What does the OECD do?

In 1949, the Chateau de la Muette became the headquarters of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) set up under the Marshall Plan to help administer funds provided by the United States and Canada to promote post-war recovery and to encourage European economic cooperation. The OEEC developed into the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in 1961, with the new Château as its headquarters.

***DID YOU KNOW…** The 34 member countries of OECD are:*
Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States. The European Commission also participates in the work of the OECD.

The OECD provides a setting where governments compare policy experience, seek answers to common problems, identify good practices and co-ordinate domestic and international policies.

Exchanges between member country governments are supported by information and analysis provided by the Paris-based OECD Secretariat. The Secretariat collects data, monitors trends, conducts analysis and provides forecasts of economic development, trade, environment, education, agriculture, technology, taxation and more.

In today's globalised economy, education is a driving force for growth and development. The OECD Directorate for Education focuses on the key challenges facing education systems today, including how to improve the quality of teachers, teaching and learning in order to provide the knowledge and skills needed in the 21st century.

The OECD brings together countries committed to democracy and the market economy from around the world to:

- **support sustainable economic growth**
- **boost employment**
- **raise living standards**
- **maintain financial stability**
- **assist member and non-member countries' economic development**
- **contribute to growth in world trade**

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