G20 leaders must step up efforts to resist protectionism

The 8th OECD-WTO-UNCTAD report calls on G20 governments to step up efforts to resist protectionism in the face of continuing high unemployment and a weak economic recovery. The organisations say that strengthened multilateral cooperation is needed and urge countries to show leadership in keeping markets open.

Business models of banks, leverage and the distance-to-default

From the onset of the crisis, the OECD has argued for clear and intelligible bank regulations. The new research in this study models the distance-to-default (DTD) of a large sample of banks with the aim of shedding light on policy and regulatory issues.

Global foreign direct investment flows continue shrinking

Preliminary estimates in the October edition of FDI in Figures show that global FDI flows continued shrinking in the second quarter of 2012, down 10% from the previous quarter and 14% from a year earlier, to around USD 303 billion. Download the data used to prepare FDI in Figures in Excel format.

Latin American governments look to improve the investment climate

With investment flows into Latin America dropping sharply in 2012 (see article), Costa Rican President Laura Chinchilla will open discussions on practical policy options for formulating investment strategies with a specific focus on global value chains at this Costa Rica-OECD-IDB conference on 31 October-1 November.

Financial education in Latin America

This Colombia-OECD-World Bank conference on 31 October-1 November will focus on Latin American experiences in the development and implementation of national strategies for financial education, measurement of financial literacy and analysis of programmes targeted at hard-to-reach groups.

Advancing corporate governance reforms in Russia

OECD Russia Corporate Governance Roundtable members met in Moscow on 25-26 October to discuss board formation; takeovers, tender offers and squeeze outs; alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the securities market; and, corporate governance and listing requirements.

2012 OECD-Asian Roundtable on Corporate Governance

One year after endorsing Reform Priorities in Asia: taking corporate governance to a higher level, Roundtable members met in Tokyo on 24-25 October to discuss areas of enforcement, abusive related party transactions, minority shareholder protection, shareholder engagement, and performance of boards.

Measuring SME policy reforms in South East Europe

The SME Policy Index is a tool to support policy makers in tapping the full potential of SMEs as drivers for job creation and economic growth. Two new reports assess the convergence of national SME policies with the 10 principles of the Small Business Act for Europe in the Western Balkans and Turkey and the Eastern Partner Countries.