

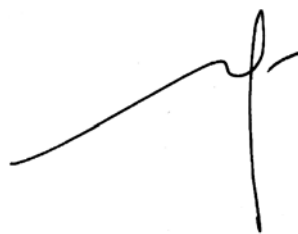
Preface

This report forms part of the OECD's "At a Glance" series which provides snap-shots of key policy areas based on data and indicators. It does not attempt to assess progress in tackling key environmental challenges. Nevertheless, the picture that emerges is clear: while some progress has been made to mitigate environmental pressures in OECD countries, these pressures are continuing to increase. This requires more effective policies, as well as better indicators to establish targets and to measure progress in achieving them.

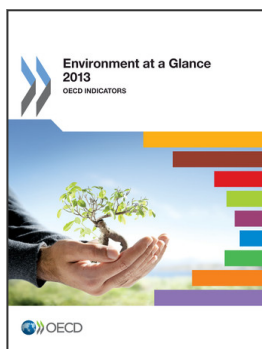
The OECD has been at the forefront of international efforts to develop environmental indicators since the early 1990s and published the first international sets of environmental indicators, including the OECD Core Set of environmental indicators on which this report is largely based. In recent years, the OECD has continued to develop and refine its environmental indicators. These include indicators to help integrate environmental considerations into sectoral policies, such as energy, transport and agriculture, and to measure progress in decoupling environmental pressures from economic growth. Most recently, the OECD has developed a set of indicators to monitor progress towards green growth.

The various sets of indicators are used in OECD country environmental performance reviews, economic surveys, as well as in other policy analysis work.

The report was prepared by the OECD Secretariat, within the framework of the OECD Working Party on Environmental Information. It would not have been possible to compile the data and to prepare the report without the contributions of many individuals in member countries. It is published on the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD.



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