

# Environment

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High quality environmental information is indispensable for carrying out responsive and cost-effective policies.

The OECD has pioneered the production of harmonised international environmental data and the development of indicators to monitor environmental performance and support policy integration.

*OECD Environment Data* informs about environmental conditions and trends, and their determinants in OECD countries. They provide a broad spectrum of data on pollution, natural resources, economic activities such as agriculture, energy and transport, and responses by governments and businesses. *Environment at a Glance* presents major indicators from the OECD Core Set to show environmental progress made in OECD countries since the 1990s. A subset of key environmental indicators is released annually.

The OECD has also been at the forefront of developing guidance to measure material flows and resource productivity. Its database on material flows brings together essential data on the use of materials such as biomass, energy carriers, metals and minerals in OECD countries and the world.

The use of environmentally related taxes and other environmental policy instruments is documented in an on-line database. Periodic surveys are carried out to monitor changes in households' behaviour towards environmental issues. Work is also being done on tax exemptions and other support measures that are applied to fossil fuels and to other environmentally relevant products or activities.

*OECD Environmental Outlook* analyses economic and environmental trends to 2050 drawing upon the environmental database and on modelling results.



## Find out more

- OECD (2013), *Environment at a Glance*.
- OECD (2013), *Inventory of Estimated Budgetary Support and Tax Expenditures for Fossil Fuels 2013*.
- OECD (2013), *Material Resources, Productivity and the Environment*.
- OECD (2013), *OECD Agri-Environmental Indicators*.
- OECD (2012), *OECD Environmental Outlook*.
- OECD (2011), *Greening Household Behaviour: The Role of Public Policy*.