

NEWS from DeFiNe

The OECD Development Finance Network

DeFiNe is a global network of 40 think-tanks, research centres and academic institutions. It is an informal platform of dialogue on development issues, gathering experts from developing, emerging and OECD countries.

Special Focus

2012 OECD Global Forum on Development (28-29 February 2012)

The OECD Global Forum on Development Forum focused on two objectives: (i) to shape the new OECD Strategy on Development, in particular in the areas of governance and domestic resource mobilization and (ii) to identify priorities and best practices in making public expenditure more effective and efficient for development.



About 390 participants addressed governance practices and procedures, discussed the overall capacity of public sectors in the realm of public spending, and reviewed the structures and tools used to ensure that public expenditure is effective, notably in the area of infrastructure.

- The videos of the Forum are now available [online](#).
- In collaboration with the European Centre for Development Policy Management ([ECDPM](#)), a DeFiNe member, we have asked speakers and panellist to summarize for us the key points of their presentations. These articles lead to a special issue of GREAT Insights, that can be accessed in [PDF](#) or [HTML](#) format.

Spotlight

2012 DeFiNe Annual Meeting (27 February 2012)

The 2012 DeFiNe Annual Meeting was held on 27 February, within the framework of the 50th anniversary of the OECD Development Centre.

You can now access:

- Speakers' [Presentations](#)
- [Photos](#) of the meeting



Please feel free to share these vacancies with your colleagues/contacts who could be interested in these positions.

[Senior Development Economist](#) (Job Number: 08229)

We are looking for a dynamic and experienced Development Economist with strong empirical skills and experience in the fields of poverty reduction and social development to head our unit on Poverty Reduction and Social Development (PRSD). The selected candidate will actively collaborate in the preparation of the Centre's Perspectives on Global Development (PGD) publication, assuming responsibility for the production of some of its future editions. S/he will also provide support to the production of regional outlooks. S/he will coordinate and oversee various work streams including gender and migration in accordance with the strategic orientations given by the Centre's Director.

- More info: [click here](#)
- Application deadline: **21 June 2012**

[Head of Global Development Research](#) (Job Number: 08215)

We are looking for a dynamic and experienced manager to head the Perspectives on Global Development Division. S/he will co-ordinate and oversee the thematic work of the Centre in accordance with the strategic orientations given by the Centre's Director. S/he will also conduct applied research on economic development to contribute to the Centre flagship publication Perspectives on Global Development (PGD). In addition, s/he will be responsible for ensuring the high quality of all the Division's research products, in collaboration with the Director and Deputy, for the collegial devising of policy messages and the efficient management of dialogue processes, with a view to maximising policy impact and value added for OECD Members as well as for emerging and developing economies, thus contributing to the Secretary-General's strategic objectives and the OECD Development Strategy.

- More info: [click here](#)
- Application deadline: **3 July 2012**

Important note: For these official positions in the OECD, candidates are required to hold the nationality of an OECD member country.

Recent events of the OECD Development Centre

[4th International Economic Forum on Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

25 May – Paris, France

Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries have shown themselves to be in a better position to confront international turmoil than ever before during recent global financial crises. Sustained growth and democratic stability have strengthened the region, and led to less pronounced recessions and more swift recoveries than in many OECD economies. Despite this positive outlook and encouraging policy experience, many challenges remain:

- One in three Latin Americans still lives below the poverty line and many Latin American economies still rank among the most unequal economies in the world
- Excessive inequality slows down the pace of economic growth and undermines the development process itself
- Growth and competitiveness are constrained by low productivity, poor infrastructures, and the lack of economic diversification

The Forum brought together policy-makers, CEOs, and experts from Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe to discuss the LAC-region's economic performance and share solutions to its development challenges. The Forum has been co-organised by the OECD Development Centre, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Foreign Trade since 2009.

Official Launch of the African Economic Outlook 2012

28 May – Arusha, Tanzania

The African Economic Outlook was launched at the [Annual Meetings](#) of the African Development Bank. The 2011 and 2012 growth forecasts and figures were released along with this year's special report on Promoting Youth Employment. Online you will also find the full, web-exclusive and country specific economic reports for 53 out of the 54 African countries.



Launch of the 2012 Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI)

10 May – Washington DC, US

While conventional indicators of gender equality capture inequality in outcomes such as education and employment, the OECD Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) focuses instead on the underlying drivers of these inequalities. Applying the SIGI data to issues as diverse as employment, hunger and the achievement of the MDGs has shown that countries displaying higher levels of discrimination against women are also performing more poorly on a range of development indicators. Strengthening our understanding of these discriminatory factors would therefore enable the development of more effective and targeted policies in support of gender equality at the local, national and global levels.

The launch event was co-hosted by the United States Department of State and the OECD Development Centre. Key topics:

- Measuring social institutions at the country level: the SIGI India pilot
- How do donors address discriminatory social institutions?
- What drives change? Evidence from the Middle East and North Africa

Presentation of the 2012 Latin American Economic Outlook

24 April – Paris, France

The 2012 Latin American Economic Outlook was presented at the Maison de l'Amérique Latine. This publication is the product of a joint effort by the Development Centre of the OECD and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), undertaken in order to analyse the role of the State in the economic growth and development of Latin American and Caribbean countries. The questions the outlook exposes are:

- What should be the main elements of the reform of the State in Latin America and the Caribbean?
- What lessons can be drawn from reform efforts in the region and beyond?

DevCom Seminar “Communicating Results of Aid”

23-24 April, Washington DC, US

This DevCom seminar was hosted and co-organised by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), co-organised with Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). It gathered communicators from multilateral institutions, bilateral ministries and agencies and policy experts from donor institutions interested in the topic of communicating results of aid programmes to discuss the following topics:

- Demonstrating Impact of Development Cooperation;
- Good Practice in Communicating Results;
- Making the case for effective multilateralism;
- Communication challenges around aid reviews;

African Conference on “Measuring Well-Being and Fostering the Progress of Societies”

9-21 April – Rabat, Morocco

This African Conference was one of a series of regional conferences being conducted in preparation for the 4th OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy, to be held in New Delhi on 16 to 19 October 2012. It gathered 350 regional policy makers, statisticians, academics and other stakeholders in order to reflect on how to measure well-being and the progress of societies, enhance the relevance of measures and analysis for addressing key policy issues, and establish frameworks for future work.

Thematic sessions:

- Material conditions
- Quality of life
- Sustainability and future challenges

The conference was jointly organised by the OECD Development Centre and the High Commission for Planning of Morocco, in collaboration with the OECD Statistics Directorate, the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

[The 3rd ADB-OECD joint seminar on "the Regional Outlook for Asia"](#)

19 April – OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

The seminar shared the findings of the Asian Development Outlook 2012 with those of the Southeast Asian Economic Outlook (SAEO) 2011/12 prepared by the OECD Development Centre, the Economic Survey by the Economics Department and "Divided we Stand: Why Inequality Keeps Rising?" by the Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs. As a special theme, this report addresses the challenge of Confronting Rising Inequality in Asia and examines how policy makers in Asia respond to growing inequality. According to the report, Developing Asia is forecast to grow by 7.2% in 2011, 6.9% in 2012 and 7.3% in 2013. The greatest risk to Asia's outlook is the continued uncertainty in Europe's sovereign debt problems. Raising living standards and reducing poverty should be a priority in the years to come to ensure that the benefits of growth are widely shared.

Forthcoming events of the OECD Development Centre

[Experts Meeting on SMEs in Latin America](#)

14-15 June – OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

The meeting will bring together a group of internal and external experts to look at topics related to SMEs, and to share their insights and provide constructive criticism for the preparation of the upcoming *2013 Latin American Economic Outlook*.

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[Presentation of a 2012 UN-ESCAP report: "Growing together: Economic Integration for an Inclusive and Sustainable Asia-Pacific Century"](#)

19 June – OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

The Asia-Pacific region's rapid growth since the 1950s had been supported by a favourable external economic environment and opportunities arising from globalization. This, however, has changed dramatically in the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2008-2009. In the new global environment, sustaining the region's growth and realizing the Asia-Pacific century critically depends on its ability to harness the potential of regional economic integration. In light of the many complementarities arising from its diversity, the region, a late starter in regionalism, has many underexploited opportunities for mutually beneficial regional integration. Regional economic integration can also assist in making regional development more balanced, with the lagging economies receiving a boost through stronger connectivity and integration with economic growth poles, such as China and India. Besides fostering peace, such cooperation could also help the region address shared vulnerabilities and risks and exercise its influence in global economic governance in a way commensurate to its rising economic weight.



The full text of the report is available [here](#)

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Policy dialogue on Territorial, regional and industrial development

20 June – OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

Within the framework of the activities on policy dialogue and the research on production development and innovation the Development Centre analysed the Korean experience in fostering industrialisation and technological catching up, and the reforms and policies that have been put in place to address territorial development. The OECD Development Centre Study: **'Industrial Policy and Territorial Development: Lessons from Korea'** describes the process of integrating the territorial perspective into the national development strategy and identifies some lessons for developing economies. The study aims at sharing in order to foster a policy dialogue on regional development.

The objective of this policy dialogue is to share the Korean experience with other OECD and non OECD economies in order to advance in our understanding on how to address regional and territorial development issues within the context of emerging and developing economies.

- Session 1: Industrial Policy and Territorial Development: Lessons from Korea
- Session 2: Brain Storming on: specificities and challenges of territorial development in emerging and developing economies

OECD/AfDB Conference on Promoting Youth Employment in North Africa

16 July – Tunis, Tunisia

This conference will build on the results of the freshly-launched [2012 African Economic Outlook](#), whose thematic focus is "Promoting Youth Employment". Recognizing that the causes and opportunities associated with youth employment vary across Africa, the OECD Development Centre and the African Development Bank are co-organising regional policy dialogues on the topic, starting in Tunis on 16 July.

The conference will support North African governments' efforts to expand and enhance job creation and skill development, particularly for youth. It will also benefit from the support of the United Nations Development Program and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – two other partners of the report.

The conference will contribute to three complementary objectives:

1. Present the findings of the report that are most relevant for the North Africa region.
2. Foster policy dialogue and highlight relevant innovations from other parts of Africa, Europe, Latin America and Asia.
3. Inform ongoing efforts to better understand the challenges confronting youth in North African countries in terms of youth employment.

More information can be found on our website:
www.oecd.org/dev/define

Please do not hesitate to share with us your comments and ideas:
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