

The OECD Codes and Schemes in Asia



Information Brochure

<p>OECD Seed Schemes</p>  A close-up photograph of two hands, one wearing a gold bangle, holding a large quantity of golden-brown seeds, likely rice or wheat.	<p>OECD Tractor Codes</p>  A red tractor is shown in a green field. The image includes several circular inset icons showing different agricultural machinery and farming activities.	<p>OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme</p>  A collection of fresh produce, including several bright green limes and a whole brown coconut, arranged on a wooden surface.	<p>OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme</p>  A scenic photograph of a tropical forest landscape with palm trees and a body of water in the foreground.
--	--	--	---

May 2019

The OECD Codes and Schemes in Asia

Date of accession to the Codes and Schemes

	OECD Seed Schemes	OECD Tractor Codes	OECD Fruit & Vegetables Scheme
China		1988	
India	2008	1988	
Iran	1995		
Israel	1968		1963
Japan	1967	1966	
Korea		1995	
Kyrgyzstan	2005		

OECD co-operation with Asian enhanced engagement countries - China, India, and Indonesia - since 2007 helps the OECD better address global economic, environmental, and social challenges.

The OECD Codes and Schemes facilitate international trade through the simplification of procedures in the field of Seeds, Fruit and Vegetables, Forest reproductive material and Tractors.

These programmes contribute to **reducing technical barriers to trade** that particularly affect trade between developing and developed countries.

By joining programmes such as the OECD Codes and Schemes, emerging and developing countries can **reap the benefits of globalization and penetrate global markets**. They will be able to export to foreign markets, at a regional level but also with partners on other continents.

Being members of the OECD Codes and Schemes is a definite advantage to promote growth thanks to an increased trade in some key agricultural sectors.

Already seven countries in Asia actively participate in 2018 in the OECD Codes and Schemes.

The OECD's Relations with its Key Partners from Asia



China



India



Indonesia

Key partners from Asia contribute to the OECD's work in a sustained and comprehensive manner. A central element of the programme is the promotion of direct and active participation of these countries in the work of substantive bodies of the Organisation. Each country participates in OECD work through a programme containing a mix of several elements, notably:

- participation in OECD committees,
- regular economic surveys,
- adherence to OECD instruments,
- integration into OECD statistical reporting and information systems,
- sector-specific peer reviews.

OECD Tractor Codes

The first standard Code for the Official Testing of Agricultural Tractors was approved on 21 April 1959. This Code has since been extended to cover forestry tractors and other features of performance, safety and noise.

More than 2750 tractor models have received performance test approval since the Codes were established in 1959.

Furthermore, more than 10 800 variants of tractors were tested for noise measurement at the driving position, or for the driver's protection in case of tractor roll-over; Having satisfied the safety criteria of the Codes they have been marketed nationally and internationally.

At present, 26 countries, i.e. 22 OECD Members and 4 countries which are not members of the OECD, adhere to the Codes which are open to all Member States of the U.N.

A particular feature of the OECD Tractor Codes is that, **since 1981, a Test Engineers' Conference** is organised every two years at the invitation of a participating country.

The first **Asian country that joined the Tractor Codes** was **Japan** in 1966. **Japan** hosted the **OECD Test Engineers' Conference in Omiya**, in 1997. This country hosted the 19th Biennial Test Engineers' Conference in Saitama in October 2017.

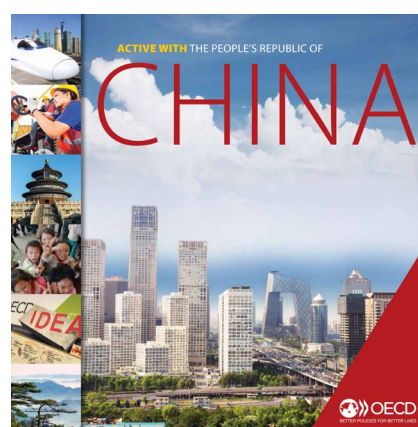
China joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988 and was the **second Asian country to host the Engineers' Conference in Beijing and Luoyang** in 2005.



The Tractor Codes Brochure is available in Chinese



OECD Active with...



Brochure available on the public website
www.oecd.org

Japan participates regularly in the Tractor Codes Technical Working Group Meetings, Annual Meetings and Test Engineer's Conferences.

Japan chaired the 2019 Annual Meeting of the OECD Tractor Codes and, among other subjects, shared with delegates their national test code for robot tractors. During the Meeting, Japan gave a presentation entitled "Test code for robot tractors in Japan"



Item 22 : Test code for robot tractors in Japan

27 February 2019

Topics

- Challenges that Japanese agricultural sector is facing and agricultural policies dealing with the challenges
- Road map to practical implementations of autonomous and/or unmanned agricultural machines (Agri-robots)
- Introduction of automated agricultural machines and their status of dissemination
- Guidelines for ensuring safety on the occasion of operating Agri-robots
- Test of Agri-robots (limited codes)
- Test of agricultural machines of manually operated with auto-steerings (limited codes)
- Test criteria and the status of testing

Automated agricultural machines (Robot tractor, Robot combine harvester, Automated rice transplanter)

Operation system for 2 robot tractors by remote control

Demo of robot tractor operation (Yokoshibahikari)

Automated combine harvester

Automated rice transplanter

60th Anniversary of the OECD Tractor Codes

Annual Meeting
26-27 February 2019
OECD Headquarters, Paris – France

Tractor Codes Member Countries

Austria	Belgium	China	Czech Republic
Finland	France	Germany	Iceland
India	Ireland	Italy	Japan
Korea	Latvia	Norway	Poland
Lithuania	Netherlands	Slovakia	Slovenia
Portugal	Sweden	Switzerland	Turkey
Spain	United Kingdom	USA	

Formal Applicant Countries

Brazil	Hungary
--------	---------

Potential Member Countries

Argentina	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Indonesia	Malaysia	Mexico
Paraguay	Philippines	Saudi Arabia	Thailand	Ukraine

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/tractors/>

The Tractor Codes celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the programme during the Annual Meeting in February 2019.

Korea became an official Member of the Tractor Codes in 1995 and was the **third Asian country** to host the **Engineers’ Conference in Suwon in 2009**. Since they are member of the Programme Korea participates regularly in the **OECD Tractor Codes Meetings**.

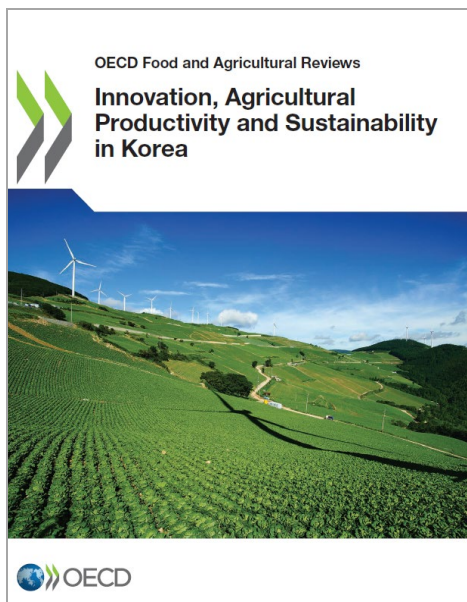
Innovation, Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability in Korea

“**Korea** is under increasing pressure to develop a more comprehensive agricultural system that respond to changing domestic demand, while remaining competitive internationally. This report examines the extent to which Korean policies are supportive of innovation and structural change in the food and agriculture sector, while exploring the extent to which policies affect access to, and use of, natural resources for productivity growth and sustainability.”

Test Engineers’ Conferences permit a **correct and coherent interpretation** of testing procedures and their development. Their primary purpose is the **observation, review and discussion** of testing practices by **Test Engineers**. They facilitate the verification of test reports carried out by the Co-ordinating Centre, which liaises between the National Testing Stations and the OECD for technical matters.



*Technical Visit
(Roll-over Protective Structure (ROPS))*



OECD (2018), *Innovation, Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability in Korea*, OECD Food and Agricultural Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris.
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264307773-en>
(book also available in Korean)



Driver assistance



The 19th Test Engineers' Conference took place in Saitama, Japan on 23-27 October 2017 (The 20th Conference will be hosted by Austria)

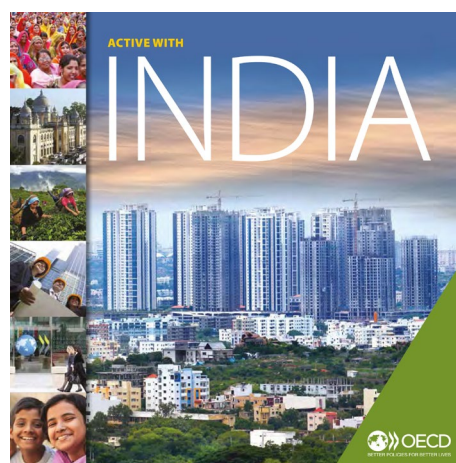
The three **Asian countries** that have hosted an OECD Test Engineers Conference demonstrated the relevance of the programme in the region. Over the last years, **China** has been one of the three countries with the highest amount of test reports sent to the OECD for approval.

The Director and the Head of Standardization and Testing Division of the **Indonesian** Center for Agricultural Engineering Research and Development took part in the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Tractor Codes.

Malaysia has the official status of Observer in the OECD Tractor Codes. The country was represented at the 19th Test Engineers' Conference held in Japan in October 2017.

India joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988. Among other countries, India is a key partner of OECD, together with Indonesia and People's Republic of China as Asian countries.

OECD Active with...

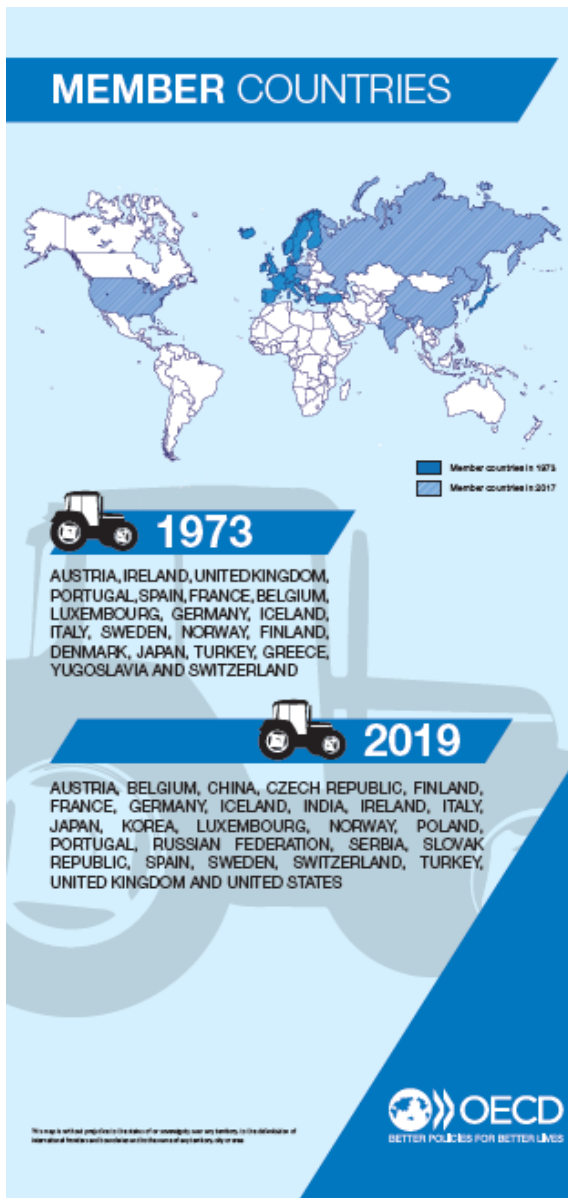


”Brochure available on the public website www.oecd.org

ANTAM 2018 Annual Meeting

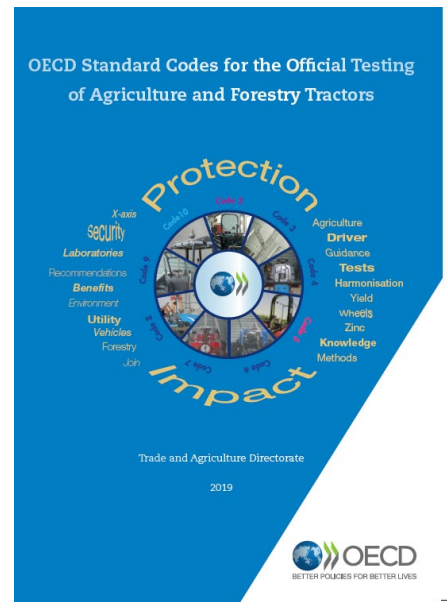
The Programme Manager of the Tractor Codes represented OECD during the ANTAM 2018 Annual Meeting. The OECD is part of the Advisory Panel of ANTAM. The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) was launched on 18 November 2013, and aims to establish a network of testing stations in Asia and to develop regional standards for agriculture machinery. China is the major stakeholder providing funds, capacity building

and political support. Although initially a small group, ANTAM managed to increase significantly their membership. Today, ANTAM counts 17 Member Countries. The OECD Tractor Codes has an overlap of 8 countries with ANTAM (Japan, Turkey, Korea, Russia, France, Italy, India, and China) that actively participate and provide funds, capacity building and guidance to ANTAM.



The full text of the **OECD Tractor Codes** is available in the form of a paper brochure and can be found online at the following address:

www.oecd.org/agriculture/tractors



OECD Seed Schemes

Among the 61 Member countries, **five from Asia (India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan)** currently participate in the **OECD Seed Schemes**.

The *OECD Seed Schemes* provide an **international framework for the certification of agricultural seed moving in international trade**.

The Schemes were established in 1958, driven by a combination of factors including a fast-growing seed trade, regulatory harmonisation in Europe, the development of off-season production, the seed breeding and production potential of large exporting countries in America and Europe, and the support of private industry.

There are eight agricultural Seed Schemes. They aim at encouraging the use of “quality-guaranteed” seed in participating countries.

The Schemes authorise the use of labels and certificates for seed produced and processed

for international trade according to agreed principles ensuring varietal identity and purity.

India is Member of the OECD Seed Schemes. In 2018, India held two capacity building workshops in Hyderabad, Telangana State, India. The workshops were supported by the participation of the National Designated Authorities from UK and South Africa.

The second capacity building workshop took place in April 2018 and this event focused on field inspection and post control.

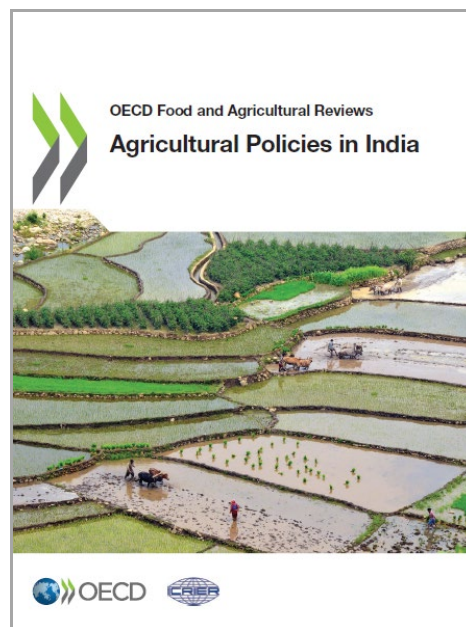


Delegate from India during the 2018 Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes

Agricultural Policies in India

This report assesses the performance of agricultural and food policy in India and calculates a set of policy indicators providing a comprehensive picture of agricultural support. Government intervention in India provides both negative and positive support to agriculture, with market and trade interventions often depressing prices, while subsidies to fertilisers, water, power and other inputs incentivise their use. Detailed recommendations are offered which, if implemented, have the potential to improve, for example farmers' welfare, better prepare

the sector for climate change, and position India to participate more fully in agro-food global value chains.



OECD will participate in the 32nd **ISTA (International Seed Testing Association)** Congress to be held in Hyderabad, India from 26 June to 02 July 2019.

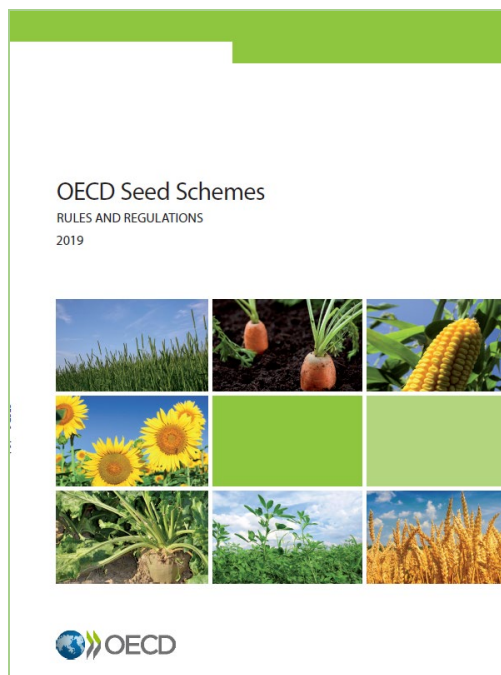
ISTA is a key partner for the OECD Seed Schemes. ISTA is responsible for seed quality (seed testing) and their Orange Certificate is required when an OECD certified seed is traded internationally. OECD applies their sampling methods when take samples for seed lots for post control tests. OECD took part in the ISTA 2018 Annual Meeting held in June 2018 in **Sapporo, Japan**.

The Asia and Pacific Seed Association (**APSA**) was established in 1994, through the cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and DANIDA, with the aim of promoting quality seed production and marketing in the Asia and Pacific Region. Today, APSA is the largest regional seed association in the world. It has strong links with international organizations such as FAO, CGIAR institutions, ISF, ISTA, UPOV, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Trade Organization,

among others. APSA members include national seed associations, government agencies, public and private seed companies, and associate members.

The National Designated Authority of Italy represented the OECD Seed Schemes and the World Seed Partnership Meeting during the **2018 Asian Seed Congress held in Manila, Philippines**. The **Philippines** and **Indonesia** expressed interest in joining the Schemes during the 2018 APSA conference.

The 2019 version of the **OECD Seed Schemes Rules and Regulations** exists as a paper brochure and is available online at: www.oecd.org/tad/seed



The **World Seed Partnership** is a joint initiative between the **OECD Seed Schemes**, **UPOV**, **ISTA** and the **ISF**. It provides a "one-stop-shop" information platform for countries that wish to develop their formal seed sector, as well as for developing joint activities e.g. **capacity building** on demand.

A World Seed Partnership Meeting was organised in September 2018 in Nay Phi Taw, **Myanmar** at the request of the Government

of Myanmar in order to help them in the development of the national seed sector.



OECD Seed Schemes Website:
<https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/seeds/>

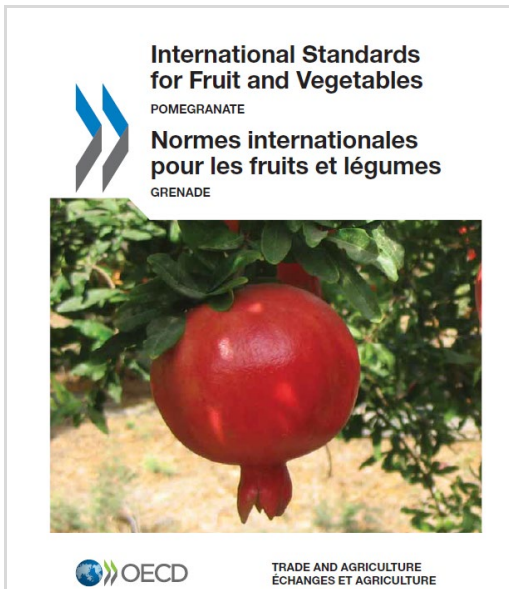
OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme

The main objectives of the *OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme* is to facilitate international trade through the harmonization and interpretation of marketing standards.

A further objective of the Scheme is to facilitate mutual recognition of inspections by participating countries.

The **Fruit and Vegetables Scheme** is well known for its explanatory brochures on standards, but is also involved in defining inspection procedures that are recognized in many countries, and in sponsoring training courses.

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables/>



The OECD Secretariat participated in the **ESCAP-OECD joint workshop on fruit and vegetables in Bangkok, Thailand** in November 2017. The organisers were OECD and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

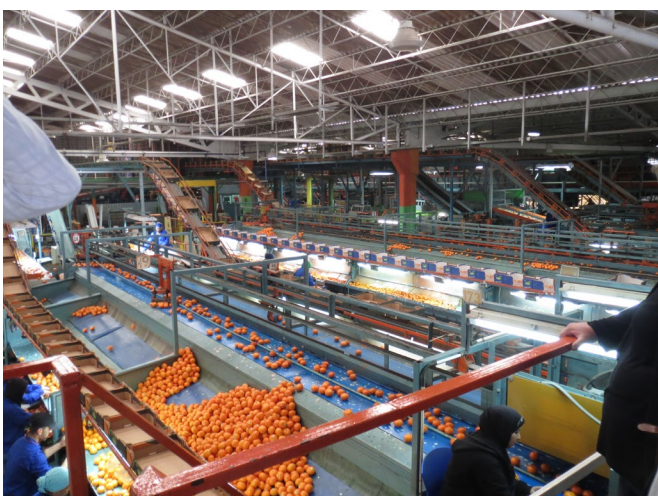
The OECD and ESCAP organised a joint workshop on "international trade of fresh fruit and vegetables -the role of standards and quality inspection systems". The aim of the workshop was threefold: i) to contribute to capacity building and raise awareness of OECD work amongst fruit and vegetables producers around the world; ii) to attract potential new member countries to join the Scheme; and iii) to increase collaboration of OECD with other international organisations.

The Fruit and Vegetables Scheme also organises Peer Reviews with the goal of helping the reviewed country improve its quality inspection system.

In March 2017, the **Israeli** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development volunteered for a Peer Review of their fruit and vegetables quality inspection system. The Israeli inspectors of the Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) organised a series of inspection demonstrations and field trip visits that included the harvest, packing and export of citrus fruit, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, fresh herbs, flowers, avocados and peppers.



OECD Delegates from Germany and Slovakia with the OECD Secretariat



*Citrus packing house
Mehadrin Netanya, Israel in 2017*



Family photo

The workshop attracted 41 participants from 12 countries (Cambodia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Slovak Republic, Sri Lanka and Thailand), from academic, institutional and private sectors.

The participants expressed interest in the OECD explanatory brochures. The Secretariat will follow up with these countries for further collaboration.

A Food Standards Officer from the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme, Codex Alimentarius Commission (International Food Standards) took part in the 2018 Plenary Meeting and gave a presentation on recent activities of the Codex Alimentarius commission on the standardization of fresh fruit and vegetables.



2018 Plenary Meeting

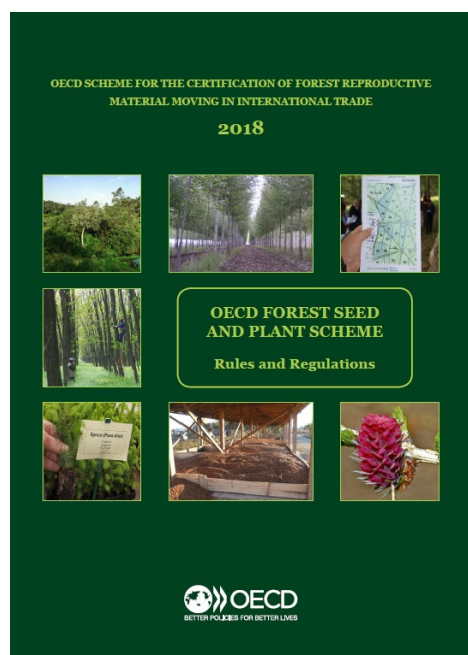
OECD Forest Seed And Plant Scheme

The OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme is a certification scheme to facilitate international trade in forest seed and plants.

The Scheme aims to encourage the production and use of Forest Reproductive Material that has been collected, processed, raised, labelled and distributed in a manner that ensures their trueness to name. The Scheme reflects the requirement by governments to have these materials correctly identified, with a view to minimising uncertainty in achieving successful afforestation.

Many countries, especially from the tropical areas, have expressed their interest in the OECD Forest Seed & Plant Scheme.

The **Rules of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme** are available in the form of a paper brochure. They include the list of participating countries, and the National Designated Authorities. The database on approved basic material as well as other information are available online at: www.oecd.org/tad/forest



Indonesia and Korea have expressed interest in the Forest Scheme and participated as Observers in some Annual Meetings. They took this opportunity to inform Delegates about the Forest Reproductive Material Certification System in their home countries.

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) is a centre of science and development excellence that harnesses the benefits of trees for people and the environment. Leveraging the world's largest repository of agroforestry science and information, we develop knowledge practices, from farmers' fields to the global sphere, to ensure food security and environmental sustainability.

ICRAF is the only institution that does globally significant agroforestry research in and for all of the developing tropics. Knowledge produced by ICRAF enables governments, development agencies and farmers to utilize the power of trees to make farming and livelihoods more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable at scales. Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, ICRAF operates six regional programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America and conducts research in more than 30 other countries around the developing world.

<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/about>

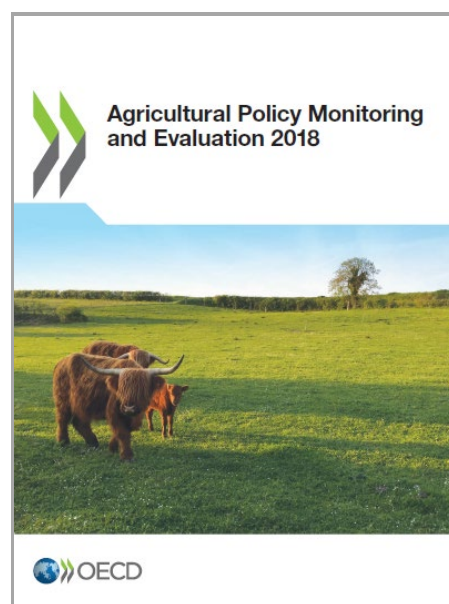
2019 OECD Forum of SEARP: Connecting Southeast Asia

The OECD held the **2019 Forum of the Southeast Asia Regional Programme (SEARP): Connecting Southeast Asia** in March 2019 at the OECD Conference Centre in Paris, France. The Forum addressed the issue of connectivity in the region under the theme of "**Connecting Southeast Asia**". High-level participants included the OECD Secretary-General, OECD Chief of Staff and G20 Sherpa, Ministers and Deputy Ministers from Thailand, Korea, Indonesia, Myanmar,

Singapore, Viet Nam, Japan and the UK, the Executive Director of APEC and Secretary-General of BIMSTEC. The OECD also welcomed representatives from 10 Southeast Asian countries, think tanks, private sector and regional organisations, namely ASEAN, ADB, ERIA and UN-ESCAP. The meeting was co-chaired by Korea's Deputy Minister for Economic Affairs and Thailand's Deputy Permanent Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

The outcomes of the Forum highlighted connectivity as a tool to achieve sustainable economic growth in the region. They emphasised that Institutional Connectivity is a key component to achieve effective physical and people-to-people connectivity and that such initiatives should be complementary and aligned with national economic planning.

Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2018



This report *Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2018* is the 31st in the series of OECD reports that monitor and evaluate agricultural policies across countries, and the sixth report to include both OECD countries and a set of Emerging Economies. The present report includes countries from all six continents, including the 35 OECD countries

and the six non-OECD EU Member States, as well as ten Emerging Economies: Brazil, People's Republic of China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

*OECD (2018), Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2018, OECD Publishing, Paris.
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/agr_pol-2018-en*

Membership of the OECD Codes and Schemes not only facilitates trade thanks to certification and harmonized practices for some key agricultural products, but also provides an opportunity to be part of the decision making process on rules to facilitate international trade.

OECD Contacts:

Mr. Csaba Gaspar
Programme Manager
OECD Seed Schemes & Forest Scheme
E-mail: csaba.gaspar@oecd.org

Mr. Jose Brambila Macias
Programme Manager
OECD Tractor Codes
& Fruit and Vegetables Scheme
E-mail: jose.brambila@oecd.org

[//www.oecd.org/agriculture/topics/standards-seeds-tractors-forest-fruit-vegetables/](http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/topics/standards-seeds-tractors-forest-fruit-vegetables/)