



# COUNTRY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS THE OECD EXPERIENCE

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- I. **OECD PEER REVIEWS**
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## Definition of Peer Review

- ❖ **Peer review is the systematic examination and assessment of the performance of a government by other governments, with the goal of helping the reviewed government to improve its policy making, adopt best practices, and comply with established standards and principles**
- ❖ **The examination is conducted on a non-adversarial basis, and it relies on mutual trust, as well as the shared confidence in the process**



## Definition of Peer Pressure

- ❖ **Peer pressure is:**
  - **(i) a mix of formal recommendations and informal dialogue by the peer countries;**
  - **(ii) public scrutiny, comparisons; and**
  - **(iii) the impact of all the above on domestic public opinion, national administrations and policy makers.**



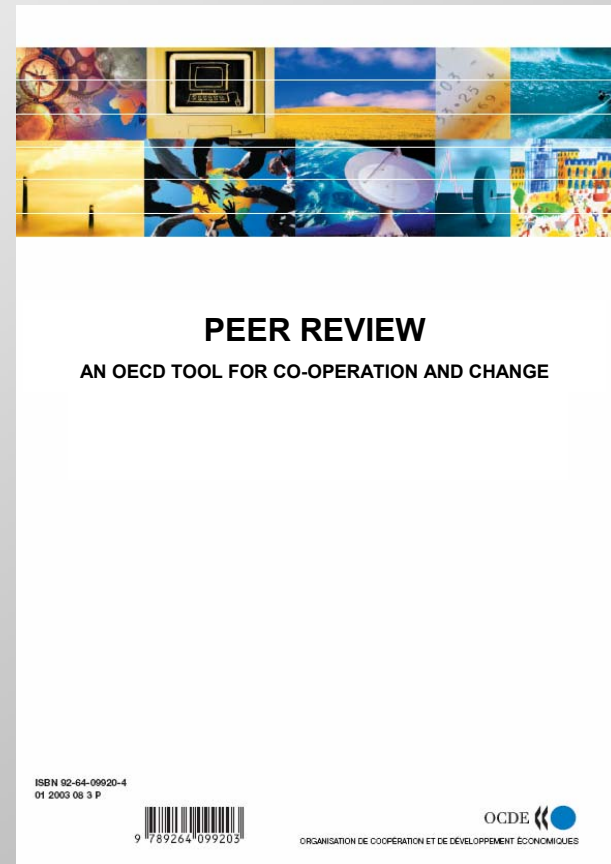
## Functions of a Peer Review

- ❖ **Peer review can serve the following purposes:**
  - **Policy dialogue;**
  - **Transparency;**
  - **Capacity building;**
  - **Compliance and implementation.**



## Reviews

- ❖ Economic reviews
- ❖ Energy reviews (IEA)
- ❖ Aid Reviews
- ❖ Environmental Reviews
- ❖ Other reviews





## Programme Roots

### MANDATE and HISTORY

- ❖ OECD Ministerial meetings, G7 Summit
- ❖ 1st cycle: 30 member countries reviewed
- ❖ 2nd cycle: 20 member countries reviewed

### ACCOUNTABILITY

- ❖ Domestic and international commitments
- ❖ Environmental credibility of governments (e.g. public opinion, other governments)



## Substantive Focus

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN PRACTICE

- ❖ SD institutional arrangements
- ❖ Institutional integration (e.g. strategic, planning, programming, budget, project levels)
- ❖ Market-based sectoral integration (e.g. prices, taxes, subsidies)

### INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

- ❖ Global, regional, bilateral, OECD Acts





## Reference Framework

### ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

- ❖ Effectiveness, efficiency
- ❖ Ambitious or modest objectives?

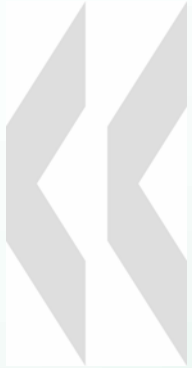
### THE 3S

- ❖ Objectives (aims, goals, targets)
- ❖ Performance (intentions, actions, results)
- ❖ Framework (pressure, state, response)
- ❖ Outputs (description, evaluation, prescription)



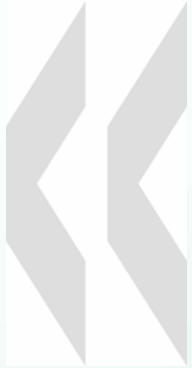
## Peer Review Process

- ❖ Preparation stage
- ❖ Mission (by review team)
- ❖ Peer review (by WPEP)
- ❖ In country publication
- ❖ Follow-up and Monitoring (by reviewed country)



## Selection Criteria

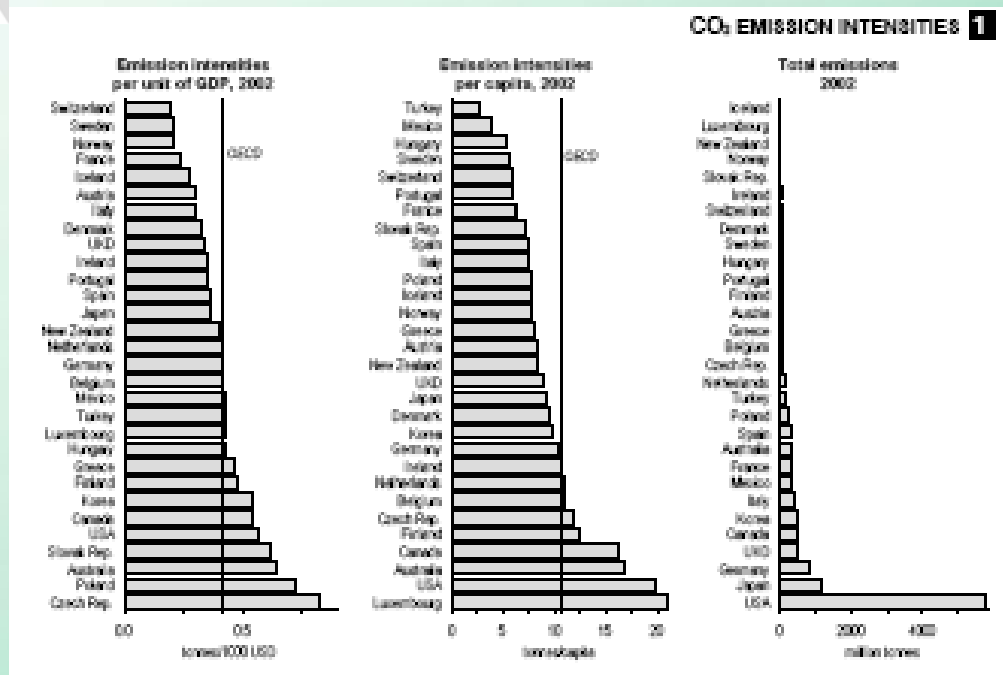
- ❖ **Policy relevance**
- ❖ **Analytical soundness**
- ❖ **Measurability**



## OECD Key Environmental Indicators

- ❖ **10 KEI, 34 CEI**
- ❖ **Endorsed by Environment Ministers**
- ❖ **Selected from OECD Core Set**
- ❖ **Purpose:**
  - ❖ **public information and communication**
  - ❖ **assessing progress**

## Using Environmental Indicators



OECD Environmental Indicators 2006

- comparison issue
- aggregation issue



## Using Environmental Indicators in environmental performance reviews

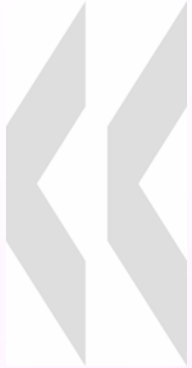
- ❖ Only ONE tool
- ❖ Interpretation in context
- ❖ Inter-country comparisons
- ❖ OECD indicators vs country-specific indicators
- ❖ No unique normalisation





## Products

- ❖ **Published report, conclusions recommendations**
- ❖ **English/French/Third language**
- ❖ **Derived products (e.g. water,  $\Sigma$  C&R, achievements)**



## Second Cycle Reviews

- ❖ Germany
- ❖ Iceland
- ❖ Portugal
- ❖ Norway
- ❖ Japan
- ❖ Slovakia
- ❖ Italy
- ❖ United Kingdom
- ❖ Netherlands
- ❖ Poland
- ❖ Austria
- ❖ Mexico
- ❖ Canada
- ❖ Spain
- ❖ Sweden
- ❖ France
- ❖ Chile
- ❖ Czech Rep.
- ❖ United States
- ❖ Korea
- ❖ New Zealand
- ❖ Switzerland
- ❖ Belgium
- ❖ China





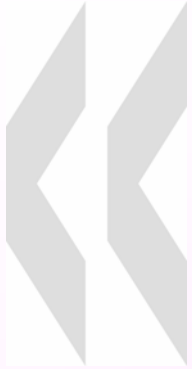
## Recommendations

- ❖ **About 50 recommendations on future directions**
- ❖ **Pragmatic versus strategic**
- ❖ **Medium term, long term**
- ❖ **Commonly agreed, country specific**
- ❖ **30 sets of recommendations with rolling, monitoring and revision**



## **Influence/Ownership**

- ❖ **Analysis-credibility-influence**
- ❖ **Transfer of ownership**
- ❖ **Influence via public opinion/press and decision makers**
  
- ❖ **Press Conference (Minister, OECD officials)**
- ❖ **Parliament, Seminars**
- ❖ **Dissemination**



## Outreach

- ❖ **UN ECE**
- ❖ **UN ECLAC**
- ❖ **ADB/UNEP**
- ❖ **Russia, Bulgaria, Belarus**
- ❖ **Chile, China, Brazil**



## Follow-up on Implementation

- ❖ **Self-monitoring: voluntary government response**
- ❖ **Peer-monitoring: cycles or reviews**



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