

**ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND
DEVELOPMENT (OECD)**

by
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R&D Expenditures 1997	495.9 billion \$US purchasing power parities
R&D/GDP 1997	2.21%

	<u>R&D Performed 1997</u>	<u>-R&D Funded 1997</u>
Industry	69.2%	62.3%
Government	11.3%	31.4%
Higher Education	16.9%	

1. Overview of OECD S&T-related Activities

OECD - How it Works

The OECD is the international "club" of the democratic, industrialized, market-economy countries. Originally set up to administer the Marshall Plan in Europe, the OECD now includes the 29 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. Its 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 almost 200 committees and working groups. Some 40,000 delegates from capitals attend OECD meetings each year. The sectoral committees meet periodically at ministerial level (the Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy having met at ministerial level in June 1999). The 1500-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 1999 operating budget was CAN\$320M. Canada's (GNP-based) assessed share in 1999 was CAN\$8.0M, supplemented by voluntary contributions for various activities. Major recent or current OECD work has focussed on jobs, ageing societies, regulatory reform, bribery, electronic commerce, biotechnology, sustainable development, and continuing country economic reviews, mostly "horizontal" in nature. For horizontal projects, the work is generally divided among the relevant sectoral committees and is gradually brought together as a single product.

OECD S&T committee structure and Canadian representation

The Committee on Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP) has the lead on S&T Policy cooperation in the OECD, although other committees may be involved, depending on the