

**Science and Technology at the  
Organization for Economic  
Cooperation and Development  
(OECD)  
By  
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**1. Snapshot of OECD S&T in 2002**

- A) OECD R&D Budget for 2002**
- B) S&T Structure in OECD in 2002**
- C) OECD Organizations Japan in 2002**

**OECD - How it Works**

The OECD is the international "club" of the industrialized, market-economy and democratic countries. Originally set up to administer the Marshall Plan in Europe, the OECD now includes 30 democracies of Europe, North America and the Pacific region. It provides a forum to discuss and identify compatible, mutually supporting and constructive approaches to economic and social issues, with the aim of promoting sustainable economic growth and development for its members and the international community as a whole. The OECD's work is continuing to evolve and covers the entire spectrum of economic and social issues facing national governments, including science, technology, environment, trade, labour and social affairs, agriculture etc.

The OECD functions through its governing body, the Council, chaired by Canadian Secretary-General Donald Johnston, and its network of more than 150 committees and working groups. Some 40,000 delegates from capitals attend OECD meetings each year. The sectoral committees meet periodically at the ministerial level (the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy having met at the ministerial level in June 1999). The 1800-strong Secretariat supports the work of Council and the committees and provides professional, world-class analysis of issues, including comparisons and "benchmarking." The organization is funded through both assessed and voluntary contributions. Its 2001 consolidated budget was approximately C\$255,269,242 (184,609,830 euros). The consolidated budget approved for 2002 is 187,557,300 euros. Canada's (GNP-based) contributions called up in 2001 were C\$6,326,689, supplemented by voluntary contributions for various activities. Some recent and prospective OECD work focuses on sustainable development and growth, the application of new technologies, including biotechnology, effective and accountable governance, health, and continuing country economic reviews. For horizontal projects, the work is generally divided among the relevant sectoral committees and is gradually brought together as a single product.