

Foresight at OECD : Supporting Long-term Policy Making

NISTEP - 4th International Conference on Foresight.
Tokyo 8-9 March 2011



Outline of Presentation

- OECD background
- Sector-specific foresight at OECD
- Strategic Foresight at OECD/IFP
- Achieving policy impact through foresight



Global Partners

34 member countries

AUSTRALIA JAPAN

AUSTRIA KOREA

BELGIUM LUXEMBOURG

CANADA MEXICO

CHILE NETHERLANDS
CZECH REPUBLIC NFW ZFALAND

DENMARK NORWAY

ESTONIA POLAND

FINLAND PORTUGAL

FRANCE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

GERMANY SLOVENIA

GREECE SPAIN

HUNGARY SWEDEN

ICELAND SWITZERLAND

IRELAND TURKEY

ISRAEL UNITED KINGDOM

ITALY UNITED STATES

• Countries invited to membership talks

RUSSIA

Enhanced engagement

BRAZIL

CHINA

INDIA

INDONESIA

SOUTH AFRICA



Achieving policy impact

Who drives the OECD's work?

Council

Oversight and strategic direction

Representatives of member countries and of the European Commission; decisions taken by consensus



Representatives of member countries and of countries with Observer status work with the OECD Secretariat on specific issues

Secretariat

Directorates

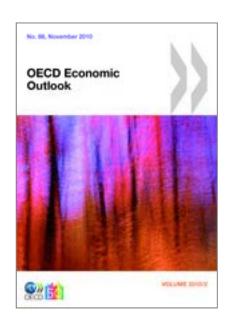
Analysis and proposals
Secretary-General
Deputy Secretaries-General

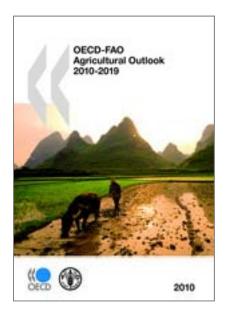
Representatives of the 33 OECD member countries meet in specialised committees to advance ideas and review progress in specific policy areas, such as economics, trade, science, employment, education or financial markets.

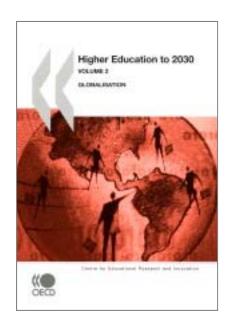
There are about 250 committees, working groups and expert groups. Some 40 000 senior officials from national administrations go to OECD committee meetings each year to request, review and contribute to work undertaken by the OECD Secretariat.

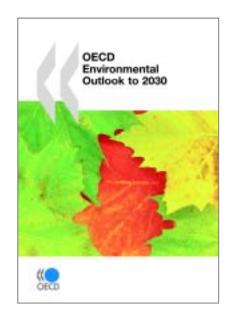


Sectoral Foresight at OECD











Different foresight tools for different policy making communities with different needs



Projected changes in ageing-related public spending for selected OECD countries

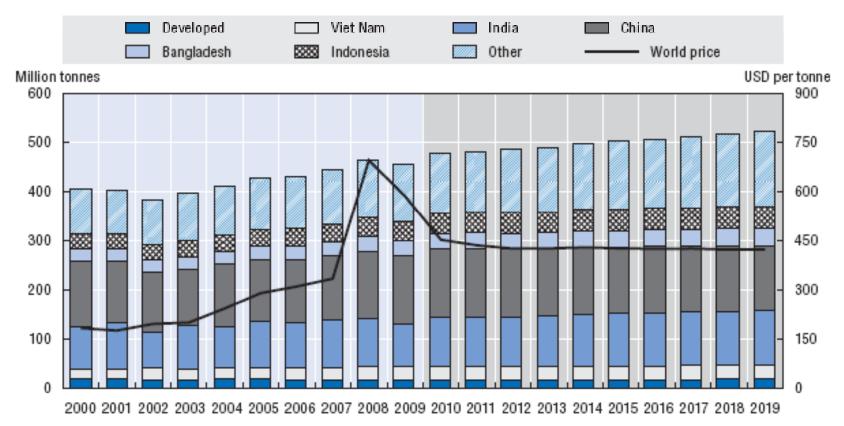
Change 2010-25, in percentage points of GDP

	Health care	Long-term care	Pensions	Total
Australia	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.2
Austria	1.2	0.4	0.7	2.3
Belgium	1.0	0.4	2.7	4.1
Canada	1.4	0.5	0.6	2.5
Finland	1.3	0.6	2.7	4.6
France	1.1	0.3	0.4	1.8
Germany	1.1	0.6	0.8	2.5
Greece	1.2	1.0	3.2	5.4
Ireland	1.2	1.1	1.5	3.9
Italy	1.2	1.0	0.3	2.5
Japan	1.5	1.2	0.2	2.9
Luxembourg	1.0	0.9	3.5	5.5
Netherlands	1.3	0.5	1.9	3.7
New Zealand	1.4	0.5	2.4	4.2
Portugal	1.2	0.5	0.7	2.4
Spain	1.2	0.8	1.2	3.2
Sweden	1.1	0.2	-0.2	1.1
United Kingdom	1.1	0.5	0.5	2.0
United States	1.2	0.3	0.7	2.1

Source: OECD Economic Outlook 2010



Rice Production and Price^a



a) Milled, 100%, grade b, Nominal Price Quote (NPQ), f.o.b. Bangkok (August/July).

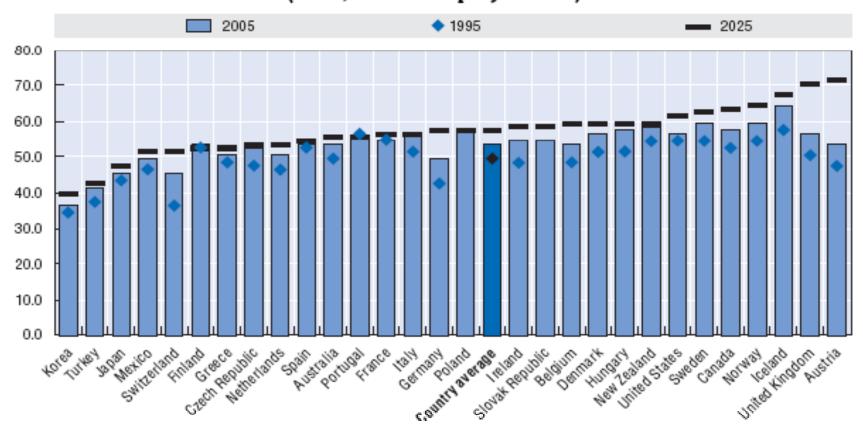
Source: OECD and FAO Secretariats.

StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932286513



Female Participation in Tertiary Education

Share of females in tertiary education enrolments (1995, 2005 and projections)

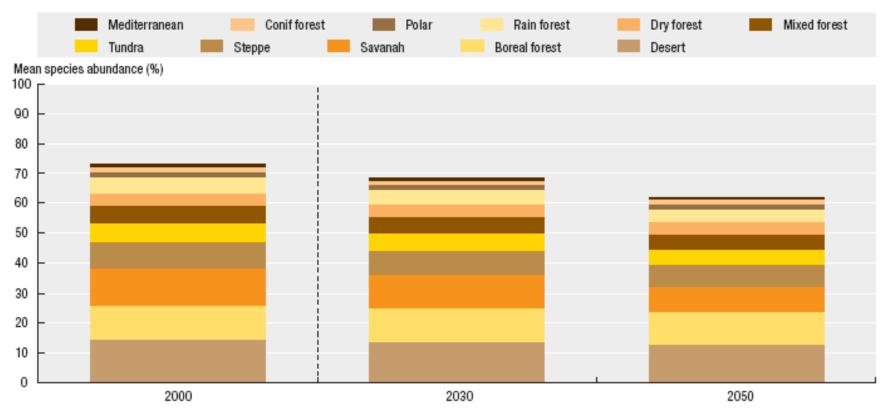


Source: OECD Higher Education to 2030



Historical and projected future changes indicated by mean species abundance, 2000-2050





Source: OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030



OECD International Futures Programme (IFP)

- OECD's strategic foresight group
- **Tasks:** alert the Secretary-General, the Organisation and its Member States to emerging issues by:
 - monitoring major developments and trends;
 - highlighting growth sectors of the future;
 - testing new ideas to help governments map strategy

Working methods:

Applied foresight through:

Projects

Workshops

Country reviews

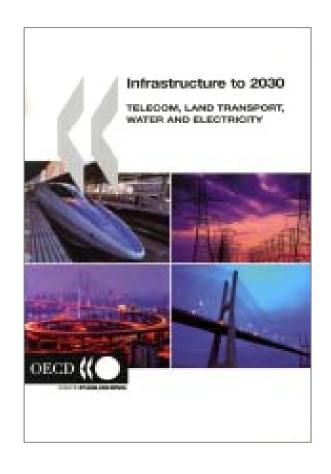


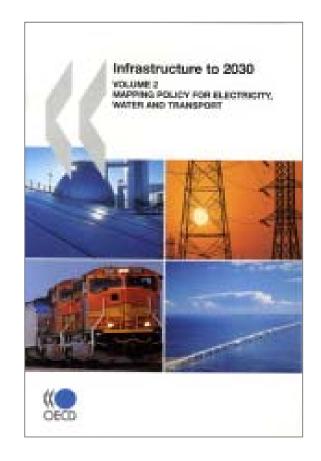
3 Axes of the IFP's Foresight Work

- Promoting cross-sectoral foresight
- Applying foresight to themes in which foresight has in the past been little used
- Using foresight to explore themes that are new to OECD



Cross-sectoral Foresight: Infrastructure 2030



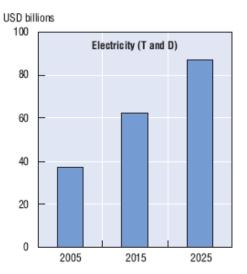


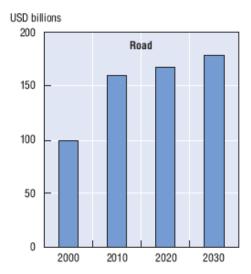
Volume 1 Volume 2

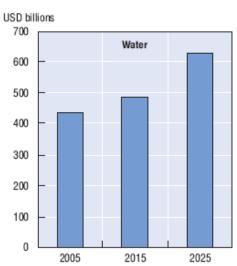


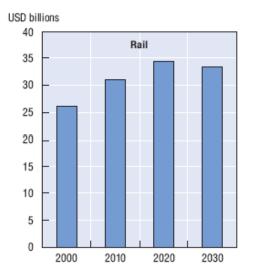
World Infrastructure Investment Requirements

In billions USD









OECD countries

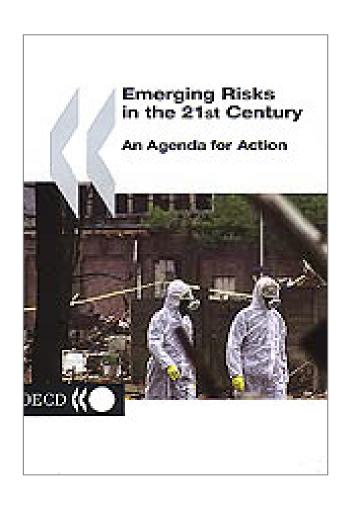
Average annual infrastructure investment requirements to 2025/30 (Billion USD)

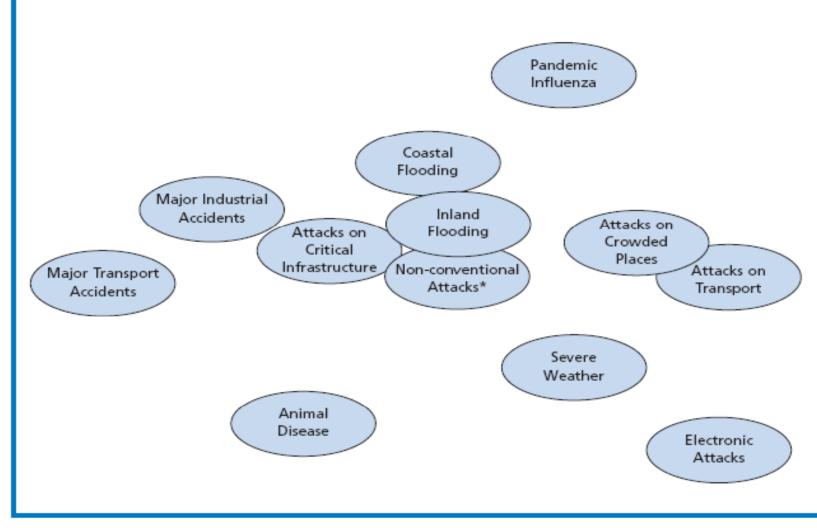
Cumulative 2005-30 50-70 trillion USD

Note: Estimates for electricity are transmission and distribution (T&D only) Source: OECD (2006a) *Infrastructure to 2030*.



Applying foresight to themes in which foresight has in the past been little used: Risk Management Policies





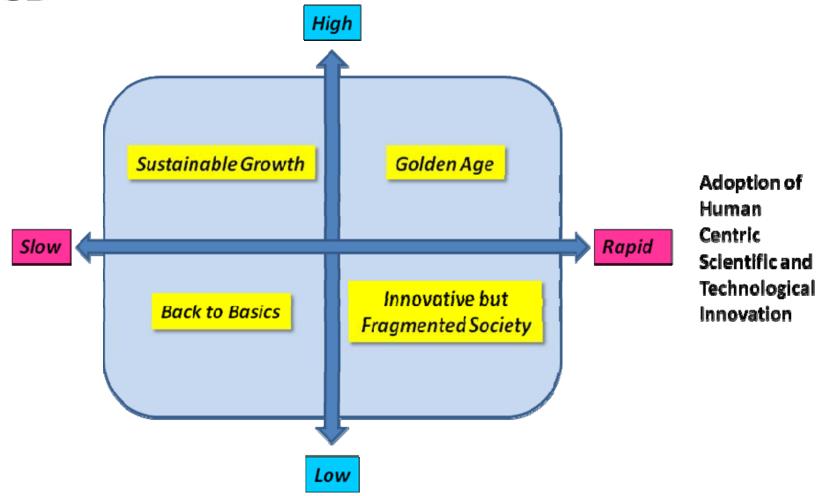


Applying foresight to themes in which foresight has in the past been little used: Future of Families





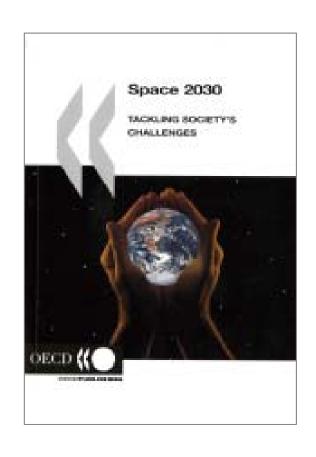
"Families 2030": Scenarios to 2030

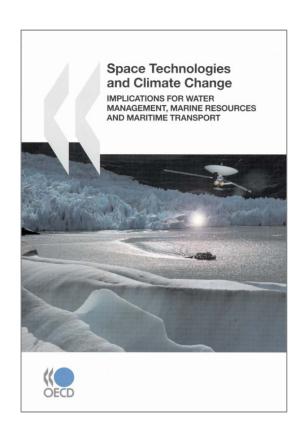


Stability of Economic Growth



Using foresight to explore themes new to OECD: Space applications





Achieving policy impact through strategic foresight

- Raise profile of international discussion about future challenges (e.g. financing global infrastructure needs)
- Change the basis for national research priorities (e.g. through horizon scanning to identify long-term economic, social and technological challenges)
- Creation of new platforms for international dialogue on new themes (e.g. space economy, risk management)
- Direct impact on national policy through e.g. peer review process (e.g. cyber security, floods and climate change)



THANK YOU

Barrie Stevens

Deputy Director

Advisory Unit to the Secretary General

OECD International Futures Programme

barrie.stevens@oecd.org
www.oecd.org/futures