



1. Economics ..... 1	4. Governance.....6	7. Social issue etc. .... 11	10. Regional Development 14
2. Finance&Investment.....3	5. Education .....9	8. Industry and Services..... 12	11. Development ..... 14
3. Taxation.....5	6. Employment .....10	9. Environment..... 13	

## Economics

### OECD Economic Surveys: Hungary 2024

After a strong demand-based recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic, economic activity declined amid high inflation. Growth has restarted in mid-2023 and inflation is receding, but fiscal and monetary policies need to work hand-in-hand to fight remaining inflationary pressures and recreate fiscal space to finance future spending needs.

Productivity growth has slowed since the mid-2000s and structural reforms that facilitate new firm entry and exit and a wider take-up of digital tools are needed. Recent reforms to the anti-corruption and public integrity framework will sustain investor confidence if they are fully implemented.

Social transfers keep income inequalities and poverty low but should be better targeted to those most in need. Women face large employment and pay gaps compared to men and intergenerational mobility is limited. Further expanding access to childcare facilities for young children and improving the education system would help to address these challenges.

Hungary's green transition can build on past progress but needs to accelerate. This will require more electricity supply from low-carbon sources, with price signals acting as a catalyst. Restructuring energy support by moving from price caps to more targeted cash transfers to vulnerable households would strengthen incentives for energy efficiency improvements and reduce fiscal costs.

SPECIAL FEATURE: GREEN TRANSITION

### OECD Economic Surveys: Romania 2024

Romania's economy withstood significant adverse shocks in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the ensuing energy crisis. Tackling high inflation is the immediate task for macroeconomic policy. Fiscal consolidation would complement restrictive monetary policy in keeping demand at sustainable levels. Greater tax revenues are needed to stabilise the public debt burden while funding priority spending – including on critical infrastructure, pensions, health care and the education system. Productivity growth is a powerful engine for lifting living standards but sustaining it will require a sound investment climate backed by strong competition, predictable policymaking, financial inclusion and effective controls against corruption. Romania's Recovery and Resilience Plan is helping drive reform. More policy focus is needed on addressing disparate socio-economic outcomes within Romania and to lift employment among groups underrepresented in formal work, including women. Faster progress is also required to decarbonise the economy by 2050. Romania needs more renewable power and big energy savings to reduce fossil fuel use. Energy-efficient buildings, better transport systems and consistent price signals for abatement are also needed. Efficient and fair policies can limit costs from the net-zero transition, shield affected communities from hardship, and prepare people for changing climates.

SPECIAL FEATURE : DECARBONISING ROMANIA'S ECONOMY



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## Economics

### OECD Economic Surveys: Switzerland 2024

Switzerland has proved resilient through the pandemic, geopolitical turmoil and reverberations in energy markets. Unemployment and inflation are low, and living standards are among the highest in the OECD. This is reinforced by a dynamic market-based economy, highly skilled workforce and prudent macroeconomic policies. Yet, slowing growth amid continued price pressures pose challenges. A tight monetary policy is necessary to ensure that inflation remains durably within the central bank's target range. Although a broadly neutral fiscal stance is warranted in the short term, longer-term fiscal pressures call for structural reform to counter rising cost of ageing and to support the green transition. Stronger incentives and speedier approval processes are needed to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The labour market is strong and unemployment low. Yet, skills shortages are rising. Longer working lives, improved incentives for mothers to participate more intensively in the labour market and migration of skilled foreign workers can mitigate the shortages. Improving framework conditions and maintaining access to foreign markets, while refraining from trade restrictions and distortive industrial policies, will strengthen economic resilience. Strong domestic competition and a better business environment will further reinforce Switzerland's position as a global hub for business, investment and research.

**SPECIAL FEATURE: STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE WITHIN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS**

### OECD Economic Surveys: Slovak Republic 2024

The Slovak economy has been relatively resilient to the energy crisis, but growth has slowed amid high inflation, weakening foreign demand and tightening financial conditions. The pandemic and the energy crisis have deteriorated public finances; steady fiscal consolidation is now needed to rebuild fiscal buffers and improve long-term fiscal sustainability in the face of rapid population ageing. Sustaining economic convergence and facilitating inclusive structural change requires improving skill provision at all stages of the learning cycle, fostering the domestic innovation capacity and improving the business environment. A more consistent pricing of carbon across the economy and stronger incentives for green investment and innovation would make growth more sustainable. Improving housing affordability requires structural reforms to improve the efficiency of the housing market, property tax reforms, and targeted support to vulnerable households. Incentives for housing renovation must be strengthened to address energy poverty and achieve environmental goals.

**SPECIAL FEATURE: ADDRESSING HOUSING MARKET CHALLENGES**

## Finance and Investment

### OECD Competition Trends 2024

The 2024 edition of the OECD Competition Trends report highlights worldwide competition enforcement trends during the calendar year 2022 based on 77 jurisdictions. Similar to previous editions, this year's report compares different geographic regions and identifies trends over time. Analyses focus on competition authorities' resources and their enforcement activity in cartels, abuse of dominance cases, mergers, and advocacy activity. Moreover, this year's edition includes a special chapter on merger control, which provides for the first time a disaggregate analysis of the participating jurisdictions. It also contains an analysis of all merger prohibition cases between 2015 and 2022.

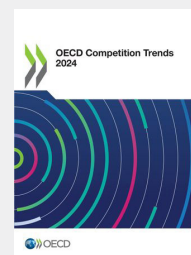
### Global Debt Report 2024 Bond Markets in a High-debt Environment

The Global Debt Report examines sovereign and corporate debt markets, providing insights into current market conditions and associated policy considerations, including possible financial stability risks. This first edition consolidates the Sovereign Borrowing Outlook, previously a separate OECD publication, and introduces new chapters on corporate bond markets and sustainable bonds.

Chapter 1 provides an overview of sovereign borrowing globally and an outlook for OECD countries, with a focus on the impact of recent developments in funding conditions and changes to the investor base. Chapter 2 explores global corporate bond market dynamics, build-up of risks and vulnerabilities and the impact of a changing macrofinancial landscape. Chapter 3 looks at trends in global sustainable bond markets and discusses policy considerations such as the sustainability premium, the roles of service providers and market liquidity.

### Corporate Bond Markets in Asia Challenges and Opportunities for Growth Companies

This report presents a comprehensive analysis of the use and structure of corporate bond markets in Asia. Based on original data, it assesses the extent to which corporations, in particular smaller growth companies, use bond markets and how that has developed over time. It also examines the regulatory frameworks that govern these markets in 19 different jurisdictions. Drawing from these findings, it puts forth policy recommendations for facilitating growth company access to corporate bond markets.



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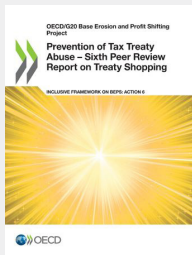


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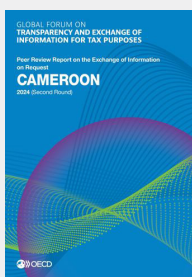


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## Finance and Investment

### The Limits of DeFi for Financial Inclusion Lessons from ASEAN

Decentralised finance, including crypto-asset markets and DeFi protocol activity, has been promoted as a tool to support the democratisation of finance. This report presents quantitative evidence from ASEAN economies that participation in decentralised finance markets has been largely driven by speculative forces and a fear of missing out, rather than by practical use-cases that can promote financial inclusion. Since decentralised finance today involves unregulated or uncompliant financial service provision, the complexity and the non-custodial nature of such activity (particularly DeFi protocol activity) make these practically difficult for retail participation. The report provides policy considerations and discusses other digital finance tools that could be considered as alternative catalysts for financial inclusion, particularly when it comes to MSME financing.

## Taxation

### Prevention of Tax Treaty Abuse – Sixth Peer Review Report on Treaty Shopping Inclusive Framework on BEPS: Action 6

Under the BEPS Action 6 minimum standard on treaty shopping, members of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS have committed to strengthen their tax treaties by implementing anti-abuse measures. This report reflects the outcome of the sixth peer review of the implementation of the BEPS Action 6 minimum standard on treaty shopping. It includes the aggregate results of the review and data on tax treaties concluded by the members of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS as of 31 May 2023, as well as jurisdictional sections which contain detailed information for each member jurisdiction.

### Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes

#### Cameroon 2024 (Second Round): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request

**PDF ver.** Code: ctp-2024-155-en ISBN: 9789264647619 pages: 85

This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Cameroon, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

#### Egypt 2024 (Second Round): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request

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This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Egypt, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

## Taxation

### **Georgia 2024 (Second Round): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

**PDF ver.** Code: ctp-2024-153-en ISBN: 9789264639157 pages: 85

This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Georgia, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

### **Kenya 2024 (Second Round, Combined Review): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

**PDF ver.** Code: ctp-2024-152-en ISBN: 9789264996533 pages: 80

This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Kenya, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

### **Malta 2024 (Second Round, Supplementary Report): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

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This supplementary peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Malta, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

### **Romania 2024 (Second Round): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

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This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Romania, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

### **Armenia 2024 (Second Round, Phase 1): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

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This peer review report analyses the implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Armenia, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016. Due to Armenia's limited practical experience of exchange of information on request, and in accordance with the methodology for peer reviews and non-member reviews, the report only assesses the jurisdiction's legal and regulatory framework. The assessment of the practical implementation of this framework will be subject to a future Phase 2 review.

## Taxation

### **Bulgaria 2024 (Second Round): Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

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This peer review report analyses the practical implementation of the standard of transparency and exchange of information on request in Bulgaria, as part of the second round of reviews conducted by the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes since 2016.

## Governance

### **Government at a Glance: Latin America and the Caribbean 2024**

The 2024 edition of Government at a Glance Latin America and the Caribbean provides the latest available evidence on public administrations and their performance in the LAC region and compares it to OECD countries. It includes indicators on trust in public institutions and satisfaction with public services, as well as evidence on good governance practices in areas such as the policy cycle, budgeting, public procurement, infrastructure planning and delivery, regulatory governance, digital government and open government data. Finally, it provides information on what resources public institutions use and how they are managed, including public finances, public employment, and human resources management. Government at a Glance allows for cross-country comparisons and helps identify trends, best practices, and areas for improvement in the public sector. Governance indicators are especially useful for monitoring and benchmarking governments' progress in their public sector reforms. Each indicator in the publication is presented in a user-friendly format, consisting of graphs and/or charts illustrating variations across countries and over time, brief descriptive analyses highlighting the major findings of the data, and a methodological section on the definition of the indicator and any limitations in data comparability.



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### **Facts not Fakes: Tackling Disinformation, Strengthening Information Integrity**

The spread of disinformation poses a fundamental threat to the free and fact-based exchange of information that underpins democracy. This report explores how governments can respond to these challenges as part of their broader efforts to reinforce democracy. It analyses the governance responses that support free and diverse information ecosystems that enable informed public engagement in democratic discourse. The report explores policies and regulations for the promotion of transparent and healthy information spaces in the media sector and on online platforms. It also discusses a whole-of-society approach to strengthening resilience and stakeholder participation. Finally, the report analyses whole-of-government efforts to establish accountable, transparent, and agile governance to promote information integrity.

## Governance

### Performance-Informed Budgeting in Flanders, Belgium

Since 2014, the Flemish government has undertaken a series of reforms of its budgetary system, including the implementation of performance-informed budgeting, which includes both the implementation of spending reviews and performance budgeting. The aim of the reforms is to better integrate policy development and resource allocation and improve the accountability and transparency of the Flemish public sector. This report takes stock of performance-informed budgeting practices in Flanders. It provides an assessment of their key strengths and highlights where improvements can be made. Finally, it includes recommendations to further strengthen the approach to performance-informed budgeting in Flanders.

### Global Corporate Sustainability Report 2024

The OECD Global Corporate Sustainability Report aims to enhance the adoption of corporate governance policies that promote the sustainability and resilience of companies. It examines the evolving landscape of corporate sustainability practices worldwide and includes a focus on key dimensions outlined in the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, such as sustainability-related disclosure, shareholder-company dialogue, board responsibilities, and stakeholder interests. It offers comprehensive data analysis specifically designed to meet the needs of policymakers, regulators, and market participants.

### Anti-Corruption and Integrity Outlook 2024

This first edition of the OECD Anti-Corruption and Integrity Outlook analyses Member countries' efforts to uphold integrity and fight corruption. Based on data from the Public Integrity Indicators, it analyses the performance of countries' integrity frameworks, and explores how some of the main challenges to governments today (including the green transition, artificial intelligence, and foreign interference) are increasing corruption and integrity risks for countries. It also addresses how the shortcomings in integrity systems can impede countries' responses to these major challenges. In providing a snapshot of how countries are performing today, the Outlook supports strategic planning and policy work to strengthen public integrity for the future.

### Implementing the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention in Luxembourg Phase 4 Report

This Phase 4 report on Luxembourg by the OECD Working Group on Bribery evaluates and makes recommendations on Luxembourg's implementation of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and the 2021 Recommendation of the Council for Further Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions.

It was adopted by the OECD Working Group on Bribery during its plenary meeting on 5-8 March 2024.



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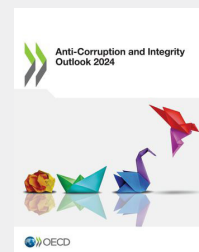


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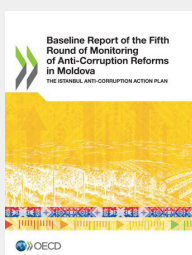


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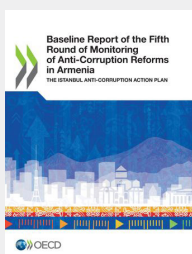


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## Governance

### **Review of Anti-Corruption Reforms in Ukraine under the Fifth Round of Monitoring** **The Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan**

The report assesses Ukraine's anti-corruption reforms against a set of indicators, benchmarks and their elements under five performance areas that focus on anti-corruption policy, prevention of corruption and enforcement. It analyses Ukraine's efforts to amend laws, build anti-corruption institutions, its measures to detect, investigate and prosecute corruption cases and identifies areas for improvement.

### **Baseline report of the fifth round of monitoring of anti-corruption reforms in Moldova**

The fifth round of monitoring under the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan assesses Moldova's anti-corruption practices and reforms against a set of indicators, benchmarks and elements under nine performance areas that focus on anti-corruption policy, prevention of corruption and enforcement. The report analyses Moldova's efforts to build anti-corruption institutions, its measures to detect, investigate and prosecute corruption cases and identifies areas for improvement. A follow-up report evaluating Moldova's progress in these areas will follow.

### **Baseline Report of the Fifth Round of Monitoring of Anti-Corruption Reforms in Armenia** **The Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan**

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### **Baseline Report of the Fifth Round of Monitoring of Anti-Corruption Reforms in Azerbaijan** **The Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan**

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## Education

### Challenging Social Inequality Through Career Guidance Insights from International Data and Practice

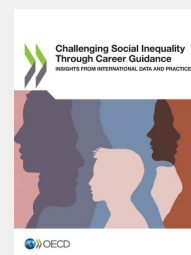
This report explores how school-level career guidance systems can more effectively respond to social inequalities. It draws on new analysis of PISA and PIAAC data and builds on the OECD Career Readiness Indicators to review the impact of inequalities related primarily to socio-economic background, gender and migrant status/ethnicity on the character of education-to-work transitions. The data analysis identifies additional barriers facing certain demographic groups in converting human capital into successful employment. It also finds that teenage access to career development is strongly patterned by the demographic characteristics of students. Consequently, the report highlights a range of career guidance interventions that can be expected to mitigate the negative impact of inequalities on student outcomes, enabling fairer access to economic opportunities. The report concludes by reviewing how the innovative new Career Education Framework in New Brunswick (Canada) systematically addresses inequalities within K-12 provision.

### PISA Vocational Education and Training (VET) Assessment and Analytical Framework

This report presents the conceptual foundations of the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) Vocational Education and Training (VET), currently in the Development Phase of implementation which aims to provide a comprehensive and rigorous international survey of student knowledge and skills that are essential for success in selected occupational areas. The PISA-VET assessment covers professional knowledge and skills in five occupational areas (automotive technician, business and administration, electrician, nursing/healthcare assistant and hotel receptionist), plus an evaluation of learners' employability skills, including literacy, problem solving, task performance (conscientiousness) and collaboration with others. This publication includes the frameworks for assessing all the knowledge and skills included in the assessment. These chapters outline the content knowledge and skills that learners need to acquire in each domain, how each domain is assessed, and the contexts in which this knowledge and these skills are applied. The publication also presents the frameworks for the various questionnaires distributed to students, principals of VET institutions, teachers and trainers, including a questionnaire for trainers in work-based learning environments and a system level data questionnaire for participating countries. The questionnaires are also included as an annex to the publication.

### PISA 2022 Technical Report

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is one of the largest and most comprehensive comparative education studies in the world. A wide variety of countries and economies worldwide collect information on student performance, school environment, and other relevant variables using standardized, uniform procedures that assure the results are comparable and meaningful. This Technical Report has been prepared by those who implemented PISA during its 2022 cycle to provide transparency to these procedures and to the statistical and mathematical methods that underpin the comparability and validity of PISA 2022 results.

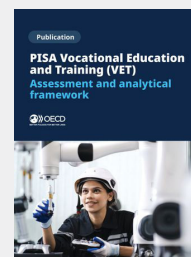


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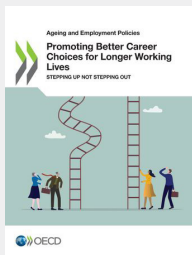
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## Employment

### Promoting Better Career Choices for Longer Working Lives Stepping Up Not Stepping Out

The transition towards a green economy, the rapid development of new digital technologies and cultural change are some of the forces disrupting traditional career paths, resulting in more fluid and diversified career trajectories. To benefit from increased longevity, workers will increasingly have to consider job mobility at middle and older ages, changing jobs or careers more frequently than in the past. Making successful career transitions, however, tends to be more difficult for workers at older ages due to health issues, unfamiliarity with relevant technology or a lack of recent job search experience. This may result in a mismatch between the types of jobs they want and the jobs that employers may provide. This report presents evidence on recent trends in career mobility and the consequences for individual workers in terms of pay and other job characteristics. It identifies key employer and public policies that can help facilitate career mobility that results in better employment choices at older ages. This requires overcoming discriminatory views towards older workers, improving job flexibility choices and ensuring that government policy supports voluntary career mobility.

### Impact Evaluation of Ireland's Active Labour Market Policies

This report analyses the sequence of labour market support that individuals receive and evaluates two large public works programmes. It uses rich administrative data and finds positive labour market impacts of the Community Employment and Tús employment programmes. Building on the results of the analyses, the report makes recommendations on how Ireland can further adapt its active labour market policies (ALMPs) to better support its current and future jobseekers. This report on Ireland is the thirteenth country study published in a series of reports on policies to connect people with jobs, and is part of a joint project with the European Commission to strengthen countries' capacity to evaluate ALMPs. The report is written jointly by the OECD, the Department of Social Protection of Ireland and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission.

## Social issues/Migration/Health

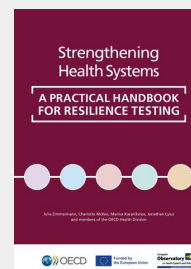
### Strengthening Health Systems A Practical Handbook for Resilience Testing

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the critical need for health systems to be resilient against major disruptions. Despite the significant impact that crises such as pandemics, climate change effects, geopolitical conflicts, financial collapses or digital failures can have on economies and societies, policy makers in the health sector lack tools to test how their health systems would cope with extreme stress. Seizing a narrowing policy window in a post-pandemic context, the OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, with support from the European Commission, developed a comprehensive methodology culminating in a handbook on “Strengthening Health Systems: A Practical Handbook for Resilience Testing.” Inspired by stress tests in various sectors, this methodology was piloted in Finland, Greece, and Spain throughout 2023. The handbook provides health policy makers with tools to assess and enhance their systems’ resilience. This is intended to foster policy dialogues and the identification of structural weaknesses as the starting point for targeted investments and remedial policies that will allow health systems to withstand the impact of future shocks more effectively.

### Voices in Europe

#### Experiences, Hopes and Aspirations of Forcibly Displaced Persons from Ukraine

Since the onset of Russia’s large-scale war against Ukraine, millions of people have been forced to flee their homes in search of a safe haven. This report synthesises the findings of the Survey of Arriving Migrants from Ukraine (SAM-UKR), conducted by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), covering prevailing themes of forced displacement from Ukraine. These themes encompass demographics, reasons for departure, experiences along the journey, life in the host country, return intentions, and future aspirations. In addition to presenting survey results, the report draws on over 1 500 personal testimonies provided by respondents to offer a more direct insight into the decision-making process and emotional state of displaced persons, thereby illuminating their struggles, anxieties, hopes, and aspirations resulting from their displacement.

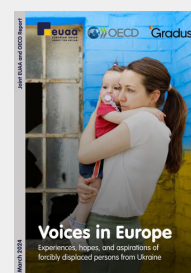


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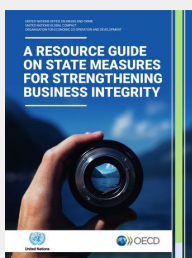


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## Industry and Services

### Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs 2024 An OECD Scoreboard

Since 2020, a series of shocks to the global economy has had significant impacts on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs and their access to finance. Most recently, significant inflationary pressures have led to tighter lending conditions, limiting the flow of finance to SMEs and acting as a barrier to investment. Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs 2024: An OECD Scoreboard monitors SME and entrepreneurship financing trends, conditions and policy developments in close to 50 countries. It documents a strong increase in the cost of SME financing in 2022, alongside a significant decline in SME lending. Equity finance also fell sharply in 2022, after a year of historically high growth in 2021. Women-led and minority-owned businesses, which typically find it more difficult to access venture capital financing, were affected disproportionately. Against this backdrop, the Scoreboard highlights the recent measures governments have taken to support SME access to finance, including finance for the green transition. A continued focus on diversifying financial sources and instruments will be important to meet the different needs of all types of SMEs and entrepreneurs, and enable them to act as an engine of resilient, sustainable and inclusive growth.

### OECD Compendium of Productivity Indicators 2024

This report presents a comprehensive overview of recent and longer-term trends in productivity levels and growth in OECD countries and selected G20 economies. The different chapters feature an analysis of latest developments in productivity, economic growth, sectoral reallocation, investment, labour productivity by firm size and labour income. This edition also includes a special chapter providing insights of productivity developments in 2023 based on experimental estimates for 38 OECD countries.

### A Resource Guide on State Measures for Strengthening Business Integrity

This resource guide explores measures that states can take to encourage corporate integrity. Jointly developed by the OECD, UNODC and UN Global Compact, this update to the UNODC's 2013 edition of the guide aims to reflect the latest developments in the global fight against corruption, including on sanctions and incentives mechanisms, as well as on recent advances in the field of business integrity.

## Environment

### A Roadmap towards Circular Economy of Albania

As the EU candidate country, Albania has committed to align with European climate objectives by endorsing the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, with circular economy transition being its key component. Recognising the prominent role of this transition in both national and regional development and proactively addressing the challenges posed by increasing climate change vulnerabilities, reliance on imported raw materials and increased waste, Albania is now poised for a strategic framework followed by concrete actions to embark on this transformative journey.

This roadmap aims to assist the Albanian government in establishing robust policy foundations for a successful circular economy transition. Informed by a comprehensive diagnostic of Albania's circular economy landscape, the roadmap strategically integrates existing policy initiatives, fostering synergies across sectors, measures and actors involved in this transformation. Highlighting three key areas where circular economy policies can have a significant impact in Albania – economic instruments, circular business models for SMEs and targeted solutions for plastics, with a focus on marine litter – the roadmap unveils 35 policy recommendations. These recommendations, supported by a monitoring framework, should serve as a cornerstone for propelling Albania towards a more sustainable and circular future.

### A Roadmap towards Circular Economy of North Macedonia

This roadmap is designed to aid North Macedonia's government in establishing a solid policy foundation for a successful transition to a circular economy.

As an EU candidate country, North Macedonia has pledged to align with European climate objectives, endorsing the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, with a particular focus on circular economy transition. Acknowledging the pivotal role of this transition in national and regional development and actively addressing challenges posed by climate change, reliance on imported raw materials and increased waste, North Macedonia is ready for a strategic framework and concrete actions to initiate this transformative process.

Derived from a comprehensive diagnostic of North Macedonia's circular economy landscape, the roadmap strategically integrates existing policy initiatives, fostering synergies across sectors, measures and involved actors. It emphasises five key areas – circular business models for SMEs, construction, biomass and food, textile industry and mining and metallurgy – revealing over 40 policy recommendations. These recommendations, supported by a monitoring framework, are poised to be a cornerstone for propelling North Macedonia towards a more sustainable and circular future.

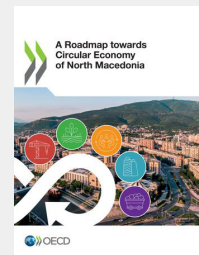


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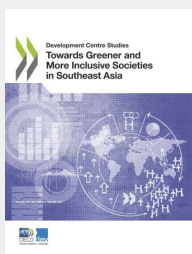


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## Environment

### OECD Environmental Performance Reviews: Chile 2024

Chile has made important strides on its environmental agenda in recent years with the passage of the Framework Law on Climate Change, the establishment of the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Service and the ratification of the Escazú Agreement. However, the country has made limited progress in decoupling environmental pressures from economic growth. Greenhouse gas emissions have continued to rise and the country is not on track to reach its legally binding target of net zero by 2050. Chile is well-positioned to achieve its targets for biodiversity, while air pollution remains a serious public health challenge and waste management relies heavily on landfilling. Chile is facing a severe and deepening water crisis that requires concerted action to improve water allocation and water quality, and to strengthen water governance. The review provides 36 recommendations to help Chile improve its environmental performance, with a special focus on water management and policies.

This is the third Environmental Performance Review of Chile. It provides an independent, evidence-based evaluation of the country's environmental performance since the previous review in 2016.

## Urban, Rural and Regional Development

### Enhancing Rural Innovation in Canada

Innovation is broader than science and technology, yet often statistics and government programmes narrowly focus on this type of innovation. In rural places, this is particularly relevant as not all firms have the capacity to be competitive in high-tech innovation. With around one in five Canadians living in Canada's rural regions, better understanding how to promote broader notions of innovation for rural places by increasing entrepreneurship, including for women, advancing the green transition, and improving the provision of services is critical to boost rural productivity, and increase well-being standards. The report sets the scene for rural innovation in Canada, explores the policy and governance environment for key regional innovation initiatives, and includes a special topic chapter on green innovation in rural regions of Canada.

## Development

### Towards Greener and More Inclusive Societies in Southeast Asia

Over 100 million workers in Southeast Asia have jobs that are directly or closely linked to the environment, making them vulnerable to climate change impacts. These same workers likely earn at least 20% lower than the national average and are largely in informal employment. The region's necessary transition towards greener growth could affect them in several ways: some sectors will create jobs and others will lose jobs or disappear altogether. Understanding the effects of both climate change and green growth policies on jobs and people is thus essential for making the transition in Southeast Asia an inclusive one. The study explores these issues, with emphasis on the potential effects on labour of an energy transition in Indonesia, and of a transition in the region's agricultural sector, illustrated by a simulated conversion from conventional to organic rice farming.

## Development

### Geographical Distribution of Financial Flows to Developing Countries 2024

This publication provides comprehensive data on the volume, origin and types of aid and other resource flows to around 150 developing countries. The data show each country's receipts of official development assistance as well as other official and private funds from members of the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD, multilateral agencies and other key providers. Key development indicators are given for reference.



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### SIGI 2024 Regional Report for Southeast Asia Time to Care

What are the structural barriers to women's empowerment and inclusive development in Southeast Asia? Building on data from the fifth edition of the SIGI, the SIGI 2024 Regional Report for Southeast Asia: Time to Care provides new evidence-based analysis on the progress and setbacks in eliminating the root causes of gender inequality in 11 countries of the region. It underscores how multiple personal status laws perpetuate gender-based legal discrimination. The analysis also shows that social norms governing gender roles and responsibilities worsened between 2014 and 2022, particularly affecting women's educational and economic rights.

The report explores a critical policy area for the region, the care economy. Stressing the gendered, informal, and unpaid dimensions of care, it draws on social, demographic, educational and economic evidence to forecast a growing demand for care services in Southeast Asian countries. The report advocates for the strategic development of formal care systems as a unique opportunity to accelerate women's economic empowerment, build inclusive societies and strengthen the region's resilience to external shocks – including those induced by climate change. To dismantle the barriers that prevent the emergence and expansion of such a formal care economy, it provides concrete recommendations to policy makers and other stakeholders.



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