

Spring 2015



National Prosperity through Modern Rural Policy: competitiveness and well-being in rural regions

The 10th OECD Rural Development Conference (19-21 May 2015 - Memphis, Tennessee), chaired by Secretary Tom Vilsack, USDA, gathered high-level representatives from Mexico, Canada, Japan, Korea and Poland as well as from the European Commission. Many other official representatives of OECD governments, international rural constituencies, academics, and stakeholders actively participated in the Conference where they discussed the implementation of a new rural policy for economic, environmental and social prosperity. [Read more...](#)



OECD Urban Policy Reviews: China

This review, presented in Shanghai in April 2015, examines the major challenges associated with China's shift to a new model of urbanisation, looking at a range of issues such as social and labour-market policies, land use and transport planning, urban planning, urban governance and public finance. The report, which received much praise during the launch at the China International Urbanisation Forum in Shanghai, presents a new assessment of China's major cities, which defines functional urban areas based on settlement patterns and commuting zones rather than cities defined as administrative units. [Read more...](#)



Effective Public Investment Across Levels of Government - Toolkit

The Toolkit is an on-line resource providing implementation guidance for the OECD Principles on Effective Public Investment Across Levels of Government. It supports both implementation and peer learning, with indicators and good practices from countries, regions, and municipalities. The objective is to help governments assess the strengths and weaknesses of their public investment capacity - with a particular focus on the sub-national level, and to set priorities for improvement. [Read more...](#)



Subnational Governments In OECD Countries: Key Data - 2015 Edition

This second edition fan chart provides compelling data and facts on how expenditure, investment and revenue are allocated by sub-national governments. The data highlights why strong sub-national governance capacity and tools to co-ordinate within and across levels of government can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending. [Access the data...](#)



OECD Urban Policy Reviews: Mexico 2015 - Transforming Urban Policy and Housing Finance

Mexico recently announced a new approach to housing and urban policy, calling for a more explicit qualitative focus on housing and the urban environment. The policy shift is a welcome development. This report makes recommendations to "get Mexican cities right" with strategies to improve housing finance, urban policy and the governance of urban areas. These themes and others will be explored at the [Sixth OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers](#), hosted by the Mexican authorities in Mexico City on 16 October 2015: "The Metropolitan Century: Policies for Resilient and Inclusive Cities." [Read more...](#)



Governing the City

How do cities govern themselves as they grow bigger? The answer can shape the competitiveness and quality of life of those cities and depends on a number of factors, ranging from the country's institutional framework to the city's specific socioeconomic dynamics. This report presents a typology of metropolitan governance arrangements observed across OECD countries and offers guidance for cities seeking for more effective co-ordination, in particular regarding transport and spatial planning. [Read more...](#)



The Metropolitan Century: Understanding Urbanisation and its Consequences

The world is undergoing an urbanisation process that will cause urbanisation rates to rise to more than 80% by the end of the century. This report outlines recent and likely future urbanisation trends and their consequences. It argues that this is both an opportunity and a challenge in that cities exist and grow because they are a source of economic prosperity offering amenities that benefit their residents. Urbanisation needs to be shaped by policy-makers to ensure that long-lasting benefits are experienced by all. [Read more...](#)



Stakeholder Engagement for Inclusive Water Governance

This report assesses the current trends, drivers, obstacles, mechanisms, impacts, costs and benefits of stakeholder engagement in the water sector. It also provides pragmatic policy guidance in the form of basic principles and a Checklist for Public Action with indicators, international references and self-assessment questions. These tools can help policy makers to set up the appropriate framework conditions needed to yield the short and long-term benefits of stakeholder engagement. [Read more...](#)



Ageing in Cities

This book examines trends in ageing societies and urban development and assesses the impact of ageing populations on urban areas as well as strategies for policy and governance responses. The report draws on new quantitative evidence as well as case studies and provides policy makers with insights and tools to mitigate the challenges of ageing societies and make the most of the opportunities they present. [Read more...](#)

Additional reports and working papers

- [OECD Territorial Reviews: The Krasnoyarsk Agglomeration, Russian Federation](#) examines the Agglomeration's performance and potential, particularly with reference to challenges as internal and external connectivity, human capital formation and innovation.
- [Governing the Metropolitan City of Venice](#) explores the implications for Venice of the adoption in 2014 of new legislation on the governance of metropolitan cities. It analyses a number of different "functional geographies" of the larger urban region centred on Venice that encompasses Padua, Treviso and Venice (PaTreVe).
- [OECD Territorial Reviews: Colombia](#) illustrates policy recommendations to help national authorities adopt a territorial approach to inclusive economic development. The OECD recommendations focus on how to improve regional data, involve territorial constituencies in the design of policy implementation and co-ordinate among sub-national bodies.
- [Compact City Policies: Korea](#) examines Korea's urban policies and offers a customised set of compact city policies that can accelerate Korean cities' sustainable development.
- [The Competitiveness of Global Port-Cities](#) aims to answer questions on how ports can regain their role as drivers of urban economic growth and how negative port impacts can be mitigated.
- [Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia](#) proposes an analytical framework for assessing green growth policies for fast growing Asian cities needing a green growth model that is adapted to their specific circumstances. (Working paper)
- [Breathing the Same Air? Measuring Air Pollution in Cities and Regions](#) presents a new set of estimates of exposure to air pollution (using satellite-based computations) at the city, regional and national levels for the 34 OECD countries, and at the regional and national levels for Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa. (Working paper)
- [Income Inequality, Urban Size and Economic Growth in OECD Regions](#) aims to understand how income inequality is associated with economic growth in OECD regions and whether the degree and type of urban concentration affects this relationship. (Working paper)
- [Metropolitan Governance of Transport and Land Use in Chicago](#) assesses the degree of institutional fragmentation of transport and land use planning in Chicago as well as the main challenges related to this institutional fragmentation. (Working paper)
- [Does Regional Economic Growth Depend on Proximity to Urban Centres?](#) analyses the spatial patterns of regional economic growth in Europe over the 1995 to 2010 period. (Working paper)

Upcoming events

- [The 4th OECD Knowledge Sharing Workshop on Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia](#), Hai Phong, Vietnam, 25-26 June 2015
- [OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy](#), Guadalajara, Mexico, 13-15 October 2015
- [6th OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers: The Metropolitan Century - Policies for Resilient and Inclusive Cities](#), Mexico City, Mexico, 16 October 2015
- OECD Ministerial meeting on Public Governance for Inclusive Growth, Helsinki, Finland, 28 October 2015
- Meetings of the RDPC, WPTI, WPRUR, OECD Paris, France, 2-6 November 2015
- 6th Meeting of the Water Governance Initiative, Paris, France 2-3 November 2015

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