



IS THE NEW RURAL PARADIGM STILL NEW?

YES! In a lot of countries outside OECD (and sometimes also within OECD...)

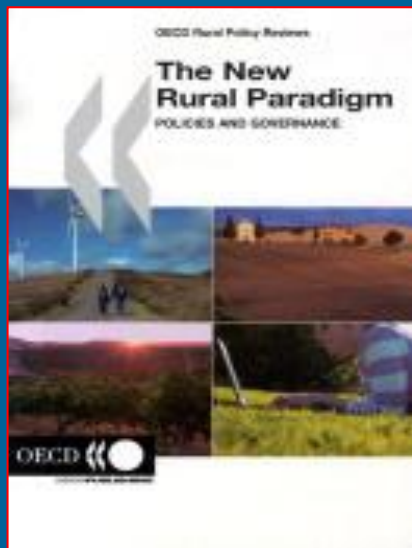


Why the NRP was done in the first place?

- The issue: Large subsidies to agriculture were dwarfing rural development potential by distorting investment priorities of private operators
- Why the OECD? The Organisation acts as “agenda setter” in the international policy dialogue.
- Why the TDPC? Promote a territorial agenda within the organisation



The OECD New Rural Paradigm



Guarantee an adequate attention to rural issues
And Empower local communities and governments

	Old Paradigm	New Paradigm
Objectives	Equalization. Focus on farm income	Competitiveness of rural areas
Key target sector	Sector based	Holistic approach to include various sectors of rural economies
Main tools	Subsidies	Investments
Key actors	National governments, farmers	Multilevel-governance

Main messages:
Rural is not synonymous with Agriculture
Rural is not synonymous with economic decline



The NRP fulfilled its mission in many OECD countries, BUT

1. Subsidies to farming come from other sectors: see report on Renewable Energy
2. Phasing off of subsidies is slow (need to recall that they are inefficient to promote rural development)



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1. Subsidies to farming come from other sectors: see report on Renewable Energy
2. Phasing off of subsidies is slow (need to recall that they are inefficient to promote rural development)
3. Late development countries and developing countries face the challenge of dealing with rural development (see OECD Rural Policy Review of China: million jobs in agriculture will be lost in the next decade).



Developing countries and rural development

1. Challenges

- Stark territorial disparities (rural-urban + rural-rural)
- Divides in access to services
- Migration challenges in sending and receiving regions

2. Opportunities

- significant unused potential, including in the poorest regions
- rural economic diversification

3. Threats

- resources under threat of degradation
- climate change



NRP, territorial approaches: still largely unknown in developing countries

Recognition of challenges related to rural development, but:

1. No 'explicit' National strategies for rural development.
 - numerous – disconnected – policy initiatives by government
2. Rural development addressed via:
 - (weak) decentralization reforms
 - infrastructure projects
 - (undifferentiated) agriculture policy



What obstacles are there?

The usual suspects...

1. Conceptual misconceptions

- Rural = agriculture > focus on sectoral policy
- Rural = decline > focus on poverty alleviation/equalization
- Growth = urbanization + trickle-down to rural areas > focus on connectivity

2. Technical, institutional barriers

- Modest knowledge of rural trends, obsolete territorial classifications
- Unclear attribution of responsibility, lack of resources for rural development

3. Political obstacles

- Within government (focus on short-term results, weak attribution, fear of transparency – multilevel governance and civic engagement)
- Sectoral bias or lack of understanding by donor community
- Lack of a global 'territorial' network to refer to (only EU, OCDE, LAC...)



The future of the NRP (issues for discussion)

1. Assess international rural issues through the lens of the NRP (international networks)
 - Renewable energy, Rural Urban linkages and partnerships, Rural development in the Arctic region)
2. Produce specific products for developing countries (cooperate with multilateral organisations)
 - Food security and rural development in developing countries
 - Rural policy reviews in developing countries