

Innovation in Disaster Prevention: Some reflections on opportunities



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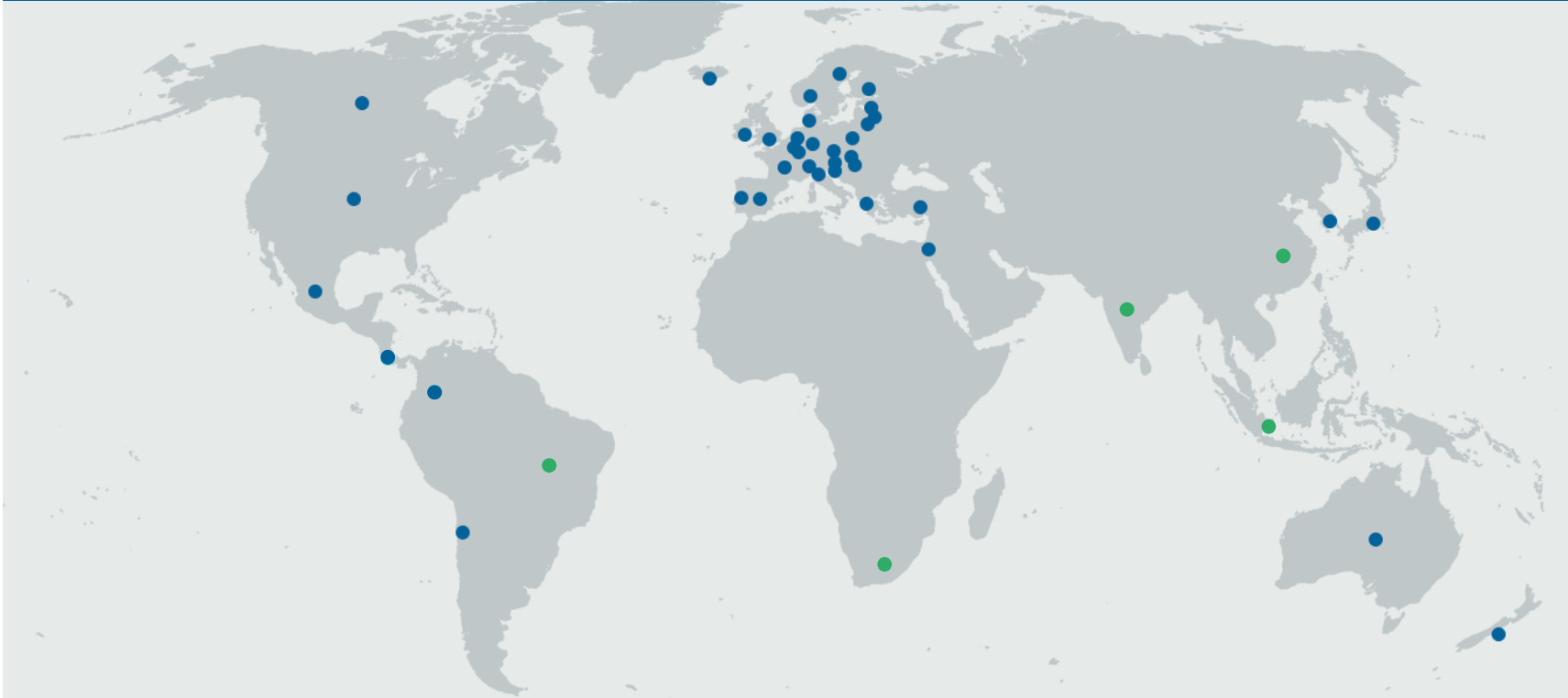
— Who we are

The **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** is an intergovernmental organisation in which governments work together to find solutions to common challenges, develop global standards, share experiences and identify best practices to promote **better policies for better lives.**



— Who we are: **Our global reach**

OECD 38 Member countries and 5 key partners represent about 80% of world trade and investment



MEMBERS		
Australia	Ireland	South Korea
Austria	Israel	Spain
Belgium	Italy	Sweden
Canada	Japan	Switzerland
Chile	Latvia	Türkiye
Colombia	Lithuania	United Kingdom
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	United States
Czech Republic	Mexico	
Denmark	Netherlands	
Estonia	New Zealand	
Finland	Norway	
France	Poland	
Germany	Portugal	
Greece	Slovak Republic	
Hungary	Slovenia	
Iceland		

KEY PARTNERS
Brazil
China
India
Indonesia
South Africa

The European Union has a permanent delegation to the OECD

Most recent accessions:



In January 2022, the OECD Council decided to open accession discussions with six Countries – Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Peru and Romania

Our approach



Our work and actions are driven by the following core values:

OBJECTIVE: Our analyses and recommendations are independent and evidence-based.

OPEN: We encourage debate and a shared understanding of critical global issues.

BOLD: We dare to challenge conventional wisdom starting with our own.

PIONEERING: We identify and address emerging and long term challenges.

ETHICAL: Our credibility is built on trust, integrity and transparency.



What we do

Shape #BetterLives

— What we do: Shape #BetterLives

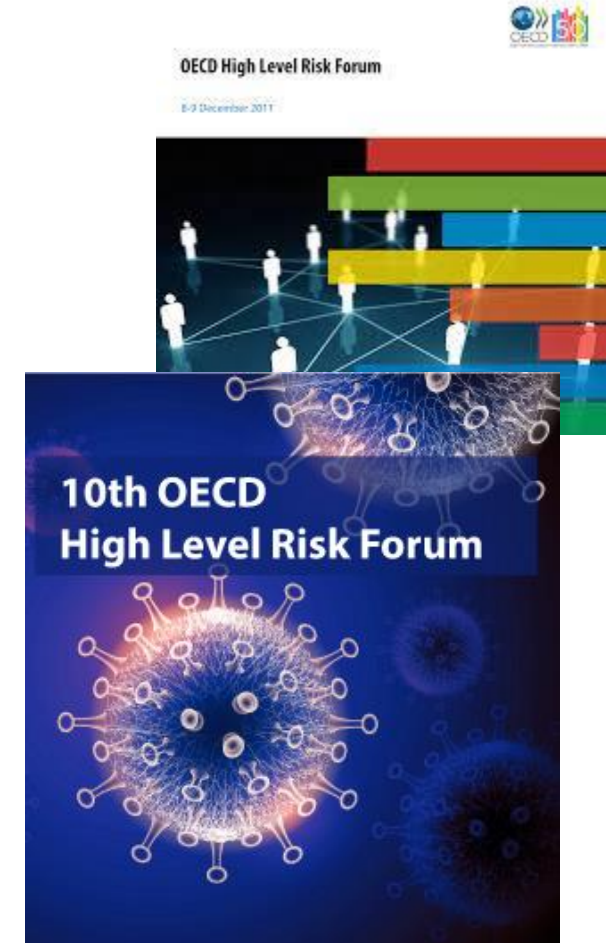
The OECD **informs decision-making** on better policies and standard-setting through **knowledge and evidence**. Our strength lies in the ability to help countries learn from one another through comparative analysis, and **provide technical assistance in transfer of notable practices**.

The **OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Critical Risks** champions a **whole of society approach** to **multi-hazard** risk management, supported by **transparent and accountable** risk management systems that **learn continuously and systematically** from experience and research.



— The OECD High Level Risk Forum

- The OECD High-Level Risk Forum (HLRF) is an official working party of the OECD Public Governance Committee established in 2011.
- HLRF provides Member countries a platform for exchange of applied knowledge and the development of shared understanding on cutting edge themes related to risk governance, disaster risk and crisis management.
- It convenes officials from Centres of Government (i.e. Prime Minister's Office, Presidency or Cabinet Office) and relevant lead ministries and agencies.
- The HLRF also invites experts to participate in thematic workshops on the identification, assessment and management of critical risks.



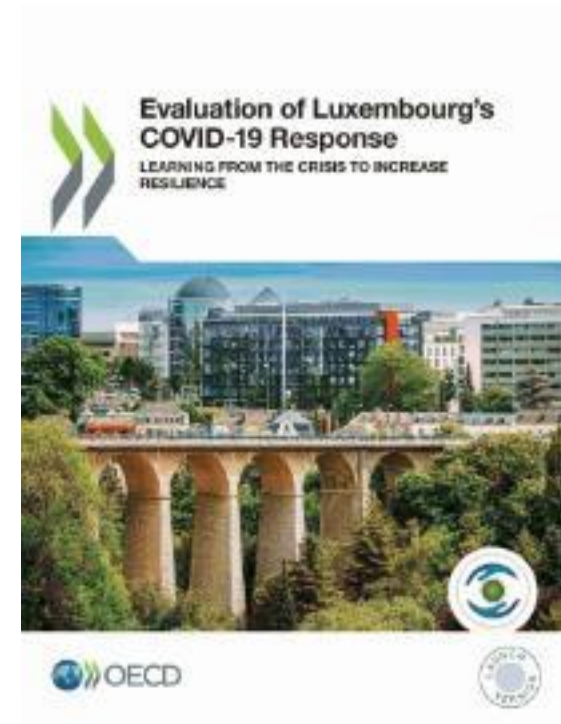
— What we do: Governance for Critical Infrastructure Resilience

- We draw from experts from the policy community, infrastructure operators, and academia to exchange on how best to apply system-thinking to strengthen critical infrastructure resilience in the context of a changing risk landscape
- We analyse the progressive shift of critical infrastructure policies from asset protection to system resilience and the continuity of essential services.
- We developed a Policy Toolkit for the Governance of Critical Infrastructure Resilience, to help guide governments in taking a more coherent, preventive approach to protecting and sustaining essential services.



— What we do: Enhancing Resilience and Strategic Crisis Management

- We examine the economic and social impacts of past large-scale disasters, and draws a number of key lessons for the future;
- We focus on better prevention of disasters, and on restoring trust and securing recovery in their aftermath;
- We collect and compare best practices in risk and crisis management accross countries and promote innovative approaches;
- We analyse new trends in risks, aditional and new kinds of crises, and reflects on how governments can best adapt to change.



— Addressing Emerging Critical Risks

Since 2003, we have been supporting our Members in understanding:

- How the interconnectedness in the global economy could create the conditions and vectors for rapid and widespread disruptions;
- How the nature and context of major risks and society's capacity to manage them is changing;
- How to monitor underlying factors that drive changes in the intensity or frequency of emerging critical risks;
- How to bring to bear capabilities and attention to manage these risks before they manifest themselves via shock events.



— What we mean by **emerging risks**

We use **emerging risks** to refer to both **new risks** that have not been experienced in living memory and **recognized hazards that take place in an unfamiliar context**, under **new conditions**, and therefore whose likelihood and consequences are less well understood.



— What we **knew already** regarding the broad trends

- **Climate change** is making known hazards **manifest in new ways** – which are **harder to predict** and **more impactful**.
- **Technological advances** also make familiar hazards manifest in novel ways.
- **Geopolitical shifts** are exacerbating known risks and creating new threats with **increased potential for regional and even global longer term impacts**.
- The **future risk landscape** is marked by a **blurring of the boundaries** between human-induced threats, industrial accidents risks and natural hazards.

— Emerging and existential risks workshop

- Included expert input on key existential risks
 - Advanced Artificial Intelligence accidents or mishandling (or weaponization)
 - Genetically engineered pathogens
 - Climate change as driver of risks to National Critical Functions (energy, water, water management, government and social services)

— Online brainstom on emerging risks

Over the months of October and November of 2022, the OECD conducted a **pilot exercise** that invited risk experts to collectively **identify key emerging** risks countries ought to have in their radars and explore how much **confidence** governments' risk experts had in their assessment of the top risks, as well as how developed were the **capabilities** for coping with them.



— **Key findings**

- We have strong knowledge of what we know and what we don't know
- The pilot gives us a better understanding of where we don't have consensus
- Most impactful risks require significant amount of work on capabilities
- Country capacities for dealing with chronic challenges to supplies is higher than that for dealing with acute disruptions.
- Countries seem better prepared / have stronger capacities for dealing with acute surges in displaced people but will likely struggle with chronic increases.
- Witnessing a blurring of the boundaries between human-induced threats, industrial accidents risks and natural hazards.

— **Where next?**

- Collaborate with AI research community to exploit machine-learning tools for horizon scanning on existential risks
- Develop a framework for national governance of emerging risks
- Scope collaboration with United Nations SG, G20 and G7 on international action on emerging critical and existential risks