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## Economics

### OECD Economic Surveys: Mexico 2022

Mexico is recovering from a pandemic that had deep economic and social impacts. Informal workers, women and youth were particularly hit, exacerbating long-standing social challenges. Mexico’s solid macroeconomic policy framework safeguarded macroeconomic stability. But medium term growth prospects have weakened and growth over the past two decades has been low. Poverty rates and regional inequalities remain high. Informality, financial exclusion or corruption have hindered productivity growth. Low female participation rates and weak investment since 2015 have also impacted medium-term growth prospects. Maintaining and strengthening Mexico’s solid macroeconomic policy framework is key for stability. The ability of fiscal policy to smooth out economic cycles and support growth during recessions can be enhanced, creating more space for public investment. Rebooting private investment and turning around low productivity growth are fundamental priorities. This will require comprehensive reforms to improve business regulations, boost competition, reduce informality and corruption and transition towards carbon neutrality. Widening access to finance and strengthening digitalization would provide more equal opportunities and help to boost growth.

SPECIAL FEATURE: EXPANDING ACCESS TO FINANCE

## Taxation

### Revenue Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean 2022

This report compiles comparable tax revenue statistics over the period 1990-2020 for 27 Latin American and Caribbean economies. Based on the OECD Revenue Statistics database, it applies the OECD methodology to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to enable comparison of tax levels and tax structures on a consistent basis, both among the economies of the region and with other economies. This publication is jointly undertaken by the OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, the OECD Development Centre, the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

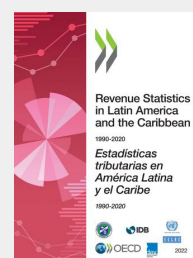


#### Print ver.

Code: eco-2022-4-en-print  
ISBN: 9789264860698  
pages: 124 \$60.00

#### PDF ver.

ISBN: 9789264779860  
\$36.00



#### Print ver.

Code: ctp-2022-196-enes-print  
ISBN: 9789264939141  
pages: 340 \$102.00

#### PDF ver.

ISBN: 9789264630444  
Free



## Taxation

### ***Making Dispute Resolution More Effective – MAP Peer Review Report***

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**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-34-en-print ISBN: 9789264563094 pages: 60 \$30.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264430617 Free

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**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-35-en-print ISBN: 9789264859944 pages: 56 \$30.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264958357 Free

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**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264699588 Free

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**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264815179 Free

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**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264648166 Free

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**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-39-en-print ISBN: 9789264872608 pages: 64 \$30.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264930599 Free

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**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264912281 Free

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**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-41-en-print ISBN: 9789264865105 pages: 80 \$30.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264963986 Free

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**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-42-en-print ISBN: 9789264790599 pages: 88 \$30.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264759268 Free

Under BEPS Action 14, members of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS have committed to implement a minimum standard to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the mutual agreement procedure (MAP). The MAP is included in Article 25 of the OECD Model Tax Convention and commits countries to endeavour to resolve disputes related to the interpretation and application of tax treaties. The BEPS Action 14 Minimum Standard has been translated into specific terms of reference and a methodology for the peer review and monitoring process. The peer review process is conducted in two stages. Stage 1 assesses countries against the terms of reference of the minimum standard according to an agreed schedule of review. Stage 2 focuses on monitoring the follow-up of any recommendations resulting from jurisdictions' Stage 1 peer review report. This report reflects the outcome of the Stage 2 peer monitoring of the implementation of the BEPS Action 14 Minimum Standard by each country.

## Taxation

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

#### **Gabon 2022 (Second Round, Phase 1) Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-43-en-print ISBN: 9789264766174 pages: 100 \$44.00

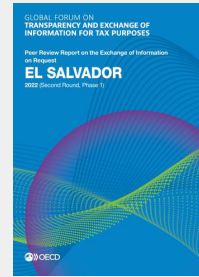
**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264935129 \$30.00

#### **El Salvador 2022 (Second Round, Phase 1) Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request**

**Print ver.** Code: ctp-2022-44-en-print ISBN: 9789264745544 pages: 136 \$44.00

**PDF ver.** ISBN: 9789264347120 \$30.00

This publication contains the 2022 Second Round Peer Review Report on the Exchange of Information on Request of each country. It refers to Phase 1 only (Legal and Regulatory Framework).

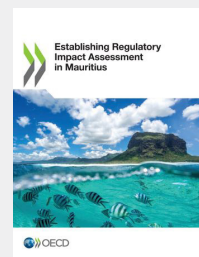


## Governance

### **Establishing Regulatory Impact Assessment in Mauritius**

As a small, open economy, Mauritius needs a well-performing regulatory system that provides necessary protections while enabling the development of trade and investment and limiting administrative burdens. A robust regulatory impact assessment (RIA) framework can enhance Mauritius' business environment and attractiveness as a trade and investment partner. In particular, RIA can help Mauritius strengthen its rule-making framework, for example by increasing scrutiny and taking a more evidence-based approach to rulemaking.

This report presents OECD recommendations on how to establish a RIA framework in Mauritius. These recommendations are based upon an analysis of the country's strengths and challenges, as well as extensive engagement with stakeholders. The recommendations also draw on lessons learnt from RIA implementation in a range of countries and an initial benchmarking of RIA-related best practices and guidance material from various relevant jurisdictions.



**Print ver.**

Code: gov-2022-124-en-print

ISBN: 9789264729858

pages: 108 \$30.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264765429

\$18.00



**Print ver.**

Code: edu-2022-135-en-print

ISBN: 9789264499218

pages: 140 \$42.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264955998

Free



**Print ver.**

Code: edu-2022-78-en-print

ISBN: 9789264384613

pages: 80 \$30.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264815711

Free

## Education

### Accessing Higher Education in the German State of Brandenburg

Brandenburg's economy is undergoing structural change, which opens exciting new prospects for highly skilled workers. The state has intensified efforts to diversify the economy towards cleaner and more knowledge-intensive industries, including the development of advanced manufacturing, spill-over effects from the start-up scene in Berlin, fostering entrepreneurial activities at its own higher education institutions, promoting innovative places for working and living, and phasing out of coal production in favour of next-generation technologies. As the engine of skills development and research, the higher education system will play an important role in helping the state unleash these opportunities. The German State of Brandenburg has therefore entrusted the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development – in close collaboration with and supported by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support – with the development of recommendations on how to enhance the visibility of its institutions' programme offer, align this offer with the skills and innovation demand, and make it more attractive to prospective students from the state and beyond.

### Continuing Education and Training and the EU Framework on State Aid

#### Implications for the Public Higher Education Sector in Brandenburg

Ageing populations and rising skill demands have heightened expectations that higher education systems will widen their offer of continuing education and training (CET) for adults aiming to renew or augment their skills at an advanced level. CET is becoming increasingly important for maintaining a highly skilled workforce also in Germany, and particularly in the state of Brandenburg. However, Brandenburg's public higher education institutions have so far been only marginal providers. To expand their offer of CET, they would require more legal certainty about the use of public funding in light of European Union (EU) state aid policy. EU state aid policy ensures public subsidies (state aid) are not used by state agencies to crowd out markets (economic activity). There are no clear EU, federal or state-level directions about whether CET is a non-economic activity and thus exempt from EU state aid rules. This report analyses the reasons for this legal uncertainty and provides recommendations to the state government and public higher education institutions in Brandenburg about how to clarify the status of continuing education and training as a state-aided activity. It also proposes pointers for interpretation and future reform of the EU framework on state aid, and provides impulses for policy action in other German states and at the federal level.

## Social issues/Migration/Health

### The Short and Winding Road to 2030 Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets

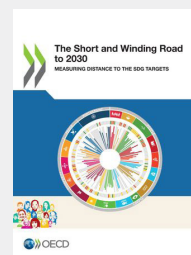
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has an unprecedented ambition, but also confronts countries with an enormous challenge given the complex and integrated nature of the Agenda with its 17 Goals, underpinned by 169 Targets. To assist national governments with their implementation, the OECD has developed a unique methodology allowing comparison of progress across SDG goals and targets, and also over time. Based on the Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and leveraging UN and OECD data, this report provides a high-level assessment of OECD Member countries' performance across the Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda. The report evaluates the distance that OECD countries need to travel to meet SDG targets for which data is currently available, but it goes one step further and deepens the analysis by identifying long-term trends, considering also how these trends may be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. By providing a high-level overview of countries' strengths and weaknesses in performance across the SDGs, it aims to support Member countries in navigating the SDGs and in setting their own priorities for action within the broad 2030 Agenda.

## Environment

### OECD Environmental Performance Reviews: Norway 2022

Norway has made progress on the path towards green growth over the past decade. The country is a frontrunner in many environmental areas and invests heavily in technological development and innovation to support its green transition. It set many ambitious national environmental targets across all sectors, including for climate mitigation; Norway aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2030. While not a member of the European Union, Norway has aligned its action with many EU regulations and goals, sometimes more stringently than members. Despite progress in many areas, the country still faces multiple challenges, including sustainable consumption patterns and biodiversity protection. The review provides 30 recommendations to help Norway further improve its environmental performance, with a special focus on sustainable land use and biodiversity management.

This is the fourth Environmental Performance Review of Norway. It provides an independent, evidence-based evaluation of the country's environmental performance over the past decade.



**Print ver.**

Code: wise-2022-3-en-print

ISBN: 9789264341906

pages: 250 \$72.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264803343

\$43.00



**Print ver.**

Code: env-2022-92-en-print

ISBN: 9789264182004

pages: 152 \$42.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264449268

\$25.00



**Print ver.**

Code: dev-2022-83-en-print

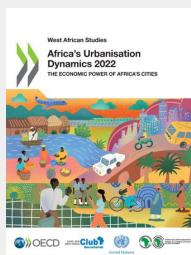
ISBN: 9789264624320

pages: 248 \$66.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264327955

\$39.00



**Print ver.**

Code: swac-2022-3-en-print

ISBN: 9789264915800

pages: 201 \$60.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264770867

\$36.00

## Development

### **Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India 2022 Financing Sustainable Recovery from COVID-19**

The Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India is a regular publication on regional economic growth and development in Emerging Asia. It focuses on the economic conditions of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, as well as China and India. It comprises two main parts. The first part presents the regional economic monitor, depicting the economic outlook and macroeconomic challenges in the region. The second part consists of special thematic chapters addressing a major issue facing the region. The 2022 edition addresses financing sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic is proving to be extremely costly, both economically and socially and sustainable financing solutions are crucial for an equitable and inclusive recovery. The report explores how governments can obtain additional financing by harnessing bond markets, and use green, social and sustainability bonds to achieve policy objectives.

### **Africa's Urbanisation Dynamics 2022 The Economic Power of Africa's Cities**

This report provides a new perspective on Africa's urban economies that is unique in its breadth and level of detail. Based on data from more than 4 million individuals and firms in 2 600 cities across 34 countries, it presents compelling evidence that urbanisation contributes to better economic outcomes and higher living standards. It shows that across most socio-economic dimensions, cities significantly outperform the countries in which they are located. In Africa, urbanisation accounts for approximately 30% of the growth in per capita gross domestic product (GDP) over the past 20 years. Importantly, the gains from urbanisation on economic performance and quality of life extend beyond city boundaries, also benefiting rural areas. The report also shows that transnational clusters of cities are emerging along coasts as well as inland, offering new opportunities for economic development. Based on these findings, the report sets forth policy priorities at national and local levels that are essential to realise the potential of urbanisation. Among these, it argues that the role of cities should be fully anchored in national development planning. Moreover, local governments need greater fiscal and administrative capacity to become key actors in economic development.

## Development

### OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews: Portugal 2022

The OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) conducts peer reviews of individual members once every five to six years. Reviews seek to improve the quality and effectiveness of members' development co-operation, highlighting good practices and recommending improvements. Portugal mobilises its whole of government expertise with a strong focus on partner country ownership. Building on long-standing and close bilateral relations, it concentrates its funding on countries most in need. Through effective international advocacy, the country champions triangular co-operation and has fostered agreement amongst European Union (EU) members on issues such as strengthening Team Europe's commitment to human development when it held the Presidency of the EU Council. However, Portugal can make more out of the wide participation of state and non-state actors in its development co-operation. This peer review provides a set of recommendations to improve co-ordination across government, pull bilateral efforts together, focus more on outcomes and take action to increase official development assistance (ODA).

### Multi-dimensional Review of the Western Balkans From Analysis to Action

The Western Balkans region has come a long way over the last two decades in achieving economic and social progress. Its people are the region's greatest asset. Yet faced with a lack of opportunities many, particularly the young, decide to emigrate. To make the most of its future the region must invest in its attractiveness as a place to live, work and invest in.

This report comes as a follow-up to the earlier publication Multi-dimensional Review of the Western Balkans: Assessing Opportunities and Constraints. It builds on an extensive peer-learning process that brought together experts from across the region and beyond. The report provides suggestions and recommendations for three strategic priorities that can help create opportunities and boost the quality of life. First, better education and more competencies are the basis for raising productivity, creating jobs, encouraging civic participation and making the region an attractive destination. Second, social cohesion is the bedrock of resilient societies and requires stronger labour market policies and effective social protection that can cushion people's hardship and provide them with new opportunities. Third, cleaner air and more sustainable energy are indispensable for boosting the region's quality of life and economic opportunities.



**Print ver.**

Code: dcd-2022-17-en-print

ISBN: 9789264956292

pages: 55 \$30.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264764187

\$18.00



**Print ver.**

Code: dev-2022-82-en-print

ISBN: 9789264565111

pages: 490 \$144.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264545588

\$86.00

## Urban, Rural and Regional Development

### Designing Legal Frameworks for Social Enterprises Practical Guidance for Policy Makers



**Print ver.**

Code: cfe-2022-264-en-print

ISBN: 9789264771024

pages: 75     \$30.00

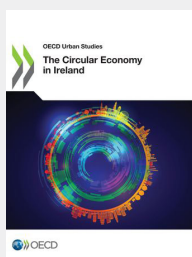
**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264568501

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Increasingly, countries are recognising the contribution social enterprises make to economic and inclusive growth and sustainable development. While some form of legislation on social enterprises exists in 16 EU countries, and explicit policies or strategies to boost their development exist in the other 11 EU countries, policy makers recognise that legislation can help address current shortcomings and facilitate future social enterprise development. Based on consultations with more than 80 experts, policy makers and stakeholders from 10 European countries, this manual explains the rationale behind legal frameworks for social enterprises, identifies the critical factors for legal framework design and recommends actions to ensure legislation fully meets the needs of social enterprises. It lays out the fundamental steps related to the life cycle of legal frameworks and provides options that policy makers can use in the design and implementation process.

### The Circular Economy in Ireland



**Print ver.**

Code: cfe-2022-53-en-print

ISBN: 9789264762015

pages: 148     \$36.00

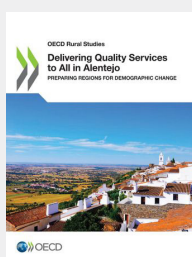
**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264332423

\$21.00

Ireland is at a turning point for the transition to a circular economy. The 2022 Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy provides the policy framework for the circular economy in the country, and the forthcoming Circular Economy Bill is expected to strengthen waste and circular economy legislation. Nevertheless, with a circularity material use rate of 2% in 2020, Ireland shows significant scope for progress. The report analyses the state of play and challenges of the circular transition in Ireland and provides policy recommendations for circular economy policy across levels of government. It is the result of a two-year policy dialogue between the OECD, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, as well as a broad range of public, private and civil society stakeholders.

### Delivering Quality Services to All in Alentejo Preparing Regions for Demographic Change



**Print ver.**

Code: cfe-2022-263-en-print

ISBN: 9789264691735

pages: 76     \$30.00

**PDF ver.**

ISBN: 9789264406643

\$18.00

This publication is part of the OECD workstream on Preparing Regions for Demographic Change. It elaborates a case study for the Portuguese region of Alentejo and focuses on improving the delivery of educational services taking into account the multi-level governance context. The study highlights the need to better articulate and co-ordinate the delivery of educational services among levels of government to improve access and quality. It also sheds light on the decisive role that geography plays and the importance of adopting a spatial lens to mitigate the rising inequality present in Portugal in access to education services. Alentejo is a rural region that expects to lose 30% of its population between 2020 and 2080, hence it needs to put in place forward-looking and effective policy levers to delivery sustainable education services to citizens living in rural communities.





