

Building a more inclusive and comprehensive approach to development

Public consultation on the new OECD Strategy on Development

The OECD is preparing a new Strategy on Development to contribute more effectively to achieve higher, more inclusive and sustainable growth for the widest number of countries so as to generate greater opportunities to improve economic and social well-being of people around the world. We are launching a broad consultation to discuss with a wide range of key stakeholders on how the OECD can use its multidisciplinary expertise and longstanding experience on development to design effective solutions that can help countries and people overcome the barriers they face to growth and development.

A new development landscape

The changing global economic landscape is creating new opportunities for growth and development. Our analyses have highlighted the structural transformations taking place in which the world's economic centre of gravity has been shifting. Emerging economies, as well as a growing number of developing countries, are becoming a vital source of trade, investment, development cooperation and knowledge. What we call "Shifting Wealth" is associated with lifting more than 500 million people out of poverty in the developing world.

Enhanced knowledge sharing with a wider range of developing countries as well as key stakeholders is fundamental in this new context to tap into their experiences with rapid growth, development and poverty reduction. There is a need to move away from the traditional labels such as "North-South", "rich-poor", and "donor-recipient", and go beyond aid to build an inclusive and comprehensive approach to development. This approach can bring new perspectives for addressing inequality and poverty and identifying pathways to social and economic well-being.

The OECD and development

For 50 years the OECD has provided governments with evidence-based analysis and policy guidance to achieve high standards of public policy. We bring together within a single institution a wide range of policy communities whose collective work can contribute to promote inclusive growth, sustainable development and poverty reduction in a comprehensive manner. We have a long experience on international development co-operation and have helped our partners in the implementation of their development programmes by sharing experiences, discussing best practices, and developing evidence-based policy solutions.

We know that development requires much more than aid. Investment, trade, infrastructure, human capital and skills, tax co-operation, corruption, inequality, climate change are all critical issues that need to be addressed. We have been building and applying a broader approach to development for several years. We are currently working to strengthen this approach, making it more inclusive and enhancing the impact of our work.

At the May 2011 OECD Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM), Ministers from OECD countries endorsed the *Framework for an OECD Strategy on Development*. The goal of this endeavour – to

achieve higher, more inclusive, sustainable growth for the broadest array of countries – will be accomplished by greater collaboration and knowledge sharing on policy successes and failures, engagement in mutual learning, and a deepening of partnerships with developing countries, other international organisations, CSOs and the private sector.

The strategy will build on the OECD's multidisciplinary expertise and its longstanding experience in development work in order to ensure a comprehensive methodology is applied. We want to better integrate the diverse perspectives, experiences and realities of developing countries as well as different stakeholders into our core policy analyses and advice, and to strengthen our mechanisms for knowledge sharing.

A proactive approach is critical in light of the growing demand from developing countries for OECD expertise, practices, and experiences in a wide range of public policies beyond development co-operation. Strategic areas where the OECD could add value include innovative and sustainable sources of growth; mobilisation of resources for development; good governance; and measuring progress for development.

The strategy seeks to build on inputs from a broad range of stakeholders on how best to reflect a changing global context, impacts at country level, and the need for a more inclusive approach to development. Issues for discussion include:

- What are the key medium term challenges in developing countries, particularly in the new international context? What have we learnt from the more recent development experiences and what is the outlook for developing countries?
- What are the gaps in international responses – and in developing countries themselves – to address these challenges and get on a pathway to long term, sustainable growth? Where can a collective response make a difference?
- How can the OECD best engage with developing countries and key stakeholders in policy-dialogue and knowledge sharing exercises that are demand driven, geared towards addressing capacity needs and to promote mutual learning? What kinds of diagnostic tools and advice can we offer that are more relevant to the particular institutional setting of developing countries at different stages of development?
- What lessons learned from experiences of stakeholders on the ground should be considered to advance from aid effectiveness towards development effectiveness?
- Who should the OECD work with - and how - to better incorporate the diverse perspectives and realities of developing countries in its analyses and policy advice?
- What advice would stakeholders have on the key elements of the OECD Strategy?