

The OECD Codes and Schemes and Latin America



Information Brochure

OECD Seed Schemes



OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme



OECD Tractor Codes



November 2019

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The OECD and Latin America and the Caribbean

For over 20 years, the OECD has been working closely with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate policy dialogue and the dissemination of good practices in areas such as investment, education, inclusiveness, competition, good governance, anti-corruption and fiscal policy.

The OECD has never been closer to the LAC region than it is today: **Chile** and **Mexico** and **Colombia** are OECD member countries, and **Costa Rica** is in the process of accession. The Organisation also has a co-operation programme with our Key Partner **Brazil** and is completing a two year country co-operation programme with **Peru**, and **Argentina** is stepping up its engagement via a tailored Action Plan. All of these countries, as well as the **Dominican Republic**, **Panama**, **Paraguay**, and **Uruguay** are members of the OECD Development Centre.

In January 2016, OECD members decided to strengthen co-operation with the region through the creation of an **OECD LAC Regional Programme**, launched at the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in Paris. The Programme aims to support the region in advancing its reform agenda along three key regional priorities: increasing productivity, enhancing social inclusion, and strengthening institutions and governance.

OECD mission to Mexico

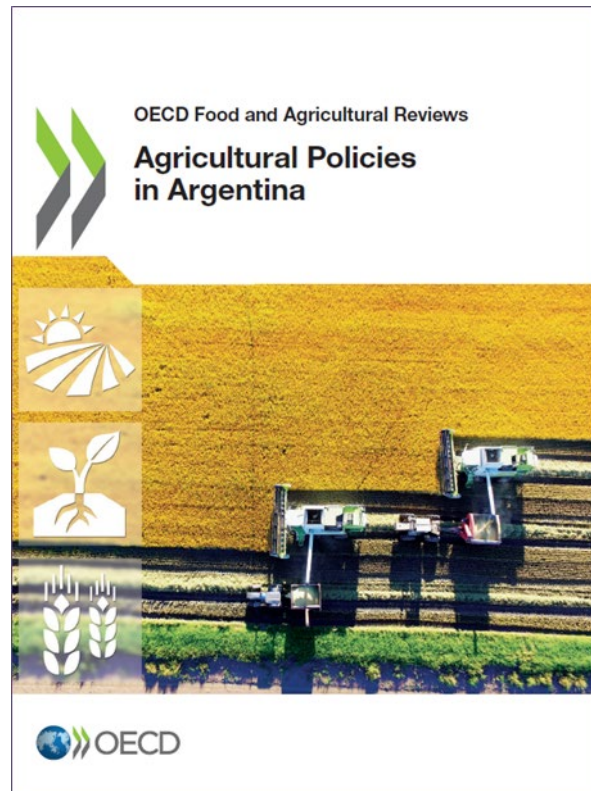
In May 2019, the OECD Secretary-General travelled to Mexico to present the Economic Survey of Mexico. In addition, the SG presented Financing Climate Futures - Rethinking Infrastructure at the Ministry of Environment and Natural

Resources and Territorial Review of Hidalgo .

OECD mission to Uruguay

In October 2019, the Secretary-General travelled to Montevideo, Uruguay, to deliver remarks at the 10th Anniversary of the Fundación Astur. During his visit, he also had the opportunity to meet with the former President of Uruguay, the current Vice-Minister of Economy and Finance, and the Secretary-General of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB).

Agricultural Policies in Argentina



This review analyses the indicators available for Argentina and the main agricultural policy areas, such as trade, innovation, sustainability, risk management and value

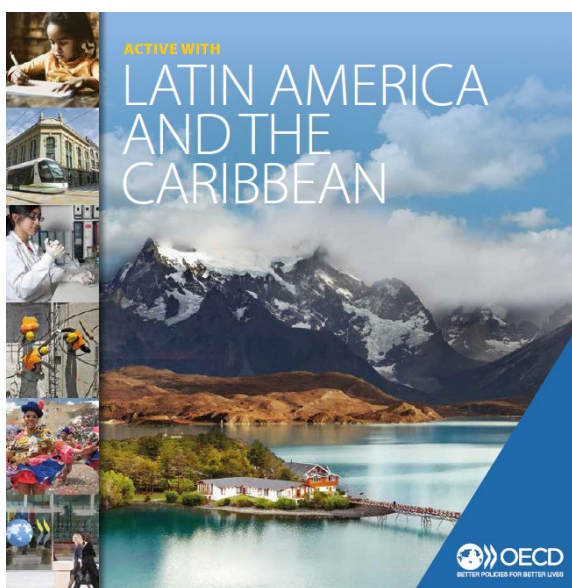
chains, in addition to providing a series of policy recommendations.

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 globalisation and penetrate global markets.** They will be able to export to foreign markets, at a regional level but also with partners on other continents.

Trade has been recognized as a very efficient driver of growth. **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.**



Six countries from Latin America participate actively in the OECD Codes and Schemes.

Date of accession to the Schemes

	Seed Scheme	Fruit and Vegetables Scheme
Argentina	1982	
Bolivia	1996	
Brazil	1999	2018
Chile	1972	
Mexico	2002	
Uruguay	1989	

- The **OECD Seed Schemes** provide an **international framework for the varietal 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 8 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.

Argentina is member of the OECD Seed Schemes since 1982. The country hosted the Annual Meeting in Buenos Aires in March 1996.

The Technical Working Group Meeting was hosted by Argentina IN Buenos Aires, on 29 January – 1 February 2019. The organiser was INASE, the national designated authority. The opening speech was given by Mr Santiago

del Solar Dorrego, Head of the General Coordination Unit of the Ministry of Production and Work who highlighted the importance of the seed sector in Argentina and the cooperation with the OECD, particularly with the Trade and Agriculture Department (TAD).

The Chair of the Seed Schemes Bureau, Mr. Pedro Lavignolle, is the National Designated Authority from **Argentina**.



Left to right: Chair of the Bureau, Vice-chair and OECD Programme Manager



Family photo during the technical Working Group Meeting held in Argentina in January 2019

Chile is Member of OECD since 2010. The OECD Secretary-General was in Santiago

in February 2018 to present the 2018 OECD Economic Survey of Chile.

Chile was the first country from Latin America that joined the OECD Seed Schemes in 1972. The delegate from Chile took part in the 2019 Annual Meeting.



2019 Annual Meeting of the Seed Schemes held in Vienna, Austria



Bolivia was admitted in 1996 to four OECD Schemes for the Varietal Certification of Seed Moving in International Trade.

For the second time a South American country hosted the OECD Annual Meeting. With 67 participants, the **2002 Annual Meeting** of the Seed Schemes took place in **Santa Cruz, Bolivia**. The six Latin American countries members of the Seed Schemes were represented. Colombia and Paraguay attended the Meeting as Observers.



Mexico is Member of OECD since 1994 and Member of the Seed Schemes since 2002. The country was admitted to five OECD Seed Certification Schemes.



After its admission to the OECD Seed Schemes in 1999, **Brazil** hosted the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Schemes in Fortaleza (State of Ceara) in August 2006. The country participates regularly in the OECD Technical and Annual Meetings.



2019 Annual Meeting held in Vienna, Austria



Uruguay is Member of the Seed Schemes since 1989. Delegates from the National Seeds Institute took part in the OECD Technical Working Group Meeting held in Argentina in Jan.-Feb. 2019.

As a Member of the Bureau and Chair of the Technical Working Group, the National Designated Authority from Latvia represented the OECD Seed Schemes in the 17th Session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA-Profiling in Particular held in September 2018 in Montevideo, Uruguay.



Paraguay officially applied in 2016 for membership in the Seed Schemes and took part as Observer in the OECD Seed Schemes Technical Working Group Meeting held at the OECD Headquarters in February 2017. During the Technical Working Group Meeting held in Argentina early 2019, the OECD Programme Manager had a meeting with the delegates from DISE – SENAVE, Paraguay. Discussions will continue on the accession process

World Seed Partnership

The World Seed Partnership (WSP) is an initiative taken by four international organizations to support the development of the seed sector in countries around the world:

- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),
- International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV),
- International Seed Testing Association (ISTA),
- International Seed Federation (ISF),
- World Farmers' Organisation (WFO), (Advisory Partner)

The mission of the World Seed Partnership is to enhance cooperation between the partner organizations and to provide a focal point for information on the role of internationally harmonized seed systems in supporting sustainable agriculture.



Programme Manager during the 2019 Annual Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes

To find out more about how the partnership can help you, please consult the WSP website (www.worldseedpartnership.org) or send your enquiry to: info@worldseedpartnership.org

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

More recently, after an evaluation mission organised in 2017 in the country, **Brazil** was officially admitted to the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme in 2018.

At the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Programme Manager, during his mission to Brasilia in January-February 2019, met the newly appointed Minister Alexandre Ghisleni (MAPA-Agribusiness Department), who is supervising the Brazilian work related to the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme. It was agreed to enhance collaboration and Brazil will explore the possibility of hosting an OECD meeting, translating OECD brochures into Portuguese and to develop an app that can

help to increase the dissemination of the work of the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme.



*Kenya as Chair of the Bureau, with delegates from the Netherlands, Spain and OECD Secretariat for the admission of **Brazil** to the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme in OECD in December 2017.*

Costa Rica – OECD Joint Workshop

In 2019 the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX) asked the OECD Secretariat to organise a meeting to present the OECD FVS Scheme to their national stakeholders of the FVS sector. The Costa Rican authorities were interested in getting 1) a technical understanding of the mandate of the Scheme and how we operate and 2) a deeper understanding of the economic / trade benefits for a country of being a member.

The joint OECD-IICA Workshop took place in San Jose, Costa Rica on 3-5 September 2019. The OECD delegation consisted of Ms. Russel from OECD and three Experts from the Scheme (Belgium, Germany and Spain).

The Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Supply hosted a Joint International Seminar on the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme in Sao Paulo in November 2018. The meeting aimed at raising awareness of the Brazilian Fruit and Vegetables stakeholders about the advantages of the OECD FVS Scheme membership and international certification



On Day 2 there was a very well organised visit of a banana plantation and packing house of Dole, member of CORBANA. The OECD delegation was accompanied by SFE inspectors, who organised the visit in closed cooperation with Dole's staff.



Costa Rica was invited to the OECD Produce Group Meeting to be held in December 2019 and also to the Plenary Meeting of the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme on 4-5 December, to present their inspection services.

Mr. Jose Brambila, the Programme Manager of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme, represented the OECD Secretariat during the 21st Session of the Codex Meeting on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables held in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, **Mexico** in October 2019.

Paraguay showed interest in the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme by participating as Observer in the 17th OECD Meeting of the Heads of National Inspection Services held in Rome, Italy in October 2016.



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.

After **Brazil** participated as Observer in the 2018 Annual Meetings of the Tractor Codes in Belgium, the programme Manager of the OECD Tractor Codes went to Brasilia on 31 January – 1 February 2019. The Meeting was chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Secretária Divisão de Acesso a Mercados). Brazil is evaluating the feasibility of joining the OECD Tractor Codes and wanted to have a bilateral meeting to ensure that all Brazilian stakeholders understand the advantages and the challenges of joining the Tractor Codes. Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Industry and Manufacturers' Associations attended the meeting.

Brazil requested the OECD Secretariat to send a speaker to their ENESTA meeting in October 2019 in Campinas, Brazil.



ENESTA

Encontro Nacional de Ergonomia e Segurança no Trabalho no Agronegócio

7 e 8 de outubro de 2019
Auditório do Centro de Convenções da Unicamp (Campinas/SP)

Mr E. Cavallo, as Head of an Accredited OECD Testing Station in Italy, and who knows Brazil very well, represented OECD and attended the meeting. He provided a presentation about the OECD Tractor Codes and was well qualified to debate and share experiences with the audience.

The OECD Secretariat also participated in some ISO meetings in Florianopolis, **Brazil** in April 2018. National Standards Body of Brazil (ABNT) was the organiser. The participants were experts from private manufacturers, industrial associations, ministries and national standard agencies.

Flagship Publications

OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2019-2028



OECD/FAO (2019), *OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2019-2028*, OECD Publishing, Paris/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome.- https://doi.org/10.1787/agr_outlook-2019-en
ISBN 978-92-64-31245-6 (print)

A collaborative effort of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, this annual report brings together the commodity, policy and country expertise of both organisations as well as input from collaborating member countries to provide an annual assessment of the prospects for the coming decade of national, regional and global agricultural commodity markets. **This year's Special Feature will focus on agricultural development in Latin America.**

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.

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www.oecd.org/agriculture/code