

## Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)



The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works with governments, policy and citizens. The OECD works on establishing evidence-based international standards and finding solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges.

### WHAT IS THE OECD?

Following the **OECD Council Recommendation on Water**

(December 2016), the OECD provides policy guidance on water

to OECD members and non-OECD countries, covering a wide range of policy areas, including:

### OECD AND WASH

#### **Water quantity and quality**

OECD's work on water quantity focuses on water allocation regimes, water use efficiency (and the role of economic policy instruments). Work on water quality focuses on diffuse pollution and contaminants of emerging concern (such as pharmaceutical residues and microplastics in freshwater).

#### **Water risks, disasters and climate change**

The OECD analyses how mitigating water-related risks is a condition for sustainable growth and development. Managing water-related risks requires improved policy coherence across sectors, such as climate change adaptation, water management and disaster risk reduction.

#### **Water Governance**

The Water Governance Programme advises governments at all levels on how to design and implement better water policies for better lives. It relies on the OECD Water Governance Initiative (WGI) and provides guidance through the OECD Principles on Water Governance (enshrined in the Council Recommendation on Water).

#### **Water finance, investment and pricing**

An economic organisation, the OECD ambitions to facilitate financing of investments that contribute to water security and sustainable growth. The **Roundtable on Financing Water** was established by the OECD, the Netherlands, the World Water Council and the World Bank as a platform that draws upon political leadership and technical expertise to propose concrete options that accelerate finance for water-related investments.

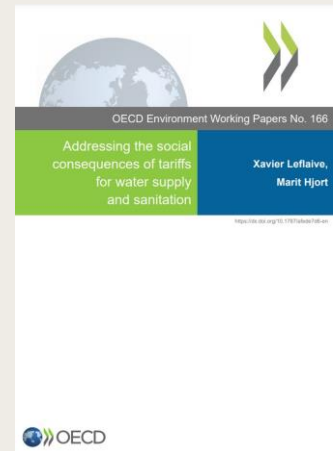
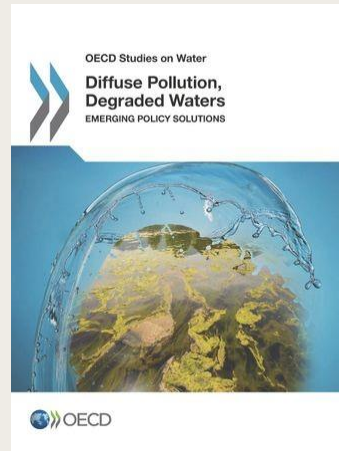
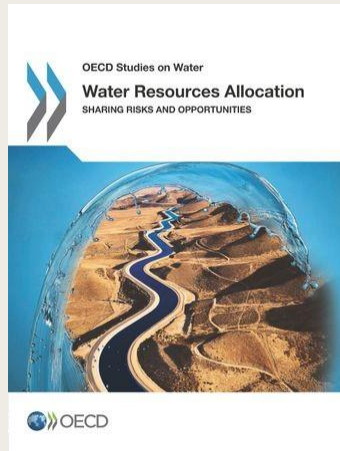
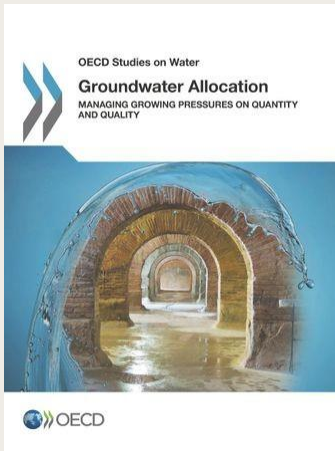
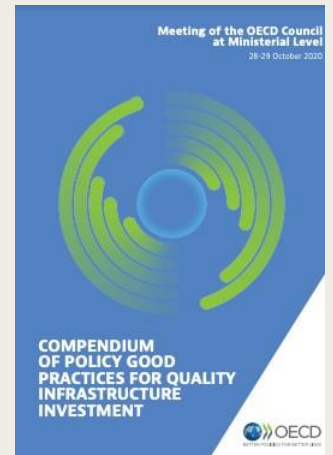
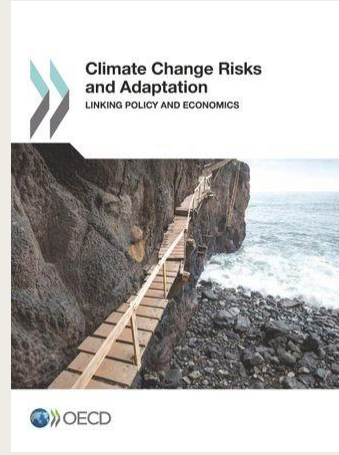
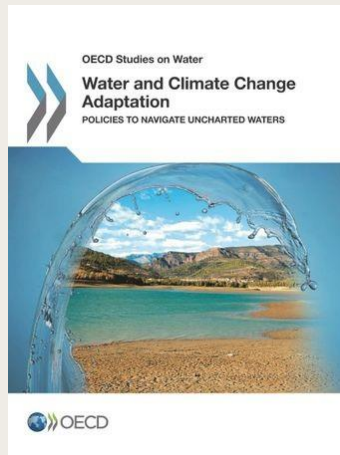
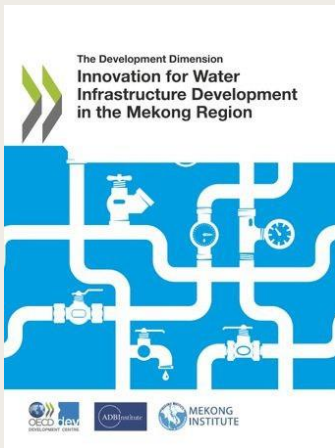
The OECD supports ensuring the success of the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development by bringing together

its unique multisectoral expertise and experience, including a strong track record in policy dialogues with developed and developing countries. In addition, OECD partnerships are creating synergies among private and public, domestic and international, and donor and developing country resources.

### OECD AND SDGS

The OECD – in collaboration with the European Commission and the Asian Development Bank respectively – has projected investment needs for water supply and sanitation in Europe and Asia & the Pacific. A robust assessment of the magnitude of the challenge helps explore practical solutions to i) ensure investments benefit communities on the ground and ii) build the enabling environment to scale up financing that contributes to sustainable development and growth.



## THE WAY FORWARD

**We need to be able to prioritize and distinguish between the different functions and values that water holds for our societies. I look forward to collaborating with OECD to further raise awareness on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation in the area of water finance and beyond.**

Pedro Arrojo-Agudo,  
UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

\*The Special Rapporteur held a meeting with OECD representatives in February 2021

