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### 2013 Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum “How to Unlock Investment in Support of Green Growth?” 5-6 December 2013, OECD Conference Centre

- >> Download the [conference agenda](#)
- >> Register now at [greengrowth@oecd.org](mailto:greengrowth@oecd.org)



## In Focus: Asia

OECD Economic Surveys: China 2013 • Green Growth in Emerging and Developing Asia • Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia • IEA Southeast Asia Energy Outlook



The [OECD Economic Surveys: China 2013](#) discusses several green growth related aspects. It finds that some forms of pollution are declining but air and water quality are often poor, imposing sizeable costs. Going forward a broad policy mix is needed to help meet environmental goals in a cost effective manner, including well implemented market-based approaches and better enforcement of existing regulations. To further encourage progress in the efficient use of energy, taxation of diesel and gasoline ought to be raised while the price of electricity, coal, gas and water needs to better reflect costs. Large ongoing investment in renewable energy should also be better harnessed.



In the context of the East Asia Climate Partnership programme, the OECD has engaged in a [2-year horizontal project](#) with the objective to help promote green growth in ASEAN countries. This work relies on the OECD Green Growth framework and the OECD Development Strategy. As a first output, the synthesis paper [“What have we learned from attempts to introduce green growth policies?”](#) was published in March 2013. The preparation of a second report entitled “Toward Green Growth in Emerging and Developing Asia” alongside a database of green growth indicators specific to the ASEAN region is currently in progress.



The ongoing [Urban Green Growth in Dynamic Asia](#) project proposes an analytical framework for assessing policies for green growth in Asia’s fast-growing cities. The three main elements of the study are: i) identification of the pre-conditions for urban green growth in fast-growing Asian cities, highlighting both similarities to and differences from OECD cities; ii) green growth policy frameworks and instruments for Asian cities; and iii) key implementation issues for urban green growth.



The IEA [Southeast Asia Energy Outlook](#) (World Energy Outlook Special Report) forecasts that the region’s energy demand increases by over 80% between today and 2035. While Southeast Asia has made some gains in energy efficiency, almost three-quarters of its full economic potential is set to remain untapped in 2035. The Efficient ASEAN Scenario estimates that improving energy efficiency would deliver major energy security, economic and environmental benefits: net oil imports are cut by around 700 kb/d in 2035, slashing oil-import bills by USD 30 billion. An additional USD 330 billion in investment to improve end-use efficiency is more than offset by the resulting fuel cost savings, which total nearly USD 500 billion. Regional GDP is boosted by about 2% in 2035.

## UNFCCC COP19

### Contributions by the OECD

The [19th session of the Conference of the Parties \(COP\) to the UNFCCC](#) will take place on 11-22 November 2013 in Warsaw, Poland. The OECD is organising a side event on “Credible policies to achieve climate targets cost-effectively and mobilise private finance” on 19 November and is also hosting a high level breakfast meeting on ‘The Role of Institutional Investors in Mobilising Long-Term Green Infrastructure Investment’ on 20 November. In addition [we are contributing](#) to more than 10 other key events on climate change, climate finance, low-carbon transport, energy pricing and fossil fuel subsidies.



## Carbon Pricing: The Cornerstone of Climate Policy

Lecture of the OECD Secretary-General at the LSE • Related Publications

During a [lecture hosted by the London School of Economics](#) (LSE) on 9 October, OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría said governments must adopt a coherent approach to carbon pricing if they are to meet international commitments to gradually phase out fossil fuel emissions and limit climate change to a 2°C temperature increase from pre-industrial levels. Two related reports have recently been published by the OECD.

[Climate and carbon: Aligning prices and policies](#) argues that credible and consistent carbon pricing must be the cornerstone of government actions to tackle climate change. The report identifies key elements for developing credible and sustainable carbon pricing mechanisms that can underpin investments in new technologies, as well as in the infrastructure needed to achieve a zero net emission future.

[Effective Carbon Prices](#) shows that taxes and trading systems are preferable to other policies, such as feed-in tariffs, subsidies and other regulatory instruments. The study draws lessons from climate change policies in 15 countries in some of the sectors that generate the most emissions: electricity generation, road transport, pulp & paper and cement, as well as household energy use. It confirms that countries could achieve higher levels of emission reductions at lower cost if they used smarter, market-based policy instruments such as taxes and trading systems.

>> [Watch lecture online](#) - [The climate challenge: Achieving zero emissions](#)



## Joint OECD LEED - GIZ Workshop

Enabling Green and Inclusive Markets through Green Skills Development



The [16<sup>th</sup> International Business Forum](#) took place on 23-24 October 2013 and focused on green and inclusive business models. A [workshop](#) discussing results from the OECD LEED study on “Skills Development by Green and Inclusive SMEs in India: Entrepreneurs’ Approaches” (forthcoming) attracted significant attention. Key points included the mismatch between skills needed by green SMEs and those developed within the public education system. Governments must become more flexible and responsive in adapting to the changing needs of the markets and ensuring access to greener skills development. The importance of collaboration between the public and the private sector was also stressed.

## Working Paper on Finance, Insurance and Private Pensions Institutional Investors and Green Infrastructure Investments

Infrastructure investment needs for ‘greening’ growth, including addressing climate change, are already significant and will continue to rise in coming years. [This report](#) examines the channels through which institutional investors can access green infrastructure, assesses the extent to which this is currently happening, and identifies the barriers to scaling up these investment flows. It presents four case studies: on utility-scale solar PV power generation in the United States, sustainable agriculture in Brazil, off-shore wind energy in the United Kingdom, and the securitisation of on-shore wind farms in Germany and France. The conclusions of the report include ensuring a stable and integrated policy environment, addressing market failures, providing an infrastructure road map, facilitating the development of appropriate green financing vehicles, and promoting market transparency and improved data collection.

## Latest Publications

In addition to the selected papers above, the following reports have also been released recently:

- 6/11/2013: [Environmental Performance Review – Austria](#); Chapter 3: [Towards Green Growth](#)
- 14/10/2013: [Policy Instruments to Support Green Growth in Agriculture](#)

>> [Green Growth Studies](#) and [Green Growth Papers](#) are available for online reading in the [OECD iLibrary](#).

## Key Events

- 4-7 November 2013:** [UNEP Green Economy Week](#) took place in Geneva, Switzerland with the aim of taking stock of the major products generated by UNEP and its partners over the last year. Among others, UNEP’s Green Economy Assessment Report, country studies and a publication on Green Economy Indicators were presented and reviewed by an expert group.
- 11-22 November 2013:** The [19th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC](#) and the 9th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol will take place from 11 to 22 November. The conference will be held at the National Stadium in Warsaw, Poland. The OECD delegation is led by Simon Upton, Director, Environment Directorate. Follow us during the event: [@OECD ENV](#).
- 12 November 2013:** FEEM International Conference on “[Methodologies and Indicators for Green Growth Measurement](#)” takes place in Milan, Italy. The FEEM Sustainability Index will be presented which aims to provide a quantitative measurement of sustainability, connecting theoretical background, practical assessment and policy perspectives. Paul Schreyer, Deputy Director, OECD Statistics Directorate will be a speaker at this event. A [live-streaming](#) of this conference will be available online. To request access, please contact: [events@feem.it](#)
- 21-22 November 2013:** An inaugural [World Forum on Natural Capital](#) is held in Edinburgh, Scotland. It will build on the significant private sector interest shown at the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio in June 2012 and the many developments that have taken place since. Join the related discussion on Twitter: [#NatCap13](#).

The OECD Green Growth Newsletter keeps OECD Committees, agencies and other stakeholders informed about the OECD’s Green Growth activities. Please email [greengrowth@oecd.org](mailto:greengrowth@oecd.org) to subscribe and/or access the International Green Growth Dialogue site. Back issues of the newsletter are available on our website.