

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - OECD

the S&T and industry-related activities of DSTI. Under Secretary-General Johnston, Deputy Secretary-General Herwig Schlögl has sectoral responsibility for the directorate. DSTI also works horizontally with other directorates. The Internal Coordination Group for Biotechnology (ICBG), chaired by DSTI/Oborne, but involving the directorates responsible for agriculture, environment and trade, is a case in point.

As with the entire organization, DSTI has undergone budget cuts and restructuring over the last three years. The start of the new millennium will see a return to budget stability (but not growth) for the foreseeable future. The emphasis remains on prioritization and the discontinuation or slowing down of lower priority work in favour of new priorities identified by the Council.

OECD S&T Program of work

The six major activities of the CSTP are:

- S&T policy analysis
- S&T indicators
- Productivity, growth & structural change
- Biotechnology
- Global Science Forum
- Monitoring business performance & structural change

The CSTP sets its own program of work and endorses and approves the work programs of its subsidiary bodies as well as commending their reports to Council for approval (more on this under *Future S&T Directions*). In addition to the promotion of cooperation among member countries in the field of science, technology and innovation policy, the Committee seeks to contribute to broad OECD economic, social and scientific objectives, with particular attention to policy integration and the strengthening of effective science systems. Specific reference is given in its mandate to cooperation with non-member countries, the science and business communities, civil society, and other international and regional organizations, as appropriate, in the formulation and implementation of S&T and innovation policies.

Recent and ongoing activities of the CSTP and its working parties include the following:

Working Party of National Experts on S&T Indicators (NESTI)

- updating of R&D data bases for S&T indicators
- evaluation of innovation surveys methodology
- development of new indicators for the knowledge-based economy
- implementing OECD S&T indicators in selected non-member developing and emerging market economy countries

Working Party on Biotechnology

- providing advice on emerging policy-relevant issues of science, technology and innovation related to biotechnology with a view to assisting the development, application and diffusion of products, processes, infrastructure and services
- biotechnologies related to human health, including xenotransplantation, ageing and health technologies, and molecular technologies for safe drinking water