

Education at the OECD

Who we are

The Directorate for Education is part of the OECD Secretariat and contributes to the organisation's commitment to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world.

What we do

We provide comparative data and analysis on education policy-making to help build efficient and effective educational systems and improve learning outcomes. We provide a forum where governments, business, civil society and academia can share best practices and learn from one another.

Our statistics and indicators provide a strong evidence base for international comparisons of all aspects of education systems. Our policy analyses facilitate peer learning across countries as new policy options are explored and experiences compared. Our future-oriented educational research helps shape policy agendas by identifying upcoming issues while drawing upon the overall breadth of the OECD's policy work.

Who we work with

We develop analysis and best practices together with the 34 OECD member countries and with over 40 non-member economies. We help them to answer the most important questions in education policy: how to best allocate resources in education to support social and economic development, and how to offer everyone the chance to make the most of their innate abilities at every stage of life.

We partner with other international organisations (such as UNESCO, World Bank, UNICEF, European Training Foundation) and leading NGOs (such as The British Council, Open Society Institute) as well as the private sector. We collaborate with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture on projects of mutual interest to maximize synergies.

How we are governed

The work of the Directorate for Education is overseen by four specialised bodies: the Education Policy Committee chaired by Ms. Eli Telhaug, Norway; the Centre for Educational Research and Innovation Governing Board chaired by Mr. Tony Sheppard, Ireland; the Institutional Management in Higher Education Governing Board, chaired by Mr. Peter Coaldrake, Australia; and the Programme for International Student Assessment Governing Board, chaired by Ms. Lorna Bertrand, United Kingdom. Each body has its own mandate, budget, and membership under the governance of the OECD Council.

Our commitments

We are committed to supporting an integrated approach to education which helps OECD countries improve the quality, equity, efficiency and effectiveness of their education systems.

By improving learning outcomes for all, we help mitigate inequalities and help countries foster:

- ▶ economic and social development
- ▶ innovation and sustainable growth
- ▶ social mobility



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DID YOU KNOW... The OECD Directorate for Education is best known for its Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) reports on the educational performance of 15-year-olds in 34 OECD member and 40 non-member economies; the annual publication of education indicators, *Education at a Glance*; and its country reviews of education policies in over 40 OECD and non-member economies.