

**20th Meeting of the informal network of
National Focal Points for Policy Coherence**

***Policy coherence in times
of COVID-19:***

***Making the recovery work for people,
planet and economy***



**25-26 November 2020
14:00 – 17:00 hrs
Virtual meeting**

20TH Meeting of the informal network of National Focal Points for Policy Coherence

Policy coherence in times of COVID-19: Making the recovery work for people, planet and economy

25-26 November 2020 | 14:00-17:00 hrs CET | Zoom Meeting

AGENDA

DAY 1 – 25 November 2020	
14:00–14:10	INTRODUCTION <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Welcome remarks – Ms. Elsa Pilichowski, Director, OECD Public Governance Directorate.
14:10–15:50	SESSION 1: Mainstreaming SDGs into policy-making and recovery: promoting a whole of government approach to PCSD in the era of COVID-19 and beyond <p>COVID-19 has triggered the most severe economic recession in nearly a century and is causing enormous damage to people's health, jobs and well-being. A key question is how the immediate need to respond to COVID-19 and its consequences will affect the ability of countries to continue to prioritise the 2030 Agenda and SDGs? As countries move towards recovery, governments face tough choices and need to strengthen their capacities to effectively manage trade-offs in terms of priorities (namely economic, social and environmental), time (short, medium and long-term), space (global, regional, national, subnational), and power (engagement of key actors and stakeholders); as well as their capacities to consider the long-term impacts and the impact of policies on third countries (neighbouring countries or developing countries).</p> <p>This session will be divided into two parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The first part will focus on the institutional mechanisms that governments can use to enhance policy coherence, drive transformational change and ensure a recovery from Covid-19 that supports and enables the achievement of the SDGs.• The second part will be devoted to specific tools that governments can use to mainstream the SDGs into policy-making and ensure that policies and measures for recovery are aligned with the aspirations in the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. <p>Part 1. Institutional mechanisms</p> <p>The need to respond effectively to a complex and multi-dimensional COVID-19 crisis, may create windows of opportunity for institutional adaptation towards sustainable transformation. A key question is what are the key institutional mechanisms that can help drive and guide whole-of-government action towards common sustainable development goals. How to harness existing institutional mechanisms for policy coherence to promote sustainable transformation and recovery from COVID-19. In a panel discussion, representatives from Member and Partner countries will share experiences and highlight new developments in their efforts to promote whole-of-government approaches to PCSD in times of COVID-19.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Ms. Tatyana Teplova, Head of the Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Goals, OECD Public Governance Directorate <p>Introduction to the session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Setting the scene – Insights from the <i>Government After Shock</i> session on “Linking the SDGs with Covid-19 recovery: What do we need to leave behind? What do we want to keep? What should we do differently?”, Mr. Ernesto Soria Morales, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development, OECD Public Governance Directorate <p>Panel discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Ms. Gemma Santana, Director of the 2030 Agenda, Office of the Presidency of Mexico.– Ms. Mia Crawford, Coordinator 2030 Agenda, Deputy Director Global Agenda, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.– Ms. Helena Silvonon, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland– Ms. Jocelyne M.M. Croes, Special Advisor on Multilateral Affairs and Chair of the National SDG Commission Aruba

	<p>Guiding questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are our current institutional mechanisms for policy coherence equipped to deal with more complex challenges exacerbated by the pandemic? • What role for the centres of government to ensure whole-of-government approaches? • How can the practical guidance note that will support the implementation of the OECD Recommendation on PCSD be tailored to support country's needs and efforts more effectively, particularly in the current COVID-19 context? <p>Background documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Guidance Note to support adherents in the implementation of the OECD Recommendation on PCSD • OECD Policy Brief: "Building a coherent response for a sustainable post-COVID-19 recovery"
15:50–16:50	<p>Part 2. Tools</p> <p>Governments have a range of strategic tools that could be used more proactively to advance a sustainable and coherent recovery in alignment with SDGs, such as budgets, laws, regulatory policies and public procurement systems. During this second part, focal points will discuss country-level experiences and good emerging practices for mainstreaming SDG at different levels. A panel of representatives from different Member and partner countries will share their specific country experiences and early lessons from implementation of ongoing projects with the support of the OECD focused on strengthening mechanisms, tools and capacities for policy coherence for sustainable development and governance for the SDGs. The discussions will provide input to the work of the Secretariat for developing concrete, measurable and achievable guidance, which will accompany the Recommendation to support countries in implementation.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Anna Piccinni, Policy Analyst, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development OECD Public Governance Directorate – Introduction to the session – Ms. Scherie Nicol, Policy Analyst, Public Management and Budgeting Division, OECD Public Governance Directorate <p>Panel on experiences from country projects on PCSD and governance for the SDGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>"Mainstreaming the SDGs in Italian decision-making"</i> – Ms. Andrea Innamorati, Senior Policy Advisor Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea Directorate General for Sustainable Growth and the Quality of Development, Italy – <i>"Building capacities in the Public Administration to support implementation of the SDGs"</i> – Ms. Marta Ostrowska-Chalupa, Head of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Unit, Economic Analysis Department, Ministry of Economic Development, Labour and Technology, Poland – <i>"Towards an Action Plan and Governance Framework to operationalise the Malta Sustainable Development Vision for 2050"</i> – Mr. George Said, Director, Department for Sustainable Development, Office of the Prime Minister, Malta <p>Report Back on the pilot peer to peer learning experiences on SDG governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>"Effective stakeholder engagement to accelerate the progress of the SDGs in Colombia in times of Covid-19"</i> – Ms. Olga Lucia Romero, Director of Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Policies, National Planning Department of Colombia – <i>"Multi-stakeholder workshop for identifying joint milestones related to circular economy that could be included in the Sustainable Development Action Plan"</i> – Ms. Luminita Balalau, Head of the Department for Sustainable Development, Prime Minister Office, Romania <p>Guiding questions for discussion:</p> <p>How can the economic and social response to COVID-19 be consistent with national efforts to achieve the SDGs?</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What tools need to be mobilised to achieve consensus on sustainable recovery and integrating SDGs effectively? • What capabilities do governments require to increase competencies for PCSD? • How can OECD tools, guidance and targeted support best be tailored to respond to country specific needs in the current COVID-19 context? <p>Background documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Guidance Note to support adherents in the implementation of the OECD Recommendation on PCSD • Preliminary “Skills for the Civil Service in the SDG Era – an assessment framework” • Background note on peer-learning activities on governance and policy coherence for the SDGs.
16:50–17:00	<p>Summary and key take aways from Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – OECD Public Governance Directorate
1. DAY 2 – 26 NOVEMBER 2020	
14:00	<p>SESSION 2: How to address the transboundary impacts of policies, and in particular on developing countries, in times of COVID-19?</p>
14:00–14:10	<p>Welcome and introductory remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mr. Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (tbc) <p>Scene-setting presentation: State of the art on transboundary impacts analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Apollonia Miola, Senior Scientist, EC-Joint Research Centre (former secondee to the OECD) <p>The COVID-19 crisis has emphasised the need for coherent policies that take into account transboundary impacts to avoid prolonging the recession, aggravating the global effects of the crisis and reversing progress on SDGs. The magnitude of the COVID-19 crisis has also highlighted the need for collective action, regulatory cooperation and coordinated policy responses to tackle such transboundary challenges in the short and long-term. A key issue is the need to strengthen evidence and capacities to assess possible effects of domestic policies beyond borders, particularly on developing countries. For example, disruptions of global supply chains and limited movement of people across borders during the pandemic have triggered negative transboundary impacts, in particular on countries that are heavily dependent on tourism, such as small island developing states; inflows of remittances; or official development assistance, with a risk of reversing these countries’ progress in eradicating poverty and achieving the SDGs</p> <p>This second session will be divided into two parts:</p> <p>The first part will focus on key areas where international regulatory co-operation (IRC) can be essential to address the COVID-19 crisis in a sustainable manner and the mechanisms that governments can rely onto articulate a co-ordinated and consistent regulatory response adapted to their specific circumstances.</p> <p>In the second part, focal points will reflect on ways to build political support for policies that are coherent with sustainable development in developing countries. This reflection will constitute the starting point for an exchange of approaches and lessons learnt.</p> <p>The session will also provide an opportunity to introduce ongoing work by the OECD, including a joint collaboration with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, on transboundary impacts of domestic policies. The discussions will provide input to the work of the Secretariat for developing concrete, measurable and achievable guidance, which will accompany the Recommendation to support countries in implementation.</p>
14:10-15:00	<p>Part 1: How to manage more effective, sustainable and consistent responses to the COVID-19 crisis through international regulatory co-operation?</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Carina Lindberg, Policy Analyst, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development OECD Public Governance Directorate <p>Presentations:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Marianna Karttunen, OECD Public Governance Directorate, introductory presentation: “The international regulatory co-operation response to the COVID-19 crisis”. - Ms. Deidre Pollard Bussey, Director of the Regulatory Cooperation Division, Canada Treasury Board <p>Background documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECD policy brief (2020): “No policy maker is an island: The international regulatory co-operation response to the COVID-19 crisis”
15:00-16:00	<p>Part 2: How to build political support for policies that are coherent with sustainable development in developing countries?</p> <p>Moderation and introduction to the session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Rahul Malhotra Head of Reviews, Results, Evaluations and Development Innovation Division, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate <p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Thomas Lammar, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Luxembourg - Ms. Gunilla Eklund, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Sweden - Ms. Marie-Aurelie Vernin, European Commission - Mr. Santhosh Persaud, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate <p>Guiding question for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the guidance in the draft Recommendation be tailored to support countries’ efforts in addressing transboundary impacts more effectively? What complementary tools would be needed? • How might OECD available tools best support country efforts in assessing and measuring transboundary impacts? • How can OECD and DAC members build political support for policies that are coherent with sustainable development in developing countries? <p>Background documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Guidance Note to support adherents in the implementation of the OECD Recommendation on PCSD • Draft Discussion note: “Building greater political support for policy coherence for development”. • Transboundary Report - Annotated Outline.
16:00: 16:50	<p>SESSION 3: Strengthening systems for securing the supply of essential goods and ensuring a sustainable Covid-19 recovery: Policy coherence across the food system</p> <p>The COVID-19 crisis showed the risk of weaknesses in global value chains for the provision of “essential goods”, such as health or food. Measures adopted by countries to contain the spread of the virus placed important stresses on food supply chains, which raises the question on how to address policy impacts and trade-offs between the timely provision of essential goods in times of crisis, a rules-based global trade system, and sustainability? With government back on the frontline, the COVID-19 pandemic has further emphasised the need for anticipatory, coherent and integrated governance approaches to address both the effects of the crisis as well as pre-existing trends and challenges. Since before the COVID-19 outbreak, food systems present major vulnerabilities globally and are confronted with the triple challenge of simultaneously feeding a world population that is expected to approach 10 billion by 2050 and providing adequate nutrition; ensuring the livelihoods of 500 million farmers and others working along the food chain from farm to fork, and ensuring the environmental sustainability of the sector, i.e. using essentially the same amount of land and less water, while adapting to climate change and contributing to lower GHG emissions. Yet global trade in agriculture and food remains highly distorted. Food systems play an essential role for alleviating the immediate impacts to public health as well as long-term impacts to food and water systems, nutrition, resilience and the economy. Governments can work more closely with firms both to identify low-probability and high-impact events that could threaten food supplies, and to prepare risk mitigation and management strategies. The Agriculture Market Information System (AMIS), established under France’s G20 Presidency, is an illustration of how anticipatory governance can increase transparency and help ensure more stable global and regional food supplies.</p>

	<p>In this thematic session, focal points and experts will discuss country experiences in promoting coherent policies, which can enable increased productivity, sustainability, and resilience and help transform global food systems.</p> <p>Moderation and introduction to the session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mr. Charles Baubion, Advisor, OECD Public Governance Directorate <p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mr. Koen Deconinck, Agricultural Policy Analyst, OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate – Ms. Ronit Endevelt, Director, Nutrition Division, Public Health Services, Israel Ministry of Health – Mr. Mark Cropper, DG Agriculture and Rural Development <p>Guiding questions for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What mechanisms and processes are available for Governments to enhance coherence across the food system and ensure the supply of these essential goods in times of crisis? • What coherent measures would be required to both address the COVID-19 crisis impacts on food systems and at the same time strengthen their sustainability? • How can recovery measures support transformation toward sustainable and resilient food systems?
<p>16:50 – 17:00</p>	<p>WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to inform focal points on ongoing and upcoming projects and activities on PCSD. The session will also explore further opportunities for strengthening the role of national focal points in advancing the implementation of the OECD Recommendation on PCSD as well as options for strengthening the focal points network.</p>