

OECD PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2007/08 CHINA

OUTPUT AREA 1.1.1 – MULTILATERAL REVIEW OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

Output results 2007-08:	Two issues of the <i>OECD Economic Outlook</i> per annum, each one containing <i>i.a.</i> a set of notes on China
Directorate:	ECO
Description:	Each Economic Outlook will contain a note on China.
Events:	The Economic Outlook is launched with a press conference: end-May and end-November 2007 and end-May and end-November 2008.
Publications:	Economic Outlooks are published twice a year, in late May and late November.
Website:	www.oecd.org/eco/economic_outlook
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OUTPUT AREA 1.1.2 COUNTRY PEER REVIEWS OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

Output results 2008:	Economic Survey of China
Directorate:	ECO
Description:	The OECD's second Economic Survey of China will be completed and launched in 2008.
Events:	EDRC meeting (Q3 2008)
Publications:	Economic Survey of China 2008
Website:	www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/nonMembers
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OUTPUT AREA 1.2.1 ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INDUSTRY AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Output results 2007/08:	Update and expansion of six OECD databases related to structural analysis and globalisation
Directorate:	STI
Description:	Extension of the Input-Output database to include an update of tables for China. The Input-Output database is used in productivity analysis and structural policy analysis throughout the OECD. Expected outcomes: Use of the Input-Output database for policy analysis in OECD Member and non-Member economies, and by researchers and private organisations. Greater use of empirical evidence to underpin policy making. Subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions.

Contact person:

Yoshiaki Tojo – yoshiaki.tojo@oecd.org

B. Output results 2007-08: Reports and country reviews on employment, skills and local governance

Directorate: CFE

Description: Some activities of the OECD LEED Centre for Local Development (see the chapter on Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia) are part of the China programme.

- Study on *Designing Local Skills Strategies*: skills matter to local economies in many different ways, impacting on issues as diverse as foreign direct investment, innovation and social cohesion. In response, local stakeholders are increasingly working together to develop local skills strategies, focusing on three issues in particular: attracting and retaining talent, upgrading the skills of the current labour force, and integrating hard to reach groups into the skills development system. In 2007-08, the OECD LEED Programme will be examining 14 case studies of strong and innovative practice in designing local skills strategies from OECD countries and China, El Salvador, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. The focus is both on cities and urban areas that need to adapt and increase their skills base, and on rural areas that are losing skills through demographic change and emigration. The project is receiving support from the European Commission and is implemented in co-operation with ELS and the Development Centre.

- *Local Management of Employment and Training in East Asia*

A policy dialogue on the local management of employment and training is underway with East Asian countries who have expressed a growing interest in decentralisation and partnerships. The project analyses policy and institutional developments in Japan, Korea and China and make comparisons with development in Western countries.

Publications:

- Local Management of Employment and Training (2007)
- Integrating Employment, Skills and Economic Development (2008)
- Designing Local Skills Strategies (2008)
- Dealing with Loss of Skills (2008)

Website: www.oecd.org/cfe/leed; www.Trento.oecd.org

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OUTPUT AREA 1.2.3 - SHIPBUILDING

Output results 2008: Reports enhancing the understanding of the world's shipbuilding markets

Directorate: STI

Description:

Report on the shipbuilding industry in China. This report will provide background information and analysis of the Chinese shipbuilding industry, its structure, and its future prospects.

Expected outcome: China is currently the third largest producer of ships, and has the stated aim of becoming the largest producer. The report will provide a greater understanding of market developments, industry structures and the role played by emerging economies. Better information for governments and industry on how to deal with new developments.

Events: Workshop on shipbuilding developments and policies of specific interest to non-Member-economies. Paris, Q4 2008

Publications: Report on the shipbuilding industry in China, Q2 2008

Contact person: Danny Scorpecci – danny.scorpecci@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 1.3.1 - DIGITAL ECONOMY

Output results 2007/08: A Framework of Policy Recommendations for the Future of the Internet

Directorate: STI

Description:

As part of its proactive global relations strategy, the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP) has identified China as one of the key players in the realm of the “information society.” In particular, the Committee is seeking to engage China in work on the “Future of the Internet” which will form the basis for the 2008 Ministerial.

The main projects involving China will be on-going work in the IT and Communications Outlooks as China continues to play a key role in both these markets as producers and users of ICT.

The OECD is the leading organisation in developing standards for measuring the information society. These standards are documented in the OECD Guide to Measuring the Information Society. In 2006, a workshop was held in China with the National Bureau of Statistics.

- Events:**
- China attended the May 2006 WPIIS meeting (Paris) and an invitation will be extended to the 2007 (London) and 2008 (Paris) meetings.
 - APEC-OECD workshop on Malware, Manila, 22-23 April 2007
 - APEC Data Privacy workshop and subgroup meetings, 22-25 June 2007, Cairns Australia
 - Collaboration with WTO, WIPO, *etc.* on Information Technology events, *e.g.* 10th Anniversary of the Information Technology Agreement in 2007.
 - OECD-APEC Malware Volunteer Group and CERTs Experts.
 - Participation in the 2007 ICCP Technology Foresight Forum.
 - ICCP aims to engage China as an observer in the lead up to the 2008 Ministerial organised by ICCP.
 - Participation at the Internet Governance Forum to be held in India, which China will attend, during the second half of 2008, including dissemination of the outcomes of the ICCP organised Ministerial taking place in June 2008
 - Following OECD-UNCTAD-ILO Joint Conference Geneva 4-5 December 2006: Potentially a meeting on using ICTs to achieve growth and development in 2008 with BRICS and other developing countries
- Publications:**
- Publication of Chapter 9 of the Communications Outlook 2007 which is devoted to the BRICS.
 - IT Outlook Chapter on “Overviews and trends” including BRICS and a review of non-Member market development and non-Member ICT firms.
 - IT Outlook Chapter on “ICT and ICT-driven global restructuring”, with special focus on China and India

Contact persons:

- Translation of IT Outlook into Chinese [as for 2002, 2004 and 2006 editions]
- Selected non-Members covered in IT Outlook policy questionnaires in 2007.
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- Malware and Privacy: Anne Carblanc - anne.carblanc@oecd.org
- IT Outlook: Graham Vickery - graham.vickery@oecd.org
- Communications Outlook: Dimitri Ypsilanti - dimitri.ypsilanti@oecd.org
- ICCP: Andrew Wyckoff - andrew.wyckoff@oecd.org or Sam Paltridge - sam.paltridge@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 1.3.2 - SCIENCE AND INNOVATION POLICIES

Output results 2007: Reports relating to the assessment of national science and innovation policies and instruments

Directorate: STI

Description:

Review of national innovation system and policy in China.

Expected outcome: The review of Chinese innovation policy provides a detailed assessment of the current capability, and mid-term prospects of Chinese innovation system, and a broad range of national science and innovation policies and instruments. It should lead to the implementation of the recommendations proposed by the OECD, to a greater understanding by other countries of the specificities of the Chinese innovation system, and to greater insights for Chinese policy makers into best practices in OECD countries.

Events: Conference to launch the Chinese innovation policy review: August 2007

Publications: *OECD Review of Innovation Policy: China*, October 2007

Website: www.oecd.org/sti/stpolicy

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OUTPUT AREA 2.1.3 - EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Output results 2007: Policies for developing tertiary education in China: establishing of a research network and a framework for research collaboration between China and Switzerland and other interested Member economies.

Output results 2008: Policies for developing tertiary education in China: Publication of research papers and findings of the activity.

Directorate: EDU

Description:

As a follow-up to recommendations from the two reviews of China which had an important impact on legislation and policy development in the sector these new activities aim to strengthen research capacity on tertiary education governance, finance and quality.

In order to identify mechanisms and means for a sustainable co-operation and involvement of interested researchers and institutions a series of seminars and study visits will be used to develop a series of research papers and a research network to facilitate the ongoing dialogue between China and interested Member countries. China, Switzerland, Austria and the United Kingdom will participate in the activity.

An international conference will be hosted by China in 2007. A publication with reports developed by the participating institutions will be issued at the end of the project.

- Events:**
- International Search Conference on Governance, Finance and Quality Assurance in Higher Education. (Zurich, 17-18 April 2007).
 - Study visit of Chinese researchers to higher education institutions in Switzerland (19-23 April 2007)
 - International Search Conference on Governance, Finance and Quality Assurance in Higher Education. (Beijing, Q4 2007 or Q1 2008)
- Publications:** Report, Q3 2008
- Website:** www.oecd.org/edu/nonMembereducation
- Contact person:** Gerhard Kowar – gerhard.kowar@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 2.2.3 - WELFARE AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Output results 2007: OECD Social Indicators: Social expenditures data base

Directorate: ELS

Description:

Social indicators included in *Society at a Glance* will be collected for the BRICS, where possible. The initial focus will be on social expenditures data.

Subject to additional grants.

Publications: Report on social indicators in the BRICS, Q4 2007

Contact person: Mark Pearson - mark.pearson@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 2.3.1 - ENVIRONMENTAL PEER REVIEWS, INDICATORS AND OUTLOOKS

Output results 2007: Environmental Performance Review of China

Directorate: ENV

Description:

The OECD Environmental Performance Review of China will be released at a Press conference in Beijing by the OECD Secretary General and Chinese leaders.

Events: Press conference, Beijing, Q2 2007

Publications: Environmental Performance Review of China, Q2 2007

Website: www.oecd.org/env

Contact person: christian.averous@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 2.3.3 - ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY (CHEMICALS)

Output results 2007/08: Guidelines and global relations events related to testing and assessment of chemicals and manufactured nanomaterials and Mutual Acceptance of Data

Directorate: ENV

Description:

The Secretariat continues to work with China in view of its provisional adherence to the Council Decisions related to the Mutual Acceptance of Data in the Assessment of Chemicals.

Website: www.oecd.org/env/glp

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OUTPUT AREA 2.3.6 - GLOBALISATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Output results 2007: Co-operation with Major Partners: China

Directorate: ENV

Description:

The Secretariat is in the final stage of mapping out specific co-operation activities with China for the period 2007-08. The areas currently being discussed are:

- Assessing the environmental implications of future economic development (environmental outlooks);
- Environmental programming and policies
- Economic and environmental linkages
- Strengthening environmental information systems and indicators
- Capacity building for environmental enforcement and compliance

Website: www.oecd.org/env/outreach

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OUTPUT AREA 3.1.1 – ADVOCACY OF FREER TRADE

Output results 2007: One country study: “Enhancing Market Openness through Regulatory Reform in China.”

- Output results 2008:**
- One synthesis report on cross-cutting trade issues in the large emerging markets (BRICs: Brazil, Russia, India and China).
 - Global Forum on Trade: one trade policy dialogue event among the BRICs and OECD Members

Directorate: TAD

Description:

As part of the OECD’s horizontal China Regulatory Reform Review, the Trade and Agriculture Directorate will write the chapter on the role of regulatory reform in supporting market openness in 2007.

Drawing on country reports for each of the BRICs, a synthesis publication will be prepared during 2008 containing a cross-cutting assessment of trade policy issues in these large emerging economies. It will include individual country perspectives as well as discussions of major themes such as market access, services liberalisation, non-tariff barriers and intellectual property rights.

The publication will be launched at a Global Forum event, also in 2008, which will be held with the objective promoting policy dialogue among OECD and BRIC country trade policy stakeholders.

Events: Global Forum on Trade meeting on Emerging Markets in the Global Economy: Opportunities and Challenges (location to be decided, June 2008)

Publications: Trade Policy in the BRICs (June 2008)

Website: www.oecd.org/ech/dialogue

Contact person: Malory Greene - malory.greene@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 3.3.1 TAX POLICIES AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Output results 2007/08:

- Updates to the Model Tax Convention and expansion of its use (Q2 2008)
- Updates and Extension of Transfer Pricing Guidelines (Q4, 2008)
- International VAT/GST Guidelines (Q4 2009)
- Annual Report on Current Tax Reform Issues (Q4)

Directorate: CTPA

Description:

Since becoming an Observer on the Committee on Fiscal Affairs in 2004, China has developed a close relationship with the CFA and has attended all CFA and Working Party Meetings. China will have a direct involvement in the development of the instruments and outputs referred to above. In addition, the China programme has expanded in size and depth of approach and for 2007 comprises six events in the areas of tax treaties, transfer pricing, tax policy and VAT.

Events: In 2007 China will attend the following events:

- Global Forum on Taxation Pre-meeting (Paris, 19 September).
- Global Forum Meeting on Tax Treaty (Paris, 20-21 September); the topic for this event in 2007 is “Administrative Aspects Relating to the Application of Tax Treaties” focussing on comparative approaches, system design, administration and policy issues. This will be held in September 2007 following which the topic for the 13th annual event will be decided.
- International Tax Dialogue – Global Conference on Small and Medium Size Enterprises (Buenos Aires, 16-19 October).
- Advisory Group for Co-operation with Non-OECD Economies (Slovenia, 20-22 March).

In addition, China will host the following events at the Yangzhou Centre in 2007. A similar programme will be developed for 2008 following discussions with the Chinese Ministry of Finance and State Tax Administration in September 2007.

2-6 April	Taxation of financial instruments
23-27 April	Tax treaty issues (including procedural aspects)
25-29 June	Transfer Pricing Guidelines
10-14 September	VAT compliance issues (including e-commerce)
19-21 September	Tax Policy reform
26-27 September	Taxation of non-residents
29 Oct – 2 Nov	Implementation of tax treaties

Website: www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook

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- Richard Parry – richard.parry@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 3.3.2 - INTERNATIONAL TAX CO-OPERATION

- Output results 2007/08:**
- A report updating the factual assessment of the progress made towards a level playing field (Q4 2007)
 - Practical recommendations, good practices and strategies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of exchange of information (Q4 2007).
 - Annual report on the outcomes of the International Tax Dialogue (Q4).

Directorate: CTPA

Description:

China has been an active observer in the Forum on Harmful Tax Practices since achieving Observer status in 2004 and plays a direct role in the development of the instruments and reports mentioned above. China is also very interested in developing its capacity in Exchange of Information and will host an event on this topic in 2007.

- Events:**
- Global Forum on Level Playing Field Issues (2007, tbd)
 - Exchange of Information event, Yangzhou Centre, 15-17 May 2007

Website: www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook

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 - Richard Parry – richard.parry@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 4.1.1 - INVESTMENT

Output results 2007: Draft 2008 Investment Policy Review and Preparatory Dialogue.

Output results 2008: 2008 Investment Policy Review published and launched.

Directorate: DAF

Description:

Through peer dialogue building on the recommendation of the 2003 and 2006 OECD Investment Policy Reviews of the country, in 2007-08, the OECD is co-operating with China to encourage responsible business conduct in China, improve China's FDI statistics and develop the understanding in China of recent developments in international investment agreements. This will be done subject to additional grants. The expected outcomes are: increased investment policy transparency and openness, enhanced contributions of responsible international business, better outcomes of investment agreements and improved FDI statistics for policy making.

- Events:**
- Multi-stakeholder symposium on encouraging responsible business conduct in China (Beijing, December 2007)

- Publications:**
- International Investment Perspectives (annual);
 - OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises Annual Report;
 - Investment for Development Annual Report;
 - 2008 OECD Investment Policy Review of China (by end-2008).

Website: www.oecd/daf/investment

Contact person: Kenneth Davies - kenneth.davies@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 4.1.3 - CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Output results 2007/08: Implementation of the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance: survey of policy options and good practices

Directorate: DAF

Description:

Although China participates in the Asia Roundtable on Corporate Governance and in the development of Roundtable recommendations, its unique characteristics and size have led to the development of a separate policy dialogue focusing on Chinese reform efforts. The policy dialogue meetings in 2007-08 will continue to address issues where China is considering reform and looking to benefit from OECD Member country experience. The 2007 meeting will focus on the OECD Principles and boardroom practices, specific boardroom challenges in state-owned enterprises, improving institutional capacity as well as recent corporate governance policy developments and practices in China and OECD. Because the state-owned sector is so dominant in China, it is most effective to treat overall corporate governance and governance issues for SOEs in an integrated context. For 2008, priorities, the nature of proposed outputs (recommendations versus comparative reports) and meeting dates will be further refined on the basis of the policy dialogue in 2007.

Events: China Policy Dialogue meeting, Shanghai, 29-30 March 2007

Website: www.oecd.org/daf/corporateaffairs/roundtables

Contact person: Fianna Jesover – fianna.jesover@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 4.2.1 - COMPETITION

Output results 2007/08: Capacity building events.

Directorate: DAF

Description:

A draft competition law is currently before the National People's Congress. When this law is passed, there will be a need for capacity building activity as the new competition regime is established.

Events: To be determined

Website: www.oecd.org/daf/competition

Contact person: Edward Whitehorn – edward.whitehorn@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 4.2.2 - FINANCE, INSURANCE AND PENSIONS

Output results 2007/08: Promoting open and efficient financial, insurance, pensions, public debt markets in China

Directorate: DAF/FIN

Description:

The OECD is currently discussing with China authorities a roadmap for future co-operation on financial issues which would include financial markets, pension, insurance, debt management.

Private pensions:

The main objectives are to help the Chinese authorities to further develop the regulatory system for private pension funds, and to engage the policy dialogue between the OECD and the Ministry of Labour and Social

Security (MOLSS) via meetings and conferences to facilitate the exchange of research and good practices on the operation and regulation of private pension systems. Key issues to be addressed in 2007 are:

- Identification of the problems holding back the development of the private pension schemes among small and medium-sized employers;
- Review of international practices, particularly in OECD countries, with a view to advising and providing practical recommendations to MOLSS on ways to improve China's current system;
- Upon request from MOLSS, assistance in drafting the first legislation on collective pension schemes.

Insurance:

The main objective is to integrate Chinese authorities in the activities of the OECD Network of Financial Management of Large-Scale Catastrophes and to contribute to the capacity building in China for the financial management of large-scale catastrophes. The OECD Network pursues the following main goals:

- identification of emerging financial threats and vulnerabilities;
- exchange of information and expertise on the financial mitigation and compensation of disasters;
- review of the related tools and schemes implemented in OECD and non-OECD countries with a view to considering the scope for improved or new tools, schemes and strategies to respond to emerging risks;
- development of policy analysis aimed at improving financial catastrophe mitigation and compensation strategies.

The conference on Improving Financial Risk Management should contribute to building national catastrophe insurance programme.

Public debt management:

The main objective is to create a policy platform for the Chinese debt managers, debt market regulators, central bankers and other financial policy makers to discuss the policy issues involved in the development of Chinese public debt management and government debt markets. A key goal is to increase the Chinese institutional capacity to manage its public debt, including the related development of its government securities market via sharing and learning from OECD country cases and best practices.

Governance of Securities Intermediaries:

The main objective is to promote dialogue between China and OECD on this policy issue, based on the analytical report. For this purpose, an expert meeting is planned to be held in late 2007 or 2008.

Events:

Insurance:

- Organisation of the conference on Improving Financial Management of Large-Scale Catastrophes in China, 2007

Private Pensions:

- Expert Meeting on the collective pension schemes in Beijing in May 2007
- Expert Meeting on the pension trusteeship in Beijing in October 2007
- OECD/IOPS Global Pension Forum in Beijing in October 2007

Public debt management:

- Annual OECD-China Forum on Public Debt Management and Government Securities Markets, Beijing, September 2007

Governance of Securities Intermediaries

- Expert Meeting of Governance of Securities Intermediaries in China, 2007 or 2008

Website:

www.oecd.org/daf/fin

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OUTPUT AREA 4.2.3 REGULATORY REFORM

Output results 2007: Multi-Disciplinary Analytical Reports and Peer Reviews covering regulatory quality, competition policy and market openness.

Output results 2008: Regulatory Reform Review of China

Directorate: GOV

Description:

The OECD has commenced work on the *Regulatory Reform Review of China*. The report will generate recommendations for China to improve its regulatory framework in respect to the capacities, tools and institutions for high-quality regulation; market openness; competition policy and municipal service provision (with a focus on water). In order to support discussions between the Chinese Government and OECD Member countries during the analysis and formulation of the review, working groups will carry out and supervise analysis and policy dialogue as an input to the review.

GOV/REG will ensure close working-level co-ordination with the Chinese Government, and in particular the National Development and Reform Commission, as well as co-operation with OECD Directorates and the IEA.

To support discussions between the Chinese Government and OECD Member countries during the analysis and formulation of the Review, the Secretariat will propose the creation of a number of working groups, composed of Chinese and OECD officials and experts, to carry out and supervise analysis and policy dialogue as a contribution to the review. Three working groups are envisaged, covering (i) trade and competition, (ii) regulatory policies and tools, and (iii) sectoral and multi-level issues, especially related to public services in cities. Stakeholders from the business community in OECD countries, through the BIAC (which has a committee on China), will also have the opportunity to participate in the working groups.

Events:

- Fact finding mission, Q2 2007
- Working Group meeting, Q2 2007
- Peer review meetings: Working Party, Q3 2007; Group on Regulatory Policy, Q4 2007

Publications: Regulatory Reform Review of China, Q1 2008

Website: www.oecd.org/regreform

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OUTPUT AREA 4.3.3 - TAX ADMINISTRATION

- Output results 2007/08:**
- Seven guidance and information notes for tax administrations on tax compliance issues (Q4 2008)
 - Seven guidance and information notes for tax administrators on selected taxpayer service delivery issues (Q4 2008)

Directorate: CTPA

Description:

China has been an active observer in the Forum on Tax Administration since 2005 and plays a direct role in the development of the instruments and reports mentioned above. China will also be involved in the work of the International Tax Dialogue and will attend the ITD event on Small and Medium Size Enterprises hosted by Argentina in 2007. In addition, China will participate in two bilateral events on tax administration – Auditing MNEs and Auditing Small and Medium size enterprises in 2007.

- Events:**
- ITD Global Conference on Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (Buenos Aires, October 2007)
 - Auditing MNEs – Vienna – 4-8 June 2007
 - Auditing SMEs – Vienna 28 May- 1 June 2007

Website: www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook

- Contact persons:**
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OUTPUT AREA 4.3.4 - TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

- Output results 2007/08:** Analytical reports and policy dialogues on the challenges facing China in terms of territorial development

Directorate: GOV (with a contribution from TAD)

Description:

In collaboration with different Chinese partners, the Secretariat will analyse and assess China's current territorial development strategy. This will imply analysing economic trends across the territory, comparing the growth patterns of different provinces and analysing the factors that enable some areas to progressively catch up with the coastal region. The project will also involve closely analysing and assessing the policies in place to balance development across the territory. This includes the big regional development strategies, as well as the overall decentralisation pattern and the vertical governance of policies that contribute to enhance the competitiveness of territories.

A closer look will be given to rural areas. The Secretariat will compare China's strategic approach for the development of rural areas to those of OECD countries. It will involve an evaluation of the weight of agriculture and agricultural policy in rural development, as well as an assessment of the distribution of budgetary support for different policy objectives (agriculture, rural education, rural health care system, physical infrastructure *etc.*).

- Events:**
- Experts Meeting on Rural Development in China, Beijing, 23-24 May, 2007
 - Workshop on Urban Development in China, Chongqing, June 2007
 - Workshop on Rural Development, 2008.

- Publications:**
- Rural China: Trends and Policy Challenges (2008)
 - Territorial Development in China: Trends and Policy Challenges (Q1 2009)

Website: www.oecd.org/gov/outreach
Contact person: Irène Hors – irene.hors@oecd.org

OUTPUT AREA 6.2.1 – STATISTICS CO-ORDINATION (OECD STATISTICAL WORK PROGRAMME)

Output results 2007/08: Expansion of the OECD Factbook

Directorate: STD

Description:

The *OECD Factbook* provides more than 100 annual indicators covering a wide range of areas: economy, agriculture, economic globalisation, education, energy, environment, foreign aid and quality of life, population and labour force, information and communications, *etc.* The data and graphs provided for these indicators are accompanied by text giving a brief description of the indicator, comments on the comparability of data and references for further information on the indicator. A dynamic link is provided for each table which directs the user to a Web page where the corresponding data are available in Excel format.

Only limited data for the BRICS were included in the 2006 edition of the *Factbook*, though the number of series will be expanded in the 2007 and 2008 editions, the limitation being the availability of annual indicators that are comparable with those compiled by OECD Member countries.

Publications: *OECD Factbook 2007* – March 2007
OECD Factbook 2008 – March 2008

Website: www.oecd.org/publications/factbook

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OUTPUT AREA 6.2.2 - STATISTICAL RESEARCH, COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION

- Output results 2007:**
- National Accounts
 - o Annual National Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Quarterly National Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Financial Accounts Database and Publication
 - o General Government Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Research on measurement issues
 - o Extension to the BRICS
 - Short-term Economic Statistics
 - o Main Economic Indicators Database and Publication
 - o Unit labour cost indexes database
 - o Original release data and revisions database
 - o Research on measurement issues
 - o Extension to the BRICS
 - Annual labour force statistics database and publication
- Output results 2008:**
- National Accounts
 - o Annual National Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Quarterly National Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Financial Accounts Database and Publication
 - o General Government Accounts Database and Publication
 - o Research on measurement issues
 - o Extension to the BRICS

- Non-observed economy
- Short-term Economic Statistics
 - o Main Economic Indicators Database and Publication
 - o Unit labour cost indexes database
 - o Original release data and revisions database
 - o Research on measurement issues
- International Trade and Balance of Payments Statistics
 - o International Trade database and publication
 - o Balance of Payments database and publication
 - o Research on measurement issues
- Annual labour force statistics database and publication

Directorate:

STD

Description:

STD does not have a programme of activities specifically aimed at one non-Member economy over 2007-08. Almost all of the Directorate's statistical activities for NMEs are aimed at the BRICS as a group, the only exception being China where the Directorate does have a small number of activities, notably on national accounts, and more recently on short-term economic indicators.

All five BRICS are regular observers for the OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT) and its two subsidiary bodies. They are also invited to participate all other STD regular and ad hoc meetings.

The focus of the activities with these NMEs is their engagement in the development of international statistical guidelines and recommendations and issues related to international statistical co-ordination through their participation of CSTAT, the Committee's two subsidiary bodies and other regular and *ad hoc* forums organised by the Directorate. A special bilateral program of exchange of best practices on national accounts methodology is conducted with China. The Directorate is also involved in the expanding on-going collection of key short-term and annual statistics for the BRICS countries, together with relevant metadata outlining concepts, classifications used and collection and compilation methodologies. Major limitations in this work are data availability and their comparability with similar data collected for OECD Member countries.

Events:

- OECD Committee on Statistics, Geneva, 13-14 June 2007; and Paris, June 2008
- Working Party on National Accounts, Paris, 1-5 October 2007; and Paris, October 2008
- Working Party on Financial Statistics, Paris, 1-2 October 2007; and Paris, October 2008
- 11th and 12th NBS-OECD National Accounts Workshop, Beijing, November 2007; Paris, November 2008
- Short-term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP), Paris, 25-27 June 2007; and Paris, June 2008
- Second World Forum, Istanbul, 27-30 June 2007
- 8th International Trade Statistics Experts Meeting, Paris, 10-13 September 2007; Paris, September 2008
- Expert Group on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange, Geneva, May 2007; Paris, May 2008

Publications:

- *Main Economic Indicators*, monthly
- Bilingual English-Chinese version of *Understanding National Accounts* (expected for end 2008)

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