;
- discussed how to strengthen global collaboration to that end, including through trade, science and technology, and education and advisory services;
- reflected on how the food system can contribute to the overall well-being of their economies, and on how overall policy settings can be more conducive to achieving sustainable productivity growth in the global food system.

This meeting of Agriculture Ministers comes in the wake of several other important high-level events: the G20 Agriculture Ministerial under the Turkish Presidency of the G20 in May 2015, the UN Special Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2015, the COP21 in November-December 2015, the WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2015, and Germany’s Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in January 2016.
Agricultural Policies at a Glance

**Highlights**

- OECD analysis estimates that an average of USD 601 billion (EUR 450 billion) was transferred by 49 countries – representing 88% of global value added in agriculture – to agricultural producers annually during 2012-14. A further USD 135 billion (EUR 103 billion) per year was spent on general services that support the overall functioning of the sector.
- During this same period, government support was estimated to average 17% of gross farm receipts. About two-thirds of that support was provided by measures considered to be highly market-distorting.
- Agricultural policies need to move away from market-distorting measures and blanket income transfers towards strategic investments that can help deliver sustainable productivity growth and increased resilience, thereby increasing income opportunities for farm households in more countries.

**What’s the issue?**

The 49 countries analysed by the OECD in its annual Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation report share a set of common goals: the economic viability of the agricultural sector and rural areas, the production of sufficient and nutritious food for a growing and more affluent global population, and the long-term environmental sustainability of food production.

Nevertheless, very different weights are attached to these goals, resulting in extremely different policy choices. Among the 49 countries considered, some have traditionally maintained high support levels – although these are falling – and the overall policy package is becoming less distorting. Other countries consistently maintain low support and concentrate efforts on risk management and the overall enabling environment. A middle group, with support estimated around the average of the 49, contains countries on very different trajectories – some with declining levels and use of distorting support, and others with increasing support levels and use of the most distorting measures.

Overall, 67% of the support across the 49 countries is directly linked to prices, output or input use.

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**Levels and mix of farm support vary significantly**

Composition of Producer Support Estimates by country, 2012-14

Notes: 1. Producer Support Estimate in percentage of gross farm receipts. 1: EU27 for 2012-2013, and EU28 from 2014 when available. 2. The OECD total does not include non-OECD EU Member States. The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law. Source: OECD (2015), "Producer and Consumer Support Estimates", OECD Agriculture Statistics (database).
What should policy makers do?

Production-linked measures, in particular, mask market signals, harm competitiveness, and can potentially lead to environmentally-damaging production systems. Moreover, such measures can be inequitable and inefficient, as the bulk of the benefits accrue to the largest producers or leak away to unintended beneficiaries in the upstream and downstream sectors or are capitalized in the value of fixed assets. The choice of policy instruments is therefore arguably as important as the level of support.

Policy effort needs to be directed to the development of a competitive, innovative agricultural sector that can respond to future needs. Agricultural policy needs to be coherent with policies in other areas – economic, social and environmental – and to reduce impediments to structural adjustment. This kind of approach will be more effective in most countries than the fine-tuning of existing agricultural policies.

To this end, policy makers should:

- Reduce the use of market price support with a view to its eventual elimination. Not only does market price support seldom reach the intended beneficiaries, it also disconnects farmers from market developments and is highly production- and trade-distorting.

- Move away from the use of input subsidies. Input subsidies are particularly inefficient ways to transfer benefits to producers, are strongly production-distorting, and increase the risk of environmental damage from over- or misuse of farm inputs.

- Increase strategic public investments to enhance sustainable productivity growth with a view to increasing the capacity of the sector to feed a growing and more affluent population, in the context of natural resource scarcities and climate change.

- Target public policies to address specific goals and intended beneficiaries, both of which can vary considerably across countries at different stages of development and with different resource endowments. In some countries, policy priorities might include spending on health and education; in others, investments in infrastructure and innovation systems. In other countries, direct payments – if linked to clear objectives and targets, and well-tailored to the problem at hand – can be efficient in specific policy areas, such as environmental protection, and can play a transitory role in facilitating wider agricultural policy reform.

- Ensure that risk management policies focus on helping farmers to cope with unavoidable and unpredictable risks and avoid crowding out market solutions and farmers’ own risk management practices. Poorly-designed risk management policies often deliver only modest benefits at high costs to taxpayers.

- Improve the enabling environment for a business-oriented agricultural sector. At the same time, concerns about negative impacts of farming on the natural environment should be addressed through a mix of market-based solutions, regulation and taxation, while positive externalities – such as ecosystem services – should be encouraged.

Further reading

This document is based on the evidence and analysis found in a number of OECD reports and papers published in recent years:

- Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2015
- PSE Database and Compare Your Country
- OECD Review of Agricultural Policies Colombia
- OECD Review of Agricultural Policies Indonesia
- OECD Review of Agricultural Policies Kazakhstan
- OECD Review of Agricultural Policies Switzerland
- OECD Review of Agricultural Policies Viet Nam

A complete list of relevant books and papers can be found at http://oe.cd/taking-stock or on the Agriculture Ministerial website at www.oecd.org/agriculture/ministerial.
WHAT IS THE G20

The G20 is a forum of 19 countries plus the European Union, representing both developed and emerging economies whose size or strategic importance gives them a particularly crucial role in the global economy. Its role is to co-ordinate policies at the international level and to make globalisation a smoother, more harmonious and sustainable process.

The countries are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, the European Union, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Following the largest financial, economic and social crisis in decades, the world’s twenty most influential economies decided to meet at the Leaders’ level for the first time in November 2008 in Washington D.C. The purpose of the meeting was to cope with the most current challenges of the escalating economic and financial crisis. Following that first meeting, the G20 was officially designated as the premier forum for economic co-operation at the Pittsburgh Summit in September 2009.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Since they first met in 2008, the G20 Leaders have taken decisive action to prevent future financial crises, while securing sustainable and balanced global growth and reforming the architecture of global economic governance. The decisions made by the G20 have been key to the stability of the global economy at the height of the crisis and to avoiding an outright collapse of the international financial system. For instance, G20 leaders endorsed in 2009 the largest internationally-coordinated stimulus package in history. They also committed to keeping markets open and launched a major overhaul of the international financial and prudential regulation framework, as well as of the international tax architecture.

By committing every year to an action plan of growth and jobs and monitoring its implementation, the G20 shows continuous engagement towards creating high quality jobs and opportunities for all. Specifically at the Brisbane Summit in November 2014, the G20 committed to lift global growth by 2% by 2018 (“2 in 5”) over a baseline scenario defined in the second half of 2013. In Antalya in November 2015, leaders endorsed ambitious G20 Country Investment Strategies to lift the G20 investment to GDP ratio. They also put forth a G20 youth employment target to reduce the share of young people who are most at risk of being permanently left behind in the labour market by 15% by 2025 in G20 countries, as well as a G20 Skills Strategy to counter inequality and grapple with low productivity growth in many G20 countries.

With the active support of the OECD, the G20 has also achieved concrete progress in domains such as tax transparency and the fight against tax evasion, thanks to the peer review of tax legislation carried out in the Global Forum (in relation to exchange of tax information on request), the adoption of a new global standard for the Automatic Exchange of Information to be implemented by 2017-18, and the endorsement of the 15 Actions identified in the G20/OECD BEPS Action Plan to combat tax avoidance.

The G20 has also achieved very concrete progress in the areas of financial regulation, anticorruption and food security – with the design of mechanisms to stem food price volatility (AMIS). Through its efforts to address the global economic challenges, the G20 has proved to be an influential international forum where global economic heavyweights from both the developed and the emerging world are sitting together on an equal footing.
THE OECD IS AN ACTIVE PARTNER OF THE G20

Since the Pittsburgh Summit, the OECD has been an active partner of the G20 in its efforts to strengthen the global economy, accelerate recovery from the crisis and promote a more harmonious rules-based globalisation process. Upon a call by G20 Leaders, the Organisation supported the G20 during the crisis and continues to provide policy expertise and analysis to address the complex challenges of the post-crisis era and a fragile recovery.

The Organisation’s expertise continues to be increasingly recognised and relied upon for identifying the world’s most pressing policy challenges and finding ways to address them. The OECD works closely with the G20, carrying out tasks mandated by the members and in close co-operation with the Presidencies of the G20, in framing, developing and carrying out their priorities. By working with the different Presidencies, the OECD has broadened its support and become a recognised partner of the Group. This has also been the opportunity for the Organisation to build a closer relationship with non-member economies, allowing it to learn further about their policy expectations and integrate their views in a more systematic way, contributing to reaffirming the OECD’s role as a global standard-setter, and supporting its strive for relevance.

HIGH LEVEL PARTICIPATION

Given its multidisciplinary character, the OECD participates both at the highest level (Sherpa, Finance Deputy, Ministers and Leaders) as well at the technical level (Working Groups) by contributing to virtually all of the Group’s strands of work and most G20 working groups with data, analytical reports, policy recommendations and standards. Our contributions to the Group’s work are frequently carried out in collaboration with other international organisations.

This relationship has shown to be mutually beneficial. The G20 process helps international organisations to co-ordinate their work, gives it leverage, and when necessary, injects the political momentum to break deadlocks.

http://www.oecd.org/g20/about.htm
The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an inter-governmental organisation founded in 1961, provides a multilateral forum to discuss, develop and reform economic and social policies. Today it has 34 member countries. The OECD’s mission is to promote policies for sustainable economic growth and employment, a rising standard of living, and trade liberalisation. It is at the forefront of efforts to help governments understand and respond to new developments and concerns so that economic and social developments are not achieved at the expense of environmental degradation.

The OECD brings together its Member countries to discuss and develop domestic and international policies. It analyses issues, identifies good policy practices and recommends actions in a unique forum in which countries can compare their experiences, seek answers to common problems, and work to co-ordinate policies. It shares expertise and exchanges views with more than 100 countries worldwide and engages in dialogue with business, labour, and civil society organisations on topics of mutual interest. The OECD is the largest and most reliable source of comparable statistical data and information on economic, environmental and social developments in its Member countries.

The OECD’s work is overseen by several bodies. At the highest level is the OECD Council, made up of Ambassadors from all Member countries. The Council’s main role is to review and approve the OECD budget and Programme of Work. The specific policy and technical work is directed by specialist Committees, supported by Working Parties and ad hoc meetings, which bring together technical expertise from Member countries. The daily work of the OECD is coordinated and supported by its Secretariat in Paris, with 2,880 staff and a budget of over €353 million.

1 OECD member countries in 2015: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States. The European Commission also participates in the work of the Organisation.
The Directorate for Trade and Agriculture (TAD) is the part of the OECD Secretariat that undertakes the work on behalf of the Trade, Agriculture and Fisheries Committees. The key objective of OECD work on trade is to support a strong, rules-based multilateral trading system that will maintain the momentum for further trade liberalisation, while contributing to rising standards of living and sustainable development. OECD also analyses food, agriculture and fisheries issues and provides advice to governments on practical and innovative options for policy reform and trade liberalisation, as well as facilitating the negotiation of international rules on official export credits. An important part of the mandate of the OECD is to provide analytical support to agricultural trade liberalisation, as well as estimating the effects of further trade liberalisation. Working closely with Member countries, the Directorate collects information and data, and develops modelling capacity to analyse the policy issues identified by the Committees. The Committee for Agriculture, The Committee for Trade, and the Committee for Fisheries are responsible for implementing the agriculture, trade and fisheries biennial programme of work, once it has been approved by the OECD Council.

The Directorate is structured around seven divisions that work together to deliver the work programme: Agro-food Trade and Markets, Development Division, Fisheries Policies, Agricultural Policies and Environment, Policies and Trade in Agriculture, Trade Policy Linkages and Services and Export Credits. Two other units are attached to the Directorate: Agricultural Codes and Schemes, and the Co-operative Research Programme. The staff of the Directorate is drawn from Member countries. In 2015 there were 120 full-time staff, and increasingly, the Directorate also welcomes staff on short-term appointments, consultants and trainees.
The Agro-Food Trade and Markets Division of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) undertakes a range of quantitative and qualitative analysis of the links between policies and markets within the agro-food sector. A key output is the annual OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook publication, which is prepared jointly with the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and provides ten-year projections for agricultural markets. The Agricultural Codes and Schemes Unit is located within the Agro-Food Trade and Markets Division.

The OECD Codes and Schemes increases market transparency by helping to reduce technical barriers to trade, enhances market openness and access through the simplification of procedures, and helps to strengthen market confidence by ensuring product quality.
Agricultural Codes and Schemes

The OECD Agricultural Codes and Schemes facilitate international trade through the simplification and implementation of international standards.

For Seeds and Forests, the Schemes encourage the production and use of seeds or plants of consistently high quality for which trueness to name or source is guaranteed.

For Tractors, the Codes enable an importing country to accept, with confidence, the results of safety and performance tests carried out in another country, and in the case of Fruit and Vegetables, the Scheme promotes the use of uniform classification and quality control procedures.

The Codes & Schemes were created in the late 1950s/early 1960s and the number of participating countries has been constantly rising. The Codes and Schemes are open to any OECD or non-OECD country that is a member of the United Nations, or of the World Trade Organisation. In addition to the 34 OECD countries, which are all members of at least one of the Codes & Schemes, participation currently encompasses 29 non-OECD Economies including some of the major players in world trade (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Argentina, Ukraine). There is also close co-operation with the UN family especially the FAO, UNECE, UNESCAP and UNIDO as well as manufacturer non-governmental organisations and manufacturer and farmer organisations.
The overarching objectives of the Codes & Schemes are to simplify existing international trade procedures, increase transparency, reduce technical barriers to trade, contribute to international harmonisation of standards, environmental protection, and to increase market confidence through enforcement of quality control and inspection procedures, and facilitate the traceability of the traded products.

The objectives are achieved through ongoing dialogue and debate with the designated authorities of member Countries, observers and other stakeholders, including farmers, industry and trade. This comprehensive and inclusive process ensures that the standards are reliable, efficient and fit for purpose.

International product certification differs from national certification as domestic regulatory systems may vary to a large extent. A voluntary international system is a tool that countries can use for specific products traded. The benefits from product certification and guarantees are shared among all stakeholders.

It is important to note that all decisions to amend/update the rules are taken by full consensus of all member countries. The Rules governing the Codes and Schemes are regularly updated to reflect changes in trade, agriculture, environment and health and safety standards in member countries.

The following are the prerequisites for joining the Codes & Schemes:

- An official request to join is sent to the OECD Secretary-General, accompanied by the relevant documentation.
- This is followed by an evaluation process, usually involving a short mission to the applicant country.
- The evaluation report is circulated to the authorities of the participating countries and discussed at the OECD Annual Meeting.
- The final step is an internal OECD process resulting in a Council Decision. The whole procedure takes about one year.
Global Relations

In an increasingly integrated world economy, the prosperity of OECD member countries depends not only on the development of their own economies but also on global economic development. It is therefore essential that the Organisation promotes, on a global scale, those principles, values and policies that lead to sound, sustainable growth and poverty reduction.

Mandate

Global reach has been an integral part of the OECD from its beginning in 1961. Its global nature was already expressed in the original OECD Convention. The Convention’s Article 1 states that members “should contribute to sound economic expansion in member as well as non-member countries in the process of economic development.” To do so, Article 12 stipulates that the Organisation may:

- Address communications to non-member states or organisations;
- Establish and maintain relations with non-member states or organisations;
- Invite non-member governments or organisations to participate in activities of the Organisation.

The "Revised Council Resolution on a New Governance Structure for the Organisation" reaffirms the Organisation’s engagement with non-members, in particular large emerging economies, to share best practices and to promote economic development. The OECD offers members and non-members a platform for discussion, and the exchange of experiences and insights.

Strategic Framework

Recognising that the OECD’s relationships with non-member economies are even more fundamental in today's interdependent world than they were when the Organisation was founded, the OECD in 2005 adopted a strategic framework to guide its global relations. This framework allows for flexibility in individual areas of work while encouraging a coherent overall OECD approach to global relations. OECD's co-operative activities with non-members aim to support the following strategic framework:

Contribute to the harmonious functioning of the global economy

- By promoting worldwide policy coherence;
- By engaging major global actors as well as significant actors in specific policy fields outside of OECD membership in the work of the OECD;
- By reducing risks of tensions and preventing conflicts through comparative research and policy dialogue;
Promote shared prosperity

- By facilitating the integration of economies outside of OECD membership in the global economy;
- By capitalising on the comparative advantages of the OECD;
- By enhancing the economic prospects and standards of living of economies outside of OECD membership, taking into account of their desire and capacity to co-operate/benefit from relevant policy dialogue and related activities;

Encourage shared knowledge for better public policy

- By drawing from experiences outside of OECD membership to anticipate significant new issues relevant to the OECD mission;
- By capturing and disseminating good practices that are relevant to the mission of the OECD beyond the OECD membership.

https://www.oecd.org/globalrelations/
The OECD's Relations with its Key Partners

The 2012 Ministerial Council Meeting marked the fifth anniversary of the launching of Enhanced Engagement, aimed at advancing the OECD’s relationship with five Key Partners, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa.

Key partners contribute to the OECD's work in a sustained and comprehensive manner. A central element of the programme is the promotion of direct and active participation of these countries in the work of substantive bodies of the Organisation. Each country participates in OECD work through a programme containing a mix of several elements, notably:

- participation in OECD committees,
- regular economic surveys,
- adherence to OECD instruments
- integration into OECD statistical reporting and information systems,
- sector-specific peer reviews.

The actual mix and the sequencing of the elements is determined by mutual interest.

Date of accession of some of the key partners to the OECD Codes and Schemes

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<th>Countries</th>
<th>OECD Seed Schemes</th>
<th>OECD Tractor Codes</th>
<th>OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme</th>
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<td>Brazil</td>
<td>1999</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>1988</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>1994</td>
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OECD Active with…
(brochures available on the public website www.oecd.org)

“…The OECD is proud to have Brazil as a key Partner. Brazil participates actively in a number of key OECD Committees, as well as in various areas of work…”

“…The OECD takes pride in its co-operation with China. Today, with China’s increasing importance as a dynamic engine for the world economy, this partnership is more relevant than ever…”

“…The OECD is proud to have India as a key partner and is working closely with the Indian Authorities to advance socioeconomic development and well-being…”

“…Since the turn of the century, the Latin America and Caribbean region was able to combine robust economic growth and social progress. Today, Chile and Mexico are members of the OECD…”

“…OECD’s co-operation with sub-Saharan Africa has strengthened significantly over the years in response to increasing demand from African governements for OECD expertise and support…”

“…The creation of an integrated ASEAN economic community beginning in 2015 will generate even more opportunities for growth and employment across the region…”
About the OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme

The OECD Eurasia Competitiveness Programme was launched in 2008 to support Eurasian economies in **developing more vibrant and competitive markets**. The programme uses OECD instruments and tools in order to assess where and how to enhance competitiveness of countries, sectors and regions to generate sustainable growth. It includes two regions: **Central Asia** (Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) and **Eastern Europe and South Caucasus** (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine).

### A three-step approach

This approach comprises both a regional dimension, which entails **peer dialogue and capacity building**, and a country-specific aspect supporting the implementation of a number of prioritised reforms. Sectoral analyses cover the formulation of targeted policies and strategies requested at the industry level.

Within the framework of the programme, public authorities, the private sector and civil society in these countries have been engaged in a dialogue and collaborative process to support policy actions and identify the key barriers to sectoral competitiveness. The participation of all the stakeholders in the reform process, including foreign investors, is considered to be crucial for guaranteeing the effectiveness and transparency of the recommended policies.

**Date of accession to the OECD Seed Schemes of some of the countries from Central Asia And Eastern Europe and South Caucasus**

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<th>Countries</th>
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<td>Kyrgyz Republic</td>
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<td>Republic of Moldova</td>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
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Website: [www.oecd.org/globalrelations/eurasia.htm](http://www.oecd.org/globalrelations/eurasia.htm)
Slovakia re-joined the Tractor Codes in 2015

The Slovak Republic officially applied to re-join the OECD Tractor Codes Programme. The delegate presented a comprehensive report to the 2015 Annual Meeting. The report provided an overview of Slovakia’s national legislation, tractors statistics and various testing centres. The National Designated Authority will be the Ministry of Transport and Slovakia would like to apply OECD Codes 4, 5, 9 and 10. Slovakia also highlighted their interest in cooperating with other member countries and testing stations to develop the OECD Codes, as well as being honored to be part of the group.
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<th>Countries</th>
<th>Tractors</th>
<th>Seeds</th>
<th>Fruit &amp; Vegs</th>
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OECD Tractor Codes

**What are the OECD Tractor Codes?**

The OECD Standard Codes for the official testing of agricultural and forestry tractors are a set of rules and procedures for tractor testing with the aim to facilitate trade by updating international rules to certify tractors and their protective structures. Implementation of the Codes ensures that protective structures and performance criteria are carried out on a comparative basis, thus increase transparency, simplify international trade procedures, and open markets.

**Participating Countries and International Organisations**

Currently, 27 countries² implement the Codes; of which, 22 are OECD Members and 4 non-OECD Economies (China, India Serbia and Russia). Observers include:

- the European Commission (EC);
- the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO);
- the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP);
- the European Free Trade Association (EFTA);
- the European Committee for Standardization (CEN);
- the European Committee of Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery (CEMA);
- the Economic Commission for Europe of the United Nations (UN/ECE);
- the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (CIGR);
- the European Confederation of Agriculture (CEA);
- the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- the International Organization for Standardization (ISO);
- the Committee of Professional Agricultural Organizations and General Confederation of Agricultural Co-operatives in the European Union (COPA-COGECA);
- the World Farmers’ Organisation (WFO).

**How do the Tractor Codes operate?**

National testing stations in each participating country carry out the tests on tractors to be commercialized according to common procedures. Test results are submitted to OECD for approval and the verification of individual tests are subcontracted to a Co-ordinating Centre. Approved tests are published and used by tractor manufacturers, sellers and buyers. Summaries of performance tests are available on-line ([www.oecd.org/tad/tractor](http://www.oecd.org/tad/tractor)).

**What is OECD’s role?**

OECD facilitates co-ordination at the international level, with frequent meetings. These meetings enable dialogue amongst stakeholders, exchange of information, discussion of case studies, preparation of new rules and amendments to the Codes. Since the Codes were established in 1959, over 3 000 tractors have been tested for performance characteristics, and over 10 800 tractors have been tested for noise measurement at the driving position, and driver protection, in the case

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² Austria, Belgium, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States.
of tractor roll-over. In addition to regular meetings of the Codes, Test Engineer Conferences are held every two years, each time in a different country. The primary purpose of these conferences is the observation, review and discussion of testing practices by test engineers.

**Benefits of joining the programme**

There are a series of inherent advantages associated with joining the OECD Tractor Codes. The first is trade facilitation. Obtaining an OECD approval number facilitates trade among member countries. Tests carried out in one member country are recognized in ALL member countries and allows manufacturers to use OECD test certifications to satisfy import regulations, or to show that their model is safer and more efficient. Second, OECD is an intergovernmental organization and our tests have always a third party certification. This means that the tests done in a particular member country are always validated by OECD’s Co-ordinating Centre, enhancing the credibility of the tests. Finally, the users (farmers) and other stakeholders can benefit as well by comparing the safety and technical reliability of different tractor models and choose the one that better suits their needs.

**Who can join?**

Membership is open to countries member of the United Nations Organization or its Specialised Agencies.

**Outlook**

The OECD Tractor Testing Codes are in constant evolution with the growth in demand for greater harmonisation across countries as new tractor models continue to proliferate. They have become an important international reference in the certification of tractors and their protective structures, underpinning existing international agreements, and contributing actively to the harmonisation of regional and global standards. There is regular updating of the Codes so as to identify significant improvements in technical performance, safety and environmental protection.
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Tractor Performance Test Code

This was where it all began. The first Standard Code for the Official Testing of Agricultural Tractors was approved by OECD (then the OEEC) in April 1959, the desire being to develop and publicise an internationally-recognised standard method by which to assess tractor performance. Research and testing centres in many different countries had been testing tractors and measuring their performance levels for many, many decades, but the testing methods used were not all the same: it was not always possible to compare test results produced in different countries. The OECD Standard Test Code attempted to solve this problem and, after over 50 years of testing and over 2750 tractor models tested, the success of the venture is clear for all to see.

The first tractor tested according to the OECD Standard Code
- McCormick International B-450 - March / April 1959

So what exactly is the OECD Tractor Performance Test Code? In simple terms, it’s a series of standardised procedures which test laboratories (Testing Stations) can follow to measure the performance characteristics of agricultural (and forestry) tractors. As you may imagine, the Test Code has developed a great deal since 1959, increasing in detail and complexity to keep pace with the introduction of new features on the tractors submitted for testing. Diesel Particulate Filters, Selective Catalytic Reduction systems and Continuously Variable Transmissions had not been thought of then!

Also a family of OECD test codes has developed progressively since 1967 to address other issues of tractor operation, such as operator safety (roll-over and falling-object protection) and comfort (noise level at the driving position).
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Still, returning to the Tractor Performance Code (Code 2). Today it still attempts to satisfy the same requirement as it did back in 1959, namely the standardised assessment of tractor performance. To achieve this aim, the Test Code provides a range of test procedures, each focussing on a specific aspect of the vehicle, namely:-

i) **Engine Power Output and Fuel Consumption** *(measured at the Power Take Off (P.T.O.) shaft)*

ii) **Drawbar Power Output and Fuel Consumption** *(measured using a dynamometer loading car on a concrete or asphalt test track)*;

iii) **Hydraulic Power Output** *(as available at the auxiliary service (spool valve) couplings)*

iv) **Hydraulic (3-point linkage) Lift Capacity** *(measured at the lower link ends and on a coupled frame)*

In addition to these ‘Compulsory’ tests, which all tested tractors must complete, there are a range of additional ‘Optional’ test procedures which can also be followed if the tractor manufacturer wishes, including:-

- Braking Performance
- Turning Area and Turning Circle
- Low Temperature Starting
- Centre of Gravity location
- External Noise Level
- Axle Power
- Engine *(bench)* Test
- Waterproofing Test
- Performance in a Hot Atmosphere
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Plus repeats of any of the ‘Compulsory’ tests, but with different system settings, e.g. tractor ballasted during drawbar power test, 3pt hitch lift performance with different linkage geometry. Performance Code (Code 2) test results are tractor specific; they relate only to one model /vehicle configuration. Code 2 test results are available from the OECD Tractor Website (www.oecd.org/tad/tractor).

Description of each Code 2 ‘Compulsory’ Test

1. Engine Power Output and Fuel Consumption

This test is used to measure the tractor’s engine torque–speed, power and fuel consumption characteristics under controlled laboratory conditions: this starts to show exactly how powerful and fuel-efficient the test tractor actually is.

Engine power output is measured at the power take-off (P.T.O.) shaft by means of an instrumented dynamometer. Fuel is not supplied from the tractor’s tank, but from an external, temperature-controlled supply, which enables the test tractor’s fuel consumption to be measured instantly at any loading level used during the test. If the test tractor consumes material in addition to (diesel) fuel, e.g. exhaust reagent fluid for SCR systems, this consumption rate is also measured alongside fuel consumption. Atmospheric conditions during the test, such as air temperature and barometric pressure, are also noted and the test bay temperature is kept within specified limits, to prevent excessive influence upon engine performance.

The engine power output measured at the P.T.O. shaft will always be lower than the values quoted by tractor manufacturers for engine ‘flywheel’ power output. This is because small amounts of power are lost as it is transferred through the driveline from the engine to the P.T.O. or to the axle ends. Also engine and vehicle ancillary systems such as cooling fans, hydraulic pumps (e.g. for power steering and suspension) and cab air conditioning systems all consume a certain amount of engine power. Consequently, the although the power available at the tractor’s P.T.O. may only be 90 – 95% of the stated ‘rated’ engine power, depending upon the complexity and design of the tractor, the P.T.O. power output level is probably closer to what the user can actually expect to be available when the tractor is put to work in the field.

During the test, engine (P.T.O.) power output (torque and speed) and fuel consumption levels are measured as increasing load is applied via the dynamometer. This is initially done with the throttle control / governor set for maximum engine speed: increasing the dynamometer load effectively drags the engine speed down as the test progresses. This produces a series of measurements which create a ‘Full-Load’ power curve. In addition to this, power output / fuel consumption is also measured at the tractor’s ‘Rated’ engine speed, at the standard P.T.O. speed (540 and/or 1000 rpm) and also at a series of specified ‘Part-Load’ engine speed - load settings. If the test tractor has the ability to ‘boost’ its power output under certain conditions, the P.T.O. power tests are repeated both in ‘Normal’ and ‘Boosted’ engine operating modes.

The results of the tests are presented both as tables and graphs of engine power and torque output across the engine speed range investigated. Fuel and reagent consumption levels are also reported, both in terms of Hourly Consumption (litres/hour & kg/hour) and Specific Consumption (g/kWh): a further quantity ‘Specific Energy’ (kWh/litre) is also reported. These last two quantities are important and effectively indicate how efficiently the tractor can convert (diesel) fuel into usable energy or work. Specific Consumption (g/kWh) shows how many grammes of fuel are required by the tractor to produce one kilowatt-hour of work. Conversely Specific Energy (kWh/litre) tells us how efficiently the test tractor can convert the energy present in one litre to diesel fuel into actual,
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

practical P.T.O. work (at a given engine torque-speed setting): as such it provides a realistic measure of the overall (P.T.O. power) efficiency of the test tractor.

2. Drawbar Power Output and Fuel Consumption

This test complements the static P.T.O. power test and measures the tractor’s ability to convert engine power into drawbar power. Tractors spend a lot of their time pulling implements, so it is important to identify how efficiently the vehicle’s driveline can transfer power from the engine to the wheels / ground. This is done by following a similar test procedure to that used during the P.T.O. Power Test, but instead of loading the tractor via a P.T.O. dynamometer, this time a Loading Car is towed by the tractor around a concrete or asphalt. Whilst this test surface may not be very ‘agricultural’, it does provide very consistent results, removing the variability which different surface conditions could introduce into data produced by different testing stations or at different times of year. This approach enables direct comparison between any OECD drawbar power test data.

Each testing station has its own load car, but all work in a similar way. Based on a truck or bus chassis, the vehicles incorporate a dynamometer which can apply a precisely-controlled braking force to the load car wheels. This in turn applies a draught (pull) force to the tractor drawbar, the size of which is measured by a load cell at the front of the load car. As with the P.T.O. power test, fuel is not supplied from the tractor’s tank, but from a temperature-controlled supply on the load car. The load car is fitted with a great deal of electronic measuring equipment, to record not only the drawbar load applied to the tractor, but also the forward speed, the tractor’s fuel consumption, engine coolant and oil temperature, atmospheric conditions and all other relevant information during the test. The level of drawbar power generated by the test tractor is calculated from the drawbar pull and vehicle forward speed.

During the test various loading levels are applied to the tractor in a range of transmission gears / forward speeds. Tractors with steplessly variable transmissions (e.g. CVTs) are tested in a similar way, but it is likely that, as intelligent tractor engine-transmission control systems become more commonplace in the future, the test procedures will have to evolve yet further. In all cases the tractor is tested in unballasted condition, but further tests may also be performed with ballast added (e.g. front end / wheel weights, tyre liquid ballast). Once again, as with the P.T.O. power test, specific fuel consumption and specific energy values are derived, together with reagent (SCR fluid) consumption, to show how efficient the test tractor actually is. However, because further power losses are always present between engine (flywheel) and drawbar power, due to driveline losses and wheelslip, the specific fuel consumption values will be higher (and the Specific Energy levels lower) than during the static P.T.O. power test.

3. Hydraulic Power Output

This test procedure measures the tractor’s ability to produce hydraulic power, as would be required to power hydraulic motors or actuate hydraulic rams on attached implements. Most modern tractors deliver hydraulic flow externally via auxiliary or spool valves, many having four or more pairs of such valves.

External test equipment is used to measure the maximum hydraulic pressure (at max. engine speed) which the tractor can supply at one of its spool valve couplers. After this, the hydraulic flow rate delivered by the coupler at 90% of this max. pressure is recorded, enabling calculation of max. hydraulic power availability. The oil temperature in the tractor’s hydraulic reservoir is monitored throughout the test. These tests may be repeated using more than one pair of couplers, simultaneously, where a single coupler may limit maximum flow rate. Also, whilst initially tested
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

with the oil flow being subject to no return pressure, further tests may be performed with the ‘return’ oil flow re-entering the tractor via coupler pair, as would often be the case in normal use. This creates greater back pressure and consequently reduces the oil flow and hydraulic power available.

By performing these tests in a number of different ways it is possible to obtain a truly realistic assessment of the hydraulic flow / power available from the tractor to operate attached implements.

4. Hydraulic (3-point linkage) Lift Capacity

Sufficient hydraulic lift capacity is an important requirement for most modern tractors, except perhaps very large models designed for use mainly with trailed implements. The geometry of the three-point (3pt) linkage has an important influence upon a tractor’s lift capacity. Whilst a manufacturer may only state the maximum lift capacity in the product information, the OECD Test Report shows all the relevant dimensions of the 3pt linkage and then goes on to measure the tractor’s hydraulic lift capacity throughout the entire range of linkage movement. It’s no good if a tractor can start to lift an implement off the ground but then runs out of lift capacity further up into the lift range.

Exactly how tractor the stated 3pt linkage lift capacity corresponds to actual ability to lift a mounted implement is rather a complex situation. It depends not only on the mass of the implement, but also the location of the Centre of Gravity (Centre of Mass) – how far this is behind the implement headstock / linkage attachment points – and the tractor’s linkage geometry, some of which you may be able to see and some of which may be hidden away inside the rear axle casing.

OECD testing stations measure 3pt linkage lift capacity by two complementary methods. Firstly, at the lower link ends and, secondly, at a point on a simple frame attached to the lower and upper (top) links, 610 mm behind the lower link attachment points. In each case the max. lifting force is recorded at various points throughout the lift range, at 90% of the hydraulic lift system’s relief valve pressure. The tests are often repeated (at the manufacturer’s request) with slightly modified 3pt linkage geometry, such as may be obtained on the test tractor by shortening the lift rods, attaching the lift rods the lower links in a different location, or changing the top link mounting point / hole.
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

**Tractor Noise Test Code (Code 5)**

This Test Code is slightly unique in that, from a technical point of view, it sits part-way between the Performance and the Protective Structure test codes. During the 1970s many countries required that operator roll-over protective structures (safety cabs, frames, or roll-bars) be fitted to tractors to reduce the number of drivers killed in overturning accidents.

These early ROPS worked well, but most designs were attached directly to the tractor chassis or engine-transmission housings. When fitted with cladding to give the operator some level of weather protection, it was found that very high noise levels were generated inside the cab ….. much higher than if no protective structure had been fitted. It was almost as if the driver was sitting inside a personal loudspeaker! It soon became clear that there was a real danger of tractor operators suffering damage to their hearing and many countries rapidly introduced legal requirements for in-cab noise levels to be reduced, particularly when the tractor was working under full-load.

OECD Code 5 is a test procedure to enable measurement of noise levels at the operator’s driving position ….. in effect, close to the driver’s ear. Noise levels are recorded both with the tractor “Under Load” and also “Without Load”, with the cab “openings” (windows, doors, roof hatches) open and closed.

- **“Under Load”** tests are performed with the tractor pulling a drawbar load (dynamometer car). The maximum sound level generated in each forward gear is recorded, together with that in a gear and corresponding engine speed which gives as near as 7.5 km/h forward speed as possible;
- **“Without Load”** tests are performed with no drawbar load but, to provide comparison with the “Under Load” tests, in a gear and corresponding engine speed which gives as near as 7.5 km/h forward speed as possible. A further “Without Load” noise level is also recorded at the tractor’s maximum forward speed.

Noise Code (Code 5) test results are similar to those of the Performance Code (Code 2) in that they are tractor specific; they relate only to one model /vehicle configuration. Also, unless made public at the wish of the test applicant / manufacturer, the test results remain confidential and are not released by OECD.
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Operator Safety (ROPS / FOPS) Test Codes

Roll-Over Protective Structure (ROPS) Test Codes

Why Do Tractors Need ROPS?

Tractors spend much of their time working off-road in the countryside, but these often variable conditions (e.g. slopes, slippery surfaces, rivers and drainage ditches) introduce a risk of instability, potentially leading to vehicle roll-over. Historically, before the widespread introduction of ROPS, tractor roll-over caused the deaths of many tractor drivers each year: the risk of severe injury or fatality was very high. Fortunately ROPS have long been recognised as an effective means of greatly reducing the likelihood of operator injury during overturning accidents involving agricultural tractors, construction or related forestry machinery. The presence of a ROPS cannot guarantee the operator will survive every type of roll-over accident; unfortunately some are simply too severe, but the practical benefits of ROPS are clearly shown by the data below, which comes from the UK.

![Tractor Overturning Fatalities](image)

(courtesy UK Health & Safety Executive)

In 1970 it was made a legal requirement for all ‘new’ tractors sold in the UK to be fitted with ROPS and from 1977 onwards ROPS had to be fitted to all existing tractors in-use on farms. As can be seen, the number of operator deaths due to tractor roll-over dropped dramatically from approx. 35 – 45 per year to approx. 4 – 8 per year. Today in the UK, most roll-over deaths result from the operator having been partially ejected from the protective zone provided by the ROPS, often because of the failure to wear a seat belt.
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

History of ROPS / ROPS Test Standards Development

Sweden was one of the first countries to require tractors to be fitted with Roll-over Protective Structures (ROPS) back in the late-1950s, but similar national ROPS legislation followed in many other countries over the next 10 years. However, it’s all very well to require ROPS to be fitted, but how can you ensure that the designs are fit-for-purpose and indeed are suitable for the particular design and size of tractor to which they are fitted? Many different agricultural engineering research institutes and universities studied the design and testing requirements for ROPS. This was achieved by a combination of research, testing and examination of tractor roll-over accidents. In many cases tractor roll-overs were re-created under relatively controlled conditions, so the likely loadings applied to the ROPS and their subsequent behaviour of the structures could be studied. Today computer simulation modelling is often used.

Over time the resulting national ROPS testing standards were harmonised to create those which we know today, allowing OECD to be at the forefront of ROPS test standards development.

Initially ROPS performance validation tests were performed by use of a sequential combination of ‘Dynamic’ swinging (pendulum-type) mass impacts from the rear, side and possibly the front of the structure, supplemented by gradually-applied crushing loads to the upper ‘roof’ of the ROPS. This procedure is typified by OECD Code 3, which was originally introduced in 1966. The purpose of all ROPS tests is to ensure the ROPS will safely absorb a certain minimum level of strain energy during loading, without the structure failing or deflecting into the safety ‘clearance’ zone likely to be occupied by the operator. The level of test loading is related directly to the test tractor’s mass because, during a roll-over, the heavier the vehicle, the greater the forces and impact energy which will be applied to the ROPS.

As tractor power and mass increased during the late-1960s and early-1970s, it became clear that the ‘Dynamic’ ROPS test procedure had certain limitations for testing ROPS fitted to heavier tractors. Quite simply it was increasingly difficult to apply the mass-related dynamic loading in a controlled and safe way as tractor mass increased. This problem was solved by the development and introduction of the ‘Static’ ROPS test procedure (OECD Code 4) in 1983. Following a great deal of research in a number of countries, a test procedure was developed which replaced the swinging pendulum mass with a series of slowly-applied loadings. The direction and sequence of loadings was retained, as were the vertically-applied crushing loads. The loading sequence for OECD Code 4 is shown in Figure 1. As before, the loading / strain energy levels which the ROPS must withstand are directly related to mass of the test vehicle.
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Figure 1. Typical OECD Code 4 ‘Static’ ROPS test loading sequence

Today’s ROPS Test Codes have not changed so very much from the 1980’s. The family of OECD ROPS Codes has expanded to include test procedures for Narrow-Track (wheeled, vineyard and orchard) tractors (Codes 6 and 7), plus Crawler (tracklaying) tractors (Code 8) and Telehandlers (self-propelled variable reach all-terrain forklift trucks for agriculture) (Code 9). Fewer dynamic ROPS tests are performed today, the majority being conducted by the ‘static’-type procedures, of which Code 4 is the most frequently used.

However, unlike the other OECD Test Codes, a ROPS test relates to the particular structure tested, which may subsequently be fitted to a range of different tractor models. So the structure if usually tested with loadings to suit the heaviest model in the vehicle range, in the safe knowledge that the requirements of the lighter models will be satisfied. Also, the results of OECD ROPS tests are not made available to the Public, but remain confidential to the vehicle / ROPS manufacturer and the testing station which performed the test. When tested a test report is produced; this is subsequently checked by the OECD Coordinating (Quality Control) Centre and, if all is in order, an OECD Approval Number is issued for the ROPS to prove that it has met the test requirements. A list of ROPS tested, their OECD Approval numbers and the tractor makes and models for which they are suitable is available to the Public via the OECD Tractor Codes Website (www.oecd.org/tad/tractor).
About the OECD Tractor Testing Codes

Falling-Object Protective Structure (FOPS) Test Codes

**Why Do Tractors Need FOPS?**

Falling-Object Protective Structures (FOPS) are more commonly found on vehicles used in construction and forestry applications. They are frequently provided either by strengthening the cab roof or by fitting some form of external protective guard above it. In any case the purpose of a FOPS is to prevent vertically-falling objects from entering the operator’s safety zone and causing injury.

Certain regions, notably the Scandinavian countries, where it is common for agricultural tractors to spend part of the year performing light-duty forestry tasks, have required tractors be fitted with FOPS for many years. In recent years greater interest has been shown in this requirement within the European Union. In agricultural applications the specified (light-duty) FOPS requirements can often be met by a suitably reinforced plastic or composite material cab roof, supported by the ROPS.

**The OECD FOPS Test Code**

Many different FOPS test procedures exist, but all are relatively similar. A drop test object (*usually a steel sphere or cylinder*) is dropped from a certain height onto the FOPS. If it penetrates the FOPS or causes the FOPS to deflect to such an extent that it enters the driver’s safety zone, then the test is failed: otherwise the FOPS passes. The test object drop height and mass is chosen to subject the FOPS to a certain level of impact energy. The more demanding the intended operating environment of the vehicle, the higher the impact energy level. Depending upon the precise construction of the FOPS (*e.g. different materials or thicknesses*), more than one drop test may have to be performed upon different areas of the FOPS upper surface.

The OECD (*Code 10*) FOPS Test is intended only for tractors used for traditional agricultural tasks and therefore features a relatively low impact energy level compared with FOPS test procedures intended for construction or forestry equipment. A FOPS test procedure is also included within OECD Code 9 for the testing of both ROPS and FOPS fitted to Telehandlers (*variable-reach rough terrain forklift trucks*). The impact energy levels of the Code 9 FOPS test (*two alternative levels are provided*) are significantly greater than that found in Code 10 for agricultural tractors.

Similar to the OECD ROPS Test Codes, a FOPS test relates only to the particular structure tested, not a particular tractor or telehandler model. The FOPS may subsequently be fitted to a range of different tractor / telehandler models: as long as the mountings to the vehicle and the (*precise*) operator seating location are unchanged, the results are broadly applicable.

Again, as with ROPS tests, the results of OECD FOPS tests are not made available to the Public, but remain confidential to the vehicle / FOPS manufacturer and the testing station which performed the test. When tested a test report is produced, this is subsequently checked by the OECD Coordinating (*Quality Control*) Centre and, if all is in order, an OECD Approval Number is issued for the FOPS to prove that it has met the test requirements.
THE OECD TRACTOR CODES

Code 2: the performance of tractors

Code 3: the strength of protective structures for standard tractors (Dynamic Test)

Code 4: the strength of protective structures for standard tractors (Static Test)

Code 5: noise measurement at the driver’s position(s)

Code 6: the strength of the front-mounted roll-over protective structures on narrow-track wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors

Code 7: the strength of the rear-mounted roll-over protective structures on narrow-track wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors

Code 8: the strength of protective structures on tracklaying tractors

Code 9: the strength of protective structures for telehandlers

Code 10: the strength of falling object protective structures for agricultural and forestry tractors

OECD Standard Codes For the Official Testing of Agricultural and Forestry Tractors

www.oecd.org/tad/tractor
Advantages of the OECD Tractor Codes

- Global Certificate
  OECD approval numbers are recognized in 26 countries including 4 non-OECD members (China, India, the Russian Federation and Serbia).

- Global Network of Testing Stations
  OECD has currently 30 testing stations located in Europe, Asia and America, which ensure compliance with OECD tests and procedures.

- Fast Turnaround
  Average approval time is less than 5 days.

- EU Equivalence
  Equivalence of OECD Tractor Codes to EU Directives

- Enhanced Credibility and Fair Trade
  Tests done in a member country are always validated by the OECD’s Co-ordinating Centre. This enhances credibility of tests for operators and guarantees compliance of manufacturers with rules and regulations promoting fair trade.

- Operator Safety
  Operator safety is one of the main pillars of the OECD Tractor Codes. The certification of adequate Roll over protective structures (ROPS) and falling object protective structures (FOPS) has contributed to the reduction of tractor fatal accidents.

- Constant Evolution
  OECD Tractor Codes are updated regularly to take into account improvements in technical performance, safety and environmental protection.

- New Markets
  OECD Tractor Codes membership is constantly expanding bringing new market opportunities.

- Export Growth
  On average OECD Tractor Codes member countries report a 30 percent increase in tractor exports.

www.oecd.org/tad/tractor
OECD Tractor Codes Brochure

The OECD Tractor Codes contain a set of rules and testing procedures on performance and safety.

The brochure can be found on the Tractor Codes website at following address: http://www.oecd.org/tad/tractor

As part of the Strategic Plan to raise the visibility and awareness of the OECD Tractor Codes, a short video entitled Improving farm tractor safety standards worldwide can be found at the following link:

http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/code/tractors.htm
The OECD Tractor Codes are in constant evolution, they are updated regularly to take into account improvements in technical performance, safety and environmental protection. As part of this process, OECD Tractor Codes organises Biennial Test Engineers’ Conferences (TEC). These unique events gather engineers and stakeholders from around the globe to review and discuss testing practices. The TEC contributes to facilitate the verification of test reports carried out by the Co-ordinating Centre, which liaises between the National Testing Stations and the OECD for technical matters and allows test engineers to discuss, learn and exchange new ideas, methodologies and best practices.

18 Test Engineers’ Conferences were organised between 1981 and 2015.

The 18th Conference took place in Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, United States in October 2015.
Delegates discussing rear-Foldable ROPS at the Nebraska Testing Station in the US.
Technical Working Group Meetings

Dr. Gürsel KÜSEK (General Director) and Dr. Metin TÜRKER (Deputy Director General) from the Turkish General Directorate of Agricultural Reform welcomed delegates to Turkey and to TAMTEST. They highlighted the importance of OECD Tractor Codes and their relevance to Turkish Agricultural Machinery Industry. Turkey is one of the founding Members of the OECD Tractor Codes and hosted the OECD Test Engineers’ Conference in 2007. Ibrahim Ergül (TAMTEST) provided a brief overview of the history of TAMTEST (Turkish OECD Testing Station).
OECD Tractor Codes and ANTAM

Participation of the OECD Secretariat to the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM)

The OECD Secretariat participated in the ANTAM Annual Meeting held in New Delhi, India in December 2015.

The Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization (CSAM) is a regional institution of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), based in Beijing, China. The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) is based at CSAM, and is a regional network to promote trade in safe and reliable agricultural machinery through adoption of uniform regional testing codes and procedures. OECD Tractor Codes is a member of the Steering Committee of this group, together with FAO, UNIDO and ENAMA.

China, India, France, Japan, Korea and Russia are members of the OECD Tractor Codes and are also members of this new ANTAM body.

OECD and ANTAM will try to organise a joint meeting in 2016. This will provide a unique opportunity for both organisations, as well as, for respective member countries to share experiences and learn from each other. Furthermore, this will help us to find ways to complement the work under development in each organisation.
OECD Tractor Codes in Asia

A particular feature of the OECD Tractor Codes is that, since 1981, a Test Engineers’ Conference is organised every two years at the invitation of a participating country. The first Asian country that joined the Tractor Codes was Japan in 1966. Japan hosted the OECD Test Engineers’ Conference in Omiya, in 1997. China joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988 and was the second Asian country to host the Engineers’ Conference in Beijing and Luoyang in 2005. Korea became an official Member of the Tractor Codes in 1995 and was the third Asian country to host the Engineers’ Conference in Suwon in 2009. Test Engineers’ Conferences permit a correct and coherent interpretation of testing procedures and their development. Their primary purpose is the observation, review and discussion of testing practices by Test Engineers. They facilitate the verification of test reports carried out by the Co-ordinating Centre, which liaises between the National Testing Stations and the OECD for technical matters.

The three Asian countries that have hosted an OECD Test Engineers Conference demonstrated the relevance of the programme in the region. Over the last years, China has been one of the three countries with the highest amount of test reports sent to the OECD for approval.

India joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988. Farm machines and equipment play a pivotal role in crop production, and its handling, transportation, processing and preservation. Recognizing this, the Govt. of India had undertaken imports of farm equipment in the First Five Year Plan period. Simultaneously, for promoting the use of machines, the Government established the "Agricultural Machinery Utilization Training Centre" in 1955 at Budni (Madhya Pradesh). Prior to this, use of farm machines in the country, was quite scant. The objective of establishing the Budni Centre was to train the prospective farmers on proper use, maintenance and up-keep of farm machines. Subsequently, considering the imperativeness of the indigenous manufacture of farm machines/equipment, in 1959, a testing wing was added to the Centre; primarily with a view to ascertain the suitability of agricultural machines/equipment to the agro-climatic conditions of the country. The Centre was renamed 'Tractor Training and Testing Station'. In the year 1983, the Tractor Training and Testing Station was upgraded and renamed 'Central Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute'. Viewing the importance of the testing of farm machines and training on various aspects of farm machinery, and to cope-up with the increased demand of trained manpower in the field of agricultural mechanization, three more Institutes were set up at Hissar (Haryana), Anantapur (Andhra Pradesh) and Biswanath Chariali (Assam) in the year 1963, 1983 and 1990 respectively.

Over a period of 5 decades, with the growth of indigenous production of tractors and farm equipment, the Institute has developed the necessary expertise and infrastructure and has attained International Standards in the field of farm machinery training and testing and is well recognized amongst leading testing organizations in the world. The Institute has accreditation of Organization for Economic Co-operation & Development OECD), Paris which has helped in export promotion of Indian Tractors.
OECD Tractor Codes Meetings to be held at OECD and abroad in 2016/17

25-26 February 2016
OECD Headquarters
Annual Meeting of the OECD Tractor Codes

23-24 May 2016
Technical Working Group Meeting on Updating the Codes
Vienna, Austria

6-7 October 2016
Technical Working Group Meeting on Updating the Codes
Moscow, Russia

23-24 February 2017
OECD Headquarters
Annual Meeting of the OECD Tractor Codes

Some pictures of OECD
Photographer: Luc Boegly
### Miscellaneous Events / Conferences on Tractors in 2016-2018

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>EURAGENG Events</td>
<td>Hannover, Germany</td>
<td>10-11 November 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eurageng.eu/events">http://www.eurageng.eu/events</a></td>
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Useful information

The following OECD web pages can be consulted for additional information (latest publications, news and events, list of participating countries).

**Agriculture (general):**  
www.oecd.org/tad

OECD Directorate for Trade and Agriculture  
2, rue André – Pascal  
75775 Paris, Cedex 16  
France

**Codes and Schemes (general):**  
www.oecd.org/tad/code

Tractors:  
www.oecd.org/tad/tractor

**Contact:**

Jose Brambila-Macias, Programme Manager  
E-mail: jose.brambila-macias@oecd.org
Miscellaneous information
This edition of the Agricultural Outlook – the twenty-second OECD edition and the twelfth prepared jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – provides projections to 2025 for major agricultural commodities, biofuels and fish. The 2016 report provides a special focus on prospects and challenges for agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The market projections not only cover OECD member countries (European Union as a region) but also FAO member countries, notably Brazil, the Russian Federation, India, People's Republic of China and South Africa.
OECD Publishing

OECD Publishing is one of the world’s largest publishers of books in the fields of economics and public affairs. It publishes more than 250 new books, 40 updated statistical databases, and thousands of new statistical tables, working papers, and journal articles each year. What's New @ OECD is OECD’s monthly e-newsletter highlighting key new books, reports, and statistics from various OECD sources. To sign up to receive it each month, go to:

www.oecd.org/about/publishing/oecddirect.htm

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www.oecd.org/bookshop
Two and three star Hotels close to OECD Headquarters – Paris 16th

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<td>+33 1 42 30 83 72</td>
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<td>+33 1 42 24 45 41</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hotel.nicolo@wanadoo.fr">hotel.nicolo@wanadoo.fr</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>WINDSOR HOME ***</td>
<td>3, Rue Vital, 75116 Paris</td>
<td>+33 1 45 04 49 49</td>
<td>+33 1 45 04 59 50</td>
<td><a href="mailto:whparis@wanadoo.fr">whparis@wanadoo.fr</a></td>
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<td>Muette or Passy</td>
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Getting to the OECD Headquarters

Address: 2, rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

The Château de la Muette is the centre of the OECD Headquarters. This historic building is adjacent to the OECD Conference Centre. Please consult the links provided on the OECD Conference Centre website for instructions on how to get here and formalities to obtain a badge: www.oecd.org/conferencecentre

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<td>Line 52 – La Muette Boulainvilliers Stop</td>
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For more information concerning public transport in the Paris region, please consult the RATP website, http://www.ratp.fr/

Air France coaches are at your service with 5 regular bus lines taking you to and from the airports. Please see their website for more information, http://videocdn.airfrance.com/cars-airfrance/

Map of the area around OECD Headquarters, 2 rue André Pascal, 75116 Paris
Tractor Codes Member Countries

- Austria
- Belgium
- China
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Iceland
- India
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Korea
- Luxembourg
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Russian Federation
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- United States

Formal Applicant Countries

- Brazil
- Bulgaria

Potential Member Countries

- Argentina
- Belarus
- Indonesia
- Malaysia
- México
- Paraguay
- Philippines
- Saudi Arabia
- Thailand
- Ukraine

http://www.oecd.org/tad/tractor