

Autumn 2013



Ministerial Meeting - Regions and Cities: Where Policies and People Meet

Ministers responsible for regional, urban and territorial development from around the world will gather in Marseille, France on 5-6 December 2013 to share good practices and future opportunities in three areas: effective public investment strategies, inclusive growth in cities and regions, and new frameworks for fitting policies to places.

[Read more about the TDPC Ministerial...](#)



OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers - Better Cities for Better Lives: Bridging National and Local Policies to Deliver Growth and Well-being

The Fifth OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers, co-hosted by the City of Marseille and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council, will take place on 4-5 December 2013. The event will focus on how national governments and cities can better work together to foster growth and well-being. Discussions will be centred on mobilising investment in hard and soft infrastructures, fostering innovation and strengthening environmental sustainability, financial resilience and social inclusion.

[Read more about OECD Roundtable...](#)



OECD Rural Development Conference - Rural-urban Partnerships: an Integrated Approach to Economic Development

The 9th OECD Rural Development Policy Conference, on 23-25 October 2013, will launch the publication "Rural-Urban partnerships: an integrated approach to economic development". The conference is being organised in co-operation with the European Commission and is co-hosted by the Italian Department of Development and Economic Cohesion and *Regione Emilia Romagna*. [Read more about the Rural Conference...](#)



Towards OECD Principles on Effective Public Investment - A Shared Responsibility Across Levels of Government

The impact of public investment depends largely on HOW governments manage it, and notably how different levels of government co-ordinate and develop capacities to design and implement investment projects. Poor investment choices not only waste public resources, but also erode public trust and hamper future growth opportunities. To help address these governance challenges, the OECD is working to identify good practices, learn from good examples and identify framework conditions that are critical to make the most of public investment. [More about the proposed Principles...](#)



Green Growth in Cities

Cities can generate growth and jobs while becoming greener - this is the message of the OECD's recent Green Growth in Cities report. Drawing on case studies of Paris-IDF, Chicago, Kitakyushu and Stockholm, the report identifies green policies that can respond to urban growth priorities and suggests how to implement and finance them.

[More about the report...](#)



OECD Water Governance Initiative

The first meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative took place in Paris on the 27 & 28 March 2013. The meeting provided a multi-stakeholder network and policy forum to share ongoing reforms and good practices towards achieving agreed water governance targets. [Read more about the initiative...](#)



Workshop: Accessibility to Services in Regions and Cities - Measures and Policies

Participants discussed the policy relevance of inequalities in the access to services in regions and cities. Countries shared experiences on how to measure these inequalities and monitor progress towards fairer provision and better quality services.

[More about the workshop...](#)



Rural-Urban Partnerships Conference

Urban and rural areas have different assets that are often complementary and interact within the spatial context of functional regions. Urban-rural linkages are high on the policy agenda as a means to improve territorial cohesion through better accessibility to services, stimulation of economic development and job creation, increased resource efficiency and more efficient land-use through better developed territorial governance.

[More on this event...](#)

Additional Reports

- [OECD Urban Policy Reviews: Chile](#). The OECD Urban Policy Review of Chile explores the structure and challenges of urban policy in Chile. It examines urban development frameworks and sector policies, and makes recommendations for revitalising Chile's urban governance architecture.
- [Green Growth in Cities: Stockholm, Sweden](#) and [Green Growth in Kitakyushu, Japan](#). Each of these case studies assesses green growth trends, challenges and opportunities in the city, looking at socio-economic trends, environmental performance and urban policies for land use, transport, buildings, waste, energy and water. The cities' green innovation potential is assessed and local, regional and national institutions are examined. Findings from these reports contribute to the full report [Green Growth in Cities](#).
- [Passing the Buck? Central and Sub-national Governments in Times of Fiscal Stress](#). The paper explores interrelations between the fiscal situation of sub-national and central governments, or - put differently - whether and how sub-national and central governments contribute to each other's fiscal difficulties.
- [The Impact of Structural and Macroeconomic Factors on Regional Growth](#). This paper aims to understand the impact of nation-wide structural policies such as product market regulation in six upstream sectors and employment protection legislation and that of macroeconomic factors on the productivity growth of OECD regions.
- [Growth Trends and Characteristics of OECD Rural Regions](#). This paper benchmarks the performance of OECD rural regions with other types of OECD regions over the period 1995-2010. The analysis focuses on two time-periods, prior to the global financial crisis and post-crisis. The study reveals that rural regions close to a city are the most dynamic in GDP per capita, productivity and population growth during 1995-2007.
- [Quality of Government and the Returns of Investment](#). Despite the widespread belief that the quality of government affects the returns of public investments, this has seldom been proved. Using a two-way fixed effect panel regression model for a total of 169 in European regions between 1996 and 2007, analysis finds that EU investments targeting both regions and quality of government can affect regional economic growth.

All upcoming events

- [Conference on the OECD Green Cities](#) Case Study of Kitakyushu, Japan, 18 October 2013, Kitakyushu, Japan
- [Mayors Forum](#); Green Growth in Dynamic Asian Cities, 20 October, 2013, Kitakyushu, Japan
- [9th OECD Rural Policy Development Conference - Rural-urban partnerships: an integrated approach to economic development](#) and launch of the related publication, 23-25 October 2013, Bologna, Italy
- 2nd Meeting of the OECD Initiative on Water Governance, 7-8 November 2013, OECD Headquarters, Paris, France
- [5th OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers - Better Cities for Better Lives: Bridging national and local policies to deliver growth and well-being](#), 4-5 December 2013, Marseille, France
- [3rd Ministerial Meeting of the TDPC - Regions and Cities: Where policies and people meet](#), 5-6 December 2013, Marseille, France

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