

## OECD PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2007/08 INDIA

### OUTPUT AREA 1.1.1 - MULTILATERAL REVIEW OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

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

<b>Output results 2007:</b>	Economic Survey of India
<b>Directorate:</b>	ECO
<b>Description:</b>	The OECD's first <i>Economic Survey of India</i> will address some of the key challenges for sustaining high and inclusive growth. The Survey will review structural policy settings in a number of key areas – including product and labour markets, financial markets, the fiscal system, infrastructure provision, and human capital formation – and recommend policy options for improving economic performance. As well as economy-wide analysis, it will also use a number of policy indicators constructed at the state level to assess the impact of policy on performance and make policy recommendations to improve the performance of the lagging states.
<b>Events:</b>	EDRC meeting (30 May 2007)
<b>Publications:</b>	<i>Economic Survey of India</i> , Q3, 2007
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/nonMembers">www.oecd.org/eco/surveys/nonMembers</a>
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## 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 has identified India as one of the key players in the realm of the "information society." In particular, the Committee is seeking to engage India into work on the "Future of the Internet" which will form the basis for the 2008 Ministerial.

The main non-statistical work involving India will be special chapters that in the IT and Communications Outlook and work being undertaken in support of the Ministerial that looks at "Global Internet Opportunities" and the growth of India as an Internet power.

Dissemination of the OECD methodology for measuring the information society to India: 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 consultant carried out a scoping study on the availability and quality of ICT statistics in India. This report will be presented at the May 2007 meeting of the Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society, and may later be converted into an STI Working Paper. Based on the report, STI is planning to organise a workshop in India on measuring the information society, bringing together OECD experts and the relevant Indian organisations.

**Events:**

- India attended the October 2006 meeting of the ICCP and made a presentation of developments in ICT in that country. ICCP aims to engage India as an observer in the lead up to the 2008 ICCP organised Ministerial.
- Collaboration with WTO, WIPO, etc. on Information Technology events, e.g. 10th Anniversary of the Information Technology Agreement in 2007.
- Participation at the Internet Governance Forum to be held in India 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.
- Potentially a workshop with India / NASSCOM. In 2008 following on from Panel session on ICTs and Globalisation: China and India, June 2006:
- London, 21-22 May 2007: Presentation of document DSTI/ICCP/IIS/(2007)2 (see below) at the Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS)
- Delhi (t.b.c.): Seminar on measuring the information society
- March 2007: "Documenting Capabilities for Measuring ICT in India: A Position Paper", DSTI/ICCP/IIS/(2007)2. This document may be converted to an STI Working Paper later in 2007.
- Publication of Chapter 9 of the Communications Outlook 2007 which is devoted to the BRICS.
- Selected non-Members will be covered in IT Outlook policy questionnaires in 2007; Chapter in IT Outlook on "Overviews and

**Publications:**

trends” including BRICS and a review of non-Member market development and non-Member ICT firms; Chapter in IT Outlook on “ICT and ICT-driven global restructuring”, with special focus on China and India.

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### OUTPUT AREA 1.3.2 - SCIENCE AND INNOVATION POLICIES

**Output results 2008:** Reviews and reports on the assessment of national science and innovation policies and instruments

**Directorate:** STI

**Description:**

Country review of innovation policy in India

This work is aimed at drawing on international comparisons of science and innovation performance and peer review to identify policies that can be undertaken in individual OECD and non-OECD economies to enhance science and innovation performance. It will provide a detailed assessment of the 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 Indian innovation system, and to greater insights for Indian policy makers into best practices in OECD countries.

This review is subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions.

**Publications:** *OECD Review of Innovation Policy: India*

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### 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

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### 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:**

India is a provisional adherent to the Council Decisions related to the Mutual Acceptance of Data in the Assessment of Chemicals, after which it will take part in the work related to Test Guidelines and Good Laboratory Practice on a regular basis. India is expected to undergo an on-site evaluation of its GLP compliance monitoring programme in 2008.

**Website:** [www.oecd.org/env/glp](http://www.oecd.org/env/glp)

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### OUTPUT AREA 3.1.1 - ADVOCACY OF FREER TRADE

**Output results 2007:** One country study: “India’s Trade Integration, Realising the Potential.”

**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 a part of the Trade and Agriculture Directorate’s work on large emerging Markets in the Global Economy, this report addresses the implications of India’s trade and trade policy reform, for its own economy and the economies of the OECD countries. The report will discuss the targets in total factor productivity, fixed capital formation and trade that India would need to achieve in order to take its rightful place in the world economic system. The report will also provide an analysis of the current trade policy stance, and recommendations for trade policy reforms that would be conducive to achieving these targets

**Events:**

- Presentation of the report to the OECD Trade Committee (147<sup>th</sup> Session, 26-27 June 2007) and the invited representatives from India, Paris.
- Global Forum meeting on Emerging Markets in the Global Economy: Opportunities and Challenges (to be decided, June 2008)

**Publications:** Final report “India’s Trade Integration, Realising the Potential” to be published by the end of Q3 2007

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### 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)
  - Annual Report on Current Tax Reform Issues (Q4)

**Directorate:** CTPA

**Description:**

India became an Observer to the CFA in June 2006 and since then has been actively involved in the development of standards and guidelines in the international tax area. In addition, India will host a high level conference on Tax Reform in Delhi in July 2007, in co-operation with the Asian Development Bank. In addition, India will host a number of legislative development and reform advisory events on international tax issues with the assistance of the CTPA including treaties, transfer pricing, thin capitalisation and other legislation designed to counter international avoidance. One capacity building event on Issues in Tax Treaties is also planned

Further events for 2008 will be decided in September 2007.

- Events:**
- Indian Tax Reform: Achievements and Future Directions (2-3 July 2007)
  - Issues in Tax Treaties (22-25 January 2007)

**Website:** [www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook)

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### 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 and 2008)
  - Practical recommendations, good practices and strategies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of exchange of information (Q4 2007 and 2008)
  - Annual report on the outcomes of the International Tax Dialogue (Q4).

**Directorate:** CTPA

**Description:**

India will actively contribute to the work of the Forum on Harmful Tax Practices in these areas, will attend the Global Forum on level Playing Field Issues and will host an event on International Tax Avoidance and Evasion.

Further events for 2008 will be determined in September 2007.

- Events:**
- Global Forum on Taxation meeting on level Playing field Issues (tbd)
  - International Tax Avoidance and Evasion (Nagpur, 28 February- 2 March 2007)

**Website:** [www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook)

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#### OUTPUT AREA 4.1.1 - INVESTMENT

<b>Output results 2007:</b>	2009 Investment Policy Review: Preparatory Dialogue.
<b>Output results 2008:</b>	Draft 2009 OECD Investment Policy Review – peer dialogue and draft report.
<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>DAF</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Following the OECD-India Investment Roundtable held in Delhi in 2004 and the Dialogue at OECD in April 2005, the OECD will strengthen co-operation and conduct policy research in preparation for the first full OECD Investment Policy Review of India in 2009. Subject to additional grants for 2007-08.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Events:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Second Dialogue between India and the OECD Investment Committee (Paris, Q2 2007).</li><li>- Third Dialogue between India and the Investment Committee (Paris, Q3 2008).</li></ul>
<b>Publications:</b>	Investment for Development Annual Report.
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.oecd.org/daf/investment/">www.oecd.org/daf/investment/</a>
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#### OUTPUT AREA 4.2.1 - COMPETITION

<b>Output results 2007/08:</b>	Capacity building events.
<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>DAF</b>
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The Competition Commission of India is not yet operational, but will become so as soon as amending legislation is passed by the Indian Parliament. When this happens, there will be a need for capacity building activity.</p> <p>Subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions.</p>
<b>Events:</b>	To be determined
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.oecd.org/competition">www.oecd.org/competition</a>
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## OUTPUT AREA 4.2.2 - FINANCE, INSURANCE AND PENSIONS

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

**Directorate:** DAF/FIN

**Description:**

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

*Private pensions:*

The Government of India has recently undertaken a comprehensive reform of its old age retirement provision system.

The main objectives of this activity are to pursue policy dialogue and provide OECD expertise with a view to modernising the relevant laws and regulations. This will contribute to an improvement of the governance and regulatory practices of pension plans. The co-operation projects in private pensions will be set up to monitor the developments in private pension regulations, assess the pension regulatory framework of India against the OECD benchmark, identify specific gaps and suggest recommendations with an ultimate aim to have OECD principles endorsed in the national legislation.

*Insurance:*

The main objective is to closely integrate Indian authorities in the activities of the OECD Network of Financial Management of Large-Scales Catastrophes and to contribute to the capacity building related to the financial management of large-scale catastrophes. The OECD Network pursues three main goals:

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

*Financial markets:*

The aim of the planned expert mission would be to discuss with relevant Indian authorities possible avenues for strengthening further co-operation between OECD and India in the financial sector, including insurance, private pensions and financial education.

*Financial Education:*

Following the September 2006 OECD Conference on Financial Education in New Delhi, it is planned to develop the co-operation between India and the OECD on these issues further, including a strengthening of financial education and awareness and a monitoring of the evolution of financial education in India.

**Events:**

*Private pensions:*

- Organisation of an expert meeting on pension regulation in India (late 2007)
- Organisation of the conference on private pension issues in India (2008, date and venue to be determined)

*Insurance*

- First OECD Conference organised under the auspices of the International Network on the Financial Management of Large-Scale Catastrophes, Hyderabad, 26-27 February 2007

*Financial markets:*

- Expert mission seeking to strengthen co-operation on financial issues with India (late 2007)

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### OUTPUT AREA 4.3.1 - GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND RESOURCES

**Output results 2008:** Contribution of Indian data sets to *Government at a Glance. Measuring Government*.

**Directorate:** GOV

**Description:**

Beyond economies, measuring government activity is important because of the size of its activities and the consequent need to understand what it is achieving with the very significant expenditures. India will serve as a pilot for non-Member to become part of this overall OECD project

**Events:** Workshop on public sector measurement

**Publications:** Contribution to Government at a Glance Working Paper Series

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### OUTPUT AREA 4.3.3 - TAX ADMINISTRATION

**Output results 2007/08:** Guidance and information notes for tax administrations on tax compliance and taxpayer service delivery issues (Q4 2008)

**Directorate:** CTPA

**Description:**

India is directly involved in the Forum on Tax Administration responsible for developing the above outputs, but in addition is involved in a series of projects relating to the improvement of tax administration with specific reference to large enterprises. India will host, in co-operation with the Asian Development Bank, a high-level conference on tax reform which has important components related to taxpayer services and compliance. It will also host an event on management of Large Taxpayer units.

**Events:**

- Indian Tax Reform: Achievements and Future Directions (Delhi, 2-3 July 2007)
- Management and Control of Large Taxpayer Units (Nagpur, 8-12 October 2007)

**Website:** [www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/handbook)

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**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](http://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. All five BRICS are regular observers at the OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT) and its two subsidiary bodies. They are also invited to participate all other regular and *ad hoc* meetings of the Statistics Directorate.

The focus of STD 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. The Directorate is also involved in the expanding the on-going collection of key short-term and annual statistics for the BRICS, 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

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