Implementing the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development

31 March 2020
14:00 – 17:00 hrs
Virtual Meeting – video conference
Implementing the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development

19th Meeting of the informal network of National Focal Points for Policy Coherence

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BACKGROUND

The OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) was adopted by the OECD Council in December 2019. At the last Focal Points Meeting on 4 December 2019, Members highlighted a number of areas as priorities for the work on PCSD going forward, including: more detailed guidance on the implementation of the PCSD Recommendation; indicators and monitoring tools to track progress in the implementation of the PCSD Recommendation; in-depth thematic work on key cross-cutting issues, such as PCSD and climate change; and ways to provide support to countries on the implementation of the PCSD recommendation, including support to national communications and awareness raising on PCSD, as well as through platforms such as the OECD-UNDP Global Hub for the Governance of the SDGs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

Against this background, national focal points will discuss requirements and aspirations for implementing the guiding principles of the OECD Council Recommendation on PCSD.

Participants will share concrete experiences, identify good emerging practices and priorities for implementation, and discuss challenges and ways to overcome them. The meeting will:

- support the work of the OECD secretariat to develop a detailed guidance note as well as tools to support Adherents in the implementation of the PCSD Recommendation;
- provide an opportunity to better understand needs and options for mobilising expertise to support countries in overcoming PCSD and related challenges for implementing the SDG agenda, also in the context of the COVID19 crisis, including through platforms such as the OECD-UNDP Hub on the Governance for the SDGs;
- Allow National Focal Points to agree on priorities for the future programme of work and budget in the area of policy coherence.

FORMAT OF THE MEETING

The meeting will be held virtually using the Zoom remote conferencing tool available at the OECD, which allows participants to intervene to speak by videoconference (including a chat function or a virtual hand-raising option) and share PPT presentations where appropriate. The meeting link as well as details on how to participate remotely will be shared with Focal Points closer to the date of the meeting.
DRAFT AGENDA

14:00 – 14:10 Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Welcome remarks

- Janos Bertok, Acting Director, OECD Public Governance Directorate

14:10 – 16:00 Session 1. Challenges and Opportunities in your country in implementing the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development?

In this session, panellists from OECD Member and partner countries will share their specific country experience in enhancing policy coherence for the implementation of the SDGs. They will put their experiences in the context of implementing the different principles of the PCSD Recommendation and share their views on how they plan to use the Recommendation for improving policy coherence going forward, and what challenges they may be facing. The session will also present an opportunity to highlight challenges and opportunities for implementing PCSD principles in making policy choices and trade-offs in the context of COVID 19.

Moderator:

- Carina Lindberg, Policy Analyst, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development, OECD Public Governance Directorate

Kick-off Speakers:

- Carmelo Abela MP, Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister (MSD) of Malta: Responsible for Sustainable Development, Social Dialogue and the Implementation of the Electoral Manifesto
- László Borbély, State Counselor, National SDG Coordinator Government of Romania
- Anna Pasková, Director, Department of Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development, Czech Republic.
- Erika Bernhard, Vice Director, Department of Development Cooperation in the EU and the UN, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria.
- Marguy Kohnen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Luxembourg.
- Jillian Campbell, Chief Statistician and Yannis Derbal, Associate Expert, UN Environment.
- Tatiana Teplova, Head of the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Goals Division, OECD Public Governance Directorate.

Tour de table based on issues for discussion:

- What good country practices could be included in the detailed guidance note to support the implementation of the PCSD Recommendation?
- What challenges are you facing in implementing PCSD principles and the broader SDG agenda? How does the current context related to COVID 19 affect the implementation of PCSD? How can PCSD recommendation support
addressing policy challenges created by COVID19? What type of support could help overcome these challenges both at the OECD-wide and country-specific level?

- What challenges are you facing in monitoring progress on PCSD? What lessons can be learned from the experience of piloting the methodology for the SDG indicator 17.14.1: “Number of Countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development”?

Background documents:
- OECD Recommendation of the Council on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development
- Governance for the SDGs: proposed scope, thematic approach and activities under the Hub on the Governance for the SDGs
- Country support under the Hub on the Governance for the SDGs: Questions and answers.
- Methodology for SDG-indicator 17.14.1: Mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

16:00 – 16:45 Session 2. Programme of Work and Budget 2021-2022

The preliminary draft PWB 2021-2022 on PCSD aims to provide a framework for taking forward the mandate provided by Members through the OECD Council Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. It is aligned with the overall priorities of the Organisation, and reflects a policy context of increasing global concerns that progress on the SDGs is slowing in many areas. It also reflects the global call for a decade of action to accelerate progress and deliver the SDGs by 2030, and the key role that the OECD can play in supporting countries and contributing to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda by relaying on its multidisciplinary and by leveraging its governance standards. In this session, focal points will provide feedback on the proposed outputs for the work on PCSD for the next biennium.

Moderator:
- Tatyana Teplova, Head of the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Goals Division, OECD Public Governance Directorate

Issues for discussion:
- Does the preliminary draft PWB adequately reflect the priorities of Members to advance PCSD? Are any priorities missing?
- Does the proposed outputs capture sufficiently the needs of countries to enhance PCSD?

Background documents:

16:45 – 17:00 Wrap up and next steps