



March 2012

The Development Centre: 50 Years of Sharing Knowledge



The [OECD Development Centre](#) thanks the over 400 people who participated in our [50th Anniversary celebration](#). The numerous events that composed "Development Week" convened a variety of development leaders from the private and public sectors, academia and civil society in a substantive dialogue on our analyses. Discussions served to enrich the debate by bringing in fresh ideas, expertise and perspectives that will certainly contribute to shaping new thinking on development. [The High Level Meeting of the Governing Board](#) resulted in a communiqué confirming the commitment of the Centre's members to this effort.

During this week, the Centre was proud to reaffirm its role as an inclusive space for knowledge sharing between OECD and non-OECD member countries. Recognising the shift of wealth to the east and south, the increasing interconnectedness of the global economy and the fact that good policy practices are put in place by governments around the world, we feel it is all the more important to have inclusive spaces for policy dialogue and mutual learning. This is what the Centre will continue to provide. Find out more at www.oecd.org/dev/50years.

WikiGender works to empower women at the UN



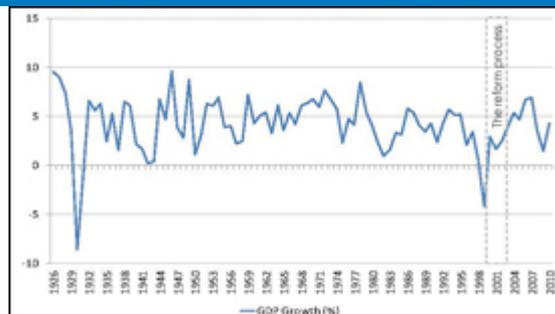
On 1 March, the OECD Development Centre co-organised, with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and the Government of Kenya, a panel discussion on "[Empowering women through the transformation of discriminatory social institutions](#)" at the 56th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York.

The OECD Development Centre presented its latest findings on [the links between discriminatory social institutions and food security](#) using the Social Institutions and Gender Index and the outcomes of a Wikigender online discussion on "[Equal rights to resources: the key to empowering rural women. But what's stopping it?](#)"

[United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's message for International Women's Day](#) highlights Development Centre research demonstrating the link between investing in rural women and national development.

Making Reform Happen in Colombia

[Making Reform Happen in Colombia](#) studies the interactions between different actors in the policy-making process of the 2001 fiscal transfer reform, within a context of economic crisis and a new political regime following the 1991 Constitution.



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Media Contact: Elodie.Masson@oecd.org

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

19-21 [African Conference on Measuring Well-Being and Fostering the Progress of Societies](#), organised in collaboration with the [High Commission of Planning of Morocco](#) (HCP), the [OECD Statistics Directorate](#), [PARIS21](#), the [African Development Bank](#) (AfDB) and the [United Nations Economic Commission for Africa](#) (UNECA). Rabat, Morocco. Dev.Emea@oecd.org

23-24 DevCom Seminar on "[Communicating Development Results](#)" jointly organised with the [Inter-American Development Bank](#) (IDB). Washington D.C.

DevCom invites development communication practitioners to contribute short Think Pieces on successful approaches and strategies in communicating development results. These Think Pieces will constitute background documents for debates during the IDB/DevCom Seminar.

For more information: Dev.Com@oecd.org

MAY

8 Presentation of the [Latin American Economic Outlook 2012](#), in collaboration with the [China Academy for Social Sciences](#) (CASS). Dev.Americas@oecd.org for more information.

25 The 4th edition of the [International Economic Forum on Latin America and the Caribbean](#) will take place in Paris. Co-organised by the [OECD Development Centre](#), the [Inter-American Development Bank](#) and the [French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry](#).

Watch the Forum website for more information: www.latameconomicforum.org

28 Launch of the 2012 [African Economic Outlook](#) in Arusha, Tanzania. For more information, go to AfricanEconomicOutlook.org or e-mail us at Dev.Emea@oecd.org

New working paper release from the [OECD Development Centre](#), and [Fedesarrollo](#), The Foundation for Higher Education and Development in Colombia, on [Making reform in Colombia: the process of regional transfer reform](#). This paper studies the interaction between different actors in the policy-making process of fiscal transfer reform in Colombia, and shows that the economic context and institutional factors were fundamental in achieving the reform.

[Download it here](#)

The Megaphone



The [African Conference on Measuring Well-Being and Fostering the Progress of Societies](#) will take place on 19 - 21 April 2012 in Rabat, Morocco. The forum is jointly organised by the [OECD Development Centre](#) and the [High Commission for Planning of Morocco](#) in collaboration with the [OECD Statistics Directorate](#), The [Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century](#) (PARIS21), the [African Development Bank](#) (AfDB) and the [United Nations Economic Commission for Africa](#) (UNECA). Sessions will focus on how to measure well-being and the progress of societies, enhance the relevance of measures and analysis for addressing key policy issues, and establishing frameworks for future work. It will be the primary mechanism for shaping the African contribution to the [4th OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policies through an open and frank exchange of views, sharing of experiences, deepening of knowledge and understanding and setting the regional agenda](#). [Online registrations are open until 10 April 2012](#).

For more information, go to www.oecd.org/dev/progressafrica or e-mail us at dev.cooperation-africa@oecd.org

The Washington consensus is to stabilize, liberalize and privatize, but does one size really fit all? What should be the role & size of the state? Should we preclude any form of industrial policy? Does policy matter for growth as long as countries have good institutions?

These question and more were explored in the [Inaugural Development Lecture in Honour of Angus Maddison](#).

If you missed the lecture, you can [view the presentation here](#).

Development Centre research informs UK parliament

The Development Centre was influential in the UK Parliament's report on [Tax in Developing Countries: Increasing Resources for Development](#).

The Wire

-  **RFI español** - [Desarrollo en el mundo: ¿cómo armar el rompecabezas que afecta a todos?](#)
-  **Vietnam+** - [Le Vietnam participe à la célébration du cinquantenaire de l'OCDE](#)
-  **The Straits Times** - [Johannes Jutting: The Middle Class goes Global](#)
-  **Au fait Maroc** - [Boulif plaide à l'OCDE pour une compétition "équitable"](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



The Development Centre's 50th Anniversary celebration generated almost 3 million impressions worldwide on Social Media sites.



Between 1980 and 2009, cereal yields increased by 60% in countries where women have equal rights to access land, compared to only 6% in countries where women have few or no rights to access land.



Key political economy elements of Colombia's 2001 Regional Transfer Reform, such as the communication and compensation strategies, were fundamental to stabilise the increase in regional transfers from 2.5% of GDP in 1991 to more than 5.5% of GDP in 2001 and to avoid a fiscal crisis.

Meet us on



50 years of sharing knowledge

