



## **OECD DIRECTORATE FOR FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES**

### **RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

In addition to our flagship publications, *Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries: Monitoring and Evaluation*, the *Agricultural Outlook*, and the *Review of Fisheries in OECD Countries: Policies and Summary Statistics*, the following is a selection of recent publications from the Directorate.

#### **AGRICULTURAL POLICY REFORM**

##### ***Multifunctionality: The Policy Implications, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This report builds on the analytical framework developed and agreed in the first phase of the work on multifunctionality. It aims to provide policymakers with guidelines and procedures to enable them to identify optimal policy strategies. It follows closely the analytical framework by requiring that policy makers first investigate jointness questions, then market failure and then the public good characteristics of the “multifunctional outputs” in question. It is only by applying these procedures that effective and efficient policies can be designed and unwanted distortions of production and trade avoided. The report concludes that, in many instances, the policy recommendations that emerge will lead to the implementation of decoupled and targeted measures, but it also recognises that much is still unknown concerning the nature and degree of jointness and the significance of transactions costs in efforts to move away from broad, production based instruments to targeted decoupled measures.

##### ***Farm Household Income: Issues and Policy Responses, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This report reviews the income situation of farm households and evaluates policies in terms of their income objectives. It finds that although support policies have raised farm income to some extent and have reduced income variability, this has come at a very high cost to consumers and taxpayers — and with significant leakage to unintended beneficiaries. The report then suggests more cost-efficient and equitable ways of transferring income to farmers.

##### ***Agricultural Policies in OECD Countries. A Positive Reform Agenda, OECD, Paris, 2002***

This report brings together the results of several years of analysis of domestic and international policy issues in agriculture undertaken at OECD. From this analysis, a series of policy reform recommendations emerge. The essential message is the need to identify problems and design specific targeted measures to deal with them, rather than relying on broad production-based measures that are inefficient, inequitable and cause significant production and trade distortions. This report has received the approval of all 30 member countries of the OECD.

***Multifunctionality: Towards an Analytical Framework, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This publication contains an analytical framework designed to define multifunctionality in an agricultural context. The framework calls for a detailed examination of “jointness”, of market failure and of the public good characteristics of the multifunctional outputs of agriculture. Application of the framework is designed to lead to the development of optimal, least distorting policies.

***Market Effects of Crop Support Measures, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This study compares the supply, demand and trade effects of different policies pursued by OECD governments leading to a ranking in terms of their degree of decoupling. A key finding is that there is a close inverse relationship between the trade distortion created by the various policy instruments and the efficiency of the income transfer they provide.

***Decoupling: A Conceptual Overview, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This report demonstrates the different channels through which even seemingly decoupled support measures may affect agricultural production and trade. Impacts arising through wealth effects, investment, risk reduction and through expectations are described.

**AGRICULTURAL TRADE**

***The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture: An Evaluation of its Implementation in OECD Countries, OECD, Paris, 2001***

A key conclusion of the study is that the overall immediate effects on trade and protection levels have been modest. The reasons for this include the weakness of many specific features of the URAA, including implementation and methodological issues.

***Agriculture and Trade Liberalisation: Extending the Uruguay Round Agreement, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This report gives an analysis of the use of tariff-rate quotas, tariffs, export subsidies and officially supported export credits by OECD countries. Implications for the medium term development in markets and trade of further liberalisation of these trade policy instruments are examined.

***Medium Term Impact of Agricultural Trade Liberalisation in OECD Countries on the Food Security of Non-Member Countries, OECD, Paris, 2001***

Three characteristics are identified for food security in developing countries, namely *availability* of food, *stability* of food consumption and *access* to food. It provides an assessment of how these characteristics are affected at the national level by further trade liberalization in OECD countries over the medium term.

## **AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY**

### ***Organic Agriculture – Sustainability, Markets and Policies, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This publication brings together the key-note papers and country studies presented at an OECD Workshop on Organic Agriculture held in Washington D.C. in September 2002. Although organic agriculture accounts for a small market share, it is expanding in all OECD countries, is considered by many as offering marked environmental benefits, and is an area of current policy development. The first part of this publication considers the sustainability of organic agriculture, in terms of its economic, environmental and social impacts. Developments in the global and national markets, as well as the key issues that are faced by producers and consumers, are reviewed in the second part. The final part contains policy experiences. Organic production is disadvantaged by current agricultural support policies, and the proliferation of standards and labels has sometimes confused consumers and impeded trade.

### ***Agricultural, Trade and the Environment: The Pig Sector, OECD, Paris, 2003***

Released in October 2003, this publication considers some of the important issues in the agriculture, trade and environment debate as they relate to the pig sector. It reviews agricultural and environmental policies affecting the pig sector, and comments on how these have influenced producer decisions, the environment and trade. Further trade liberalisation is likely to bring some environmental benefits by reducing production in countries where the environmental pressure on pig production is the greatest. Using comparative analysis, the study concludes that while manure management regulations do vary among countries, the cost effect on pig producers is not significant in explaining differences in international competitiveness. This is the first in a series of in-depth studies being undertaken in this area; studies on the dairy and arable crops sectors are underway.

### ***Improving the Environmental Performance of Agriculture: Policy Options and Market Approaches, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This synthesis report outlines the guidelines for policies to improve environmental performance in agriculture with least distortion to production and trade. Agricultural policy reform is necessary, but often needs to be complemented with targeted agri-environmental measures. The report underlines the need to define the rights and responsibilities of farmers to determine when they might be entitled to remuneration for the provision of environmental benefits or obliged to pay for causing environmental damage.

### ***Environmental Indicators for Agriculture: Volume 3, Methods and Results 2001, OECD, Paris, 2001***

This report shows that environmental performance in OECD agriculture has been mixed, with wide variations across and within countries. While there has been a decrease of nitrogen run-off in water, in pesticide use and in greenhouse gas emissions, environmental risks remain. These risks include soil erosion, water use depletion, biodiversity and landscape loss.

### ***Sustainable Development: Critical Issues, OECD, Paris, 2001***

Chapters on *Agriculture* and *Natural Resource Management* in this OECD-wide report summarise the key issues and policy implications. Taking account of environmental externalities, getting the prices right, and implementing appropriate institutional and management systems are the main policy messages to emerge.

## **FISHERIES SUSTAINABILITY**

### ***Environmentally Harmful Subsidies: Policy Issues and Challenges, 2003***

This publication contains the key papers presented at the *OECD Workshop on Environmentally Harmful Subsidies* held in Paris in November 2002. The reform of environmentally harmful subsidies is an important priority for OECD countries. The report addresses a number of technical issues and policy challenges that arise in pursuing reform of environmentally harmful subsidies, in particular the development of a common framework to define and measure subsidies. The use of a policy "checklist" was identified as a potentially valuable tool to help identify those subsidies whose removal would benefit the environment.

### ***The Costs of Managing Fisheries, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This study explores the extent and cost of fisheries management activities, including administration, monitoring and research. Furthermore, the study analyses how the costs vary between countries, between fisheries and between different management systems, as well as how the activities are financed, *e.g.* by general budgetary funding or by recovery of these costs from the fishing industry.

### ***Liberalising Fisheries Markets: Scope and Effects, OECD, Paris, 2003***

The purpose of this study is to explore world and regional fish trade flows, issues and problems. This includes an analysis of how fisheries trade and production are likely to be affected by reductions in present tariff levels and by changes in non-tariff barriers. In addition, the study explores the effects of changes in restrictions on investments, access to services, subsidies in the fisheries sector, as well as other relevant factors.

### ***Transition to Responsible Fisheries: Economic and Policy Implications, OECD, Paris, 2000***

This study identifies possible transition paths to responsible fisheries, assesses their consequences and provides policy recommendations on how to enhance prosperity in this sector. The study provides an overview of subsidies to the fishing sector of OECD countries, discusses post-harvesting and social policies.

## **FOOD SAFETY**

### ***OECD Papers Series: Special Issue on Food Safety, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This OECD Special Issue on Food Safety brings together four reports on different aspects related to the economics of food safety, including the use of cost-benefit techniques in the assessment of food safety regulations, member country and civil society views on addressing the socio-economic concerns related to food safety, and the food safety regulatory reforms underway in three transition economies (Hungary, Poland and Slovakia).

***Foodborne Disease in OECD Countries: Current State and Economic Cost, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This joint WHO/OECD publication examines what is known and what is not known about foodborne disease in the OECD area. Available information on the incidence and economic costs of foodborne disease are presented along with some observations on the gaps in information and suggestions for improvements.

***The Impact of Regulations on Agro-Food Trade: A Review of Issues Concerning the TBT and SPS Agreements, OECD, Paris, 2003***

This report describes pertinent agricultural trade issues related to food safety and other technical measures, and examines possible measurement approaches concerning the economic and trade impacts of standards and regulations. It discusses implementation aspects of the WTO Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and reviews empirical approaches to estimating the related trade impacts.

***Food Safety and Quality, Trade Considerations, OECD, Paris, 1999***

This report examines trade conflicts arising from food safety and quality issues. It summarizes the key international agreements, illustrates the range and nature of current disputes, reviews the potential contribution of economic analysis to conflict resolution, and identifies areas requiring further analysis.

**NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES**

***China in the Global Economy: Agricultural Finance and Credit Infrastructure in China, Paris, 2004***

The rural economy in China has made enormous progress over the last twenty-five years but rural finance and institutional reform is lagging behind, creating risks that further development may be slowed down. Establishing a comprehensive and efficient rural credit system providing finance for both the commercial (agricultural and non-agricultural) sector of the rural economy and small-scale farming are among the most pressing issues on China's reform agenda today. At an OECD workshop held in Paris in October 2003, over 60 participants — including Chinese policy makers and experts, representatives from the World Bank, FAO, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Asian Development Bank, PlaNet Finance (NGO on finance issues) as well as independent experts from various countries — shared their views and experience.

***Achieving Ukraine's Agricultural Potential: Stimulating Agricultural Growth and Improving Rural Life (forthcoming)***

This joint World Bank/OECD study outlines a forward-looking policy agenda, and assesses the development and current status of agricultural policies and institutions. It presents for the first time internationally comparable estimates of support to the Ukrainian agricultural sector based on Producer and Consumer Support Estimates (PSE/CSE) developed by the OECD. Going beyond the boundaries of the agricultural sector, the report also encompasses the entire rural space surrounding agriculture, including rural physical and social infrastructures, and examines the extent of rural poverty.

***Agricultural Trade and Poverty: Making Policy Analysis Count, OECD, Paris 2003***

One in five of the world's population lives in extreme poverty, with a per capita income of less than a dollar a day. These proceedings demonstrate that agricultural trade reforms offer an important route to higher incomes for many of the world's poor, but may expose some who were formerly shielded from world markets. OECD countries have the responsibility to consider the effects that their own policies have on the world's poor. Possible analytical approaches are discussed.

***Agricultural and Rural Development Policies in the Baltic Countries, Paris, 2003***

Low incomes and high unemployment in rural areas are issues of concern to policy makers in all countries. These issues are particularly pronounced in the Baltic countries, which have undergone a gruelling transition process and which are in the process of acceding to the EU. This study provides a thorough examination of the underlying economic linkages between farm household incomes, labour mobility and economic development in rural areas. It identifies some of the root causes of the problems and examines alternative policy approaches.

***Agricultural Policies in Transition Economies. Trends in Policies and Support, OECD, Paris, 2002***

This tenth edition demonstrates that transition has brought about a notable reduction in policy distortions in the agricultural sectors of central and eastern European countries. Support to producers in these countries remains lower than in OECD and EU countries and are well below pre-transition levels. The burden of support is, however, often greater on the economies of transition countries given the importance of the agricultural sector.

***China in the Global Economy: Agricultural Policies in China After WTO Accession, OECD, Paris, 2002***

These proceedings assess how WTO accession has contributed to China's long-term agricultural reform. The overall agricultural policy framework, market price support policies and budgetary support policies are examined. The study concludes that reforms were underway prior to China's WTO membership, and have speeded up since. Agricultural and rural areas in China have been disadvantaged by a range of economy-wide policies, but the precise effects of agricultural policies themselves remain uncertain.

***Assessing Agricultural Biotechnology in Emerging Economies, Paris, 2002***

There is considerable debate about the appropriate role of agricultural biotechnology in endeavours to increase productivity, reduce poverty and enhance food security of emerging economies. This report examines how best to assess the costs and benefits of this technology in their own national context. It also discusses the policy and regulatory environment necessary to harness this technology and assesses the current capacity of selected emerging economies in this area.

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