



**PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE**

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22nd Session of the Territorial Development Policy Committee (TDPC)

SUMMARY RECORD

**2-3 December 2009,
Room CC4, OECD Conference Centre, Paris**

The SUMMARY RECORD of the Territorial Development Policy Committee is submitted to Delegates for APPROVAL.

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TDPC SYMPOSIUM ON REGIONAL POLICY: INNOVATION AND GREEN GROWTH: THE REGIONAL DIMENSION

2 DECEMBER 2009

1. The TDPC Symposium on Regional Policy was a leap forward in strengthening the OECD as the premier international forum on regional policy. Following up on the successful TDPC Ministerial meeting in March 2009, the Symposium convened more than 160 participants, including those at Ministerial level (from Poland, Slovenia, Chile, France). The US Assistant Secretary of Commerce (John Fernandez) attended both the Symposium and the TDPC meeting where he was elected member of the TDPC Bureau. The debate was introduced by Aart De Geus, OECD Deputy Secretary-General, and was further enriched by the participation of Accession country (Slovenia), Enhanced Engagement countries (Brazil, Chile, and South Africa), Morocco, and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF). The debate focused on 3 areas: Session I: Mutually reinforcing equity and efficiency objectives: the role of regional policies; Session II: Why regions matter for innovation and green growth strategies? And Session III: The impact of the crisis on regional actors and on the governance of regional policy. Full details of the meeting, including key-note presentations from eminent speakers and discussants, and the closing remarks by TDPC Chair, Mark Drabenstott, (also in annex) are available at: <http://www.oecd.org/regional>.

2. The Symposium was part of a TDPC week: it was held back to back with the Working Party on Territorial Indicators (30th November), the Working Party on Rural Areas (1st December), and the 22nd Session of the TDPC (3rd December) in the week following the meeting of the Network of Fiscal Relations Across Levels of Government (26-27th November).

TDPC – 22ND SESSION

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

3. Mr. Mark Drabenstott (United States), TDPC Chair introduced the Agenda for the 22nd Session of TDPC, which was approved by the Committee.

Item 2: The Summary Record of the 21st Session was approved.

Item 3: Designation of the Bureau

4. Following the withdrawal of Mr. Benjamin Erulkar (United States), two candidate proposals were received, concerning: Mr. Nicola de Michelis, Head of Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission; and Mr. John R. Fernandez, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, United States. The Chair proposed to the Committee an enlargement of its Bureau by one seat. Delegates designated the Bureau for one year, as follows:

Chair: Mr. Mark Drabenstott (United States)
Vice-Chairs: Mr. Wolf-Dietrich Huber (Austria)
Mr. Paul Leblanc (Canada)
Mrs. Odile Bovar (France)
Mr. Prodromos-Ioannis (John) Prodromidis (Greece)
Mrs. Flavia Terribile (Italy)

Mr. Takeshi Abe (Japan)
 Mrs. Sara Topelson (Mexico)
 Mr. John R. Fernandez (United States)

Item 4: Opening remarks by the Chair and GOV Director: overview of key developments

5. Mr. Rolf Alter, the Director of the Public Governance and Territorial Development (GOV) Director (GOV), provided a brief overview of key developments in the OECD, including the follow-up to the G20 Pittsburgh Summit and the implications for the OECD. The Director informed the Committee that the OECD Green Growth Strategy, object of the Council Ministerial Meeting (27-28 June). Mr. Alter explained the ongoing work of the organisation and the synergies that the TDPC and Public Governance (PGC) are building on in areas such as multi-level governance issues, among others.

6. Mr. Mario Pezzini, Deputy Director, Public Governance and Territorial Development (GOV) described the current debate on regional policies, follow-up work further to the successful outcome of the TDPC Meeting at Ministerial Level, in March 2009, and the key messages from the TDPC Symposium on Regional Policy. Future developments since then concern the preparations of the TDPC Programme of Work, 2011-12. Mr. Pezzini also presented the positive results for TDPC of the Programme Implementation Reporting Exercise, which highly ranked the Committee's outputs for 2007-8 [see document GOV/TDPC(2009)15]. The results, together with those of the Ministerial meeting have played a role in the renewal of the TDPC Mandate and those of its Working Parties, approved by Council in October [C(2009)126]. Mr. Pezzini described current and ongoing work and discussions underway for territorial reviews, and latest developments concerning collaboration with China, and the Latin America and Caribbean Initiative (LAC). In a brief overview of horizontal activities, Mario Pezzini highlighted an important project on the "Governance of Water", carried out within the current TDPC work programme area: Prioritising Public Investment and Services for Regional Development.

Renewal of the Observership of Morocco to the Territorial Development Policy Committee and its Subsidiary Bodies

7. In view of Morocco's clearly demonstrated interest in observership, the intensity of its participation and the value of its contributions to the work of TDPC, the Committee endorsed the recommendations concerning the renewal of Morocco to participate in the Territorial Development Policy Committee as an Observer, as set out in the evaluation template for non-member regular observers (GOV/TDPC(2009)14 - Annex 1); and recommended to the OECD Council the renewal of the observership of Morocco for a period of two years – 2010 and 2011.

Item 5: Presentations by Chairs of the TDPC and its Working Parties and Statement by the Director

8. Mr. Mark Drabenstott (United States), TDPC Chair, introduced the Agenda of the Committee's 22nd Session and reported on the latest developments since its 21st Session. In particular, he recalled the series of events that lead to the renewal of the TDPC Mandate (2010-14) by the Council in October last [C(2009)126]. The mandate renewal process was successful due to the positive outcome of the TDPC Meeting at Ministerial Level and the Regional Policy Forum that preceded it (including two preparatory workshops to provide input for the agenda, policy and background reports, kindly hosted by Portugal, and IADB, and an Enlarged Bureau, held at the OECD Headquarters on 23 September 2009, back to back with a Workshop on Regional Policy: BIAC-TUAC consultations, 24 September 2009). The Chair reported on recent comments that he made at a lunch with the Secretary-General Angel Gurría, where a group of Committee Chairs met to discuss with the Secretary-General the follow-up to the G20 Pittsburgh Summit and how the Committees' may contribute to future work carried out by OECD in key policy areas.

7. The Working Party Chairs provided a brief overview of the groups' outputs, ongoing and future activities and recent Working Party meetings. The WPURB Chair, Mr. Adam Ostry (Canada) reported on

the outcome of the urban policy conference: The "Green Cities" Workshop: Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain, 11-12 June 2009; and announced the release of the OECD Territorial Reviews, Toronto (Canada) that was officially launched in Toronto (Canada) in November, in the presence of the OECD Secretary-General, Angel Gurría. He described the latest developments on Reviews in progress, highlighted the forthcoming publication: "Competitive Cities and Climate Change", to be discussed in the afternoon session of the meeting, and presented at the Copenhagen Summit on Climate Change in December; and the metropolitan review of Venice (Italy), to be presented for discussion and approval in the afternoon session. He announced the next Annual meeting of the OECD Urban Roundtable for Mayors and Ministers: Cities and Green Growth (on 25 May 2010, back to back with the OECD Form and Ministerial Meeting) and the Working Party's contribution to this event.

8. The WPRUR Chair, Mr. Richard Wakeford (U.K.), briefly reported on ongoing WPRUR work, on the outcome of the last OECD annual conference on rural development, which was held in Quebec, Canada, in October 2009. He also reported on the results of the Policy Forum on Agriculture and Rural Development, held on 24 November, the contribution of WPRUR, and implications for future work. In his report on the outcome of the WPURB's 11th Session on 2 December, Mr. Wakeford described work in progress on: Public service delivery in rural areas and key messages from the Innovative Service Delivery Workshop, 11-12 June 2009, UK. He reported on ongoing rural policy reviews, presented the key findings of a synthesis report on the reviews carried out to date, and the organisation of forthcoming meetings. In particular, he presented the rural policy report of Quebec to the Committee for approval. This report was discussed and commented on by delegates at the WPRUR meeting the day before [GOV/TDPC/RUR(2009)2 and GOV/TDPC/RUR(2009)3].

9. Mr. Dev Virdee, WPTI Chair, provided a brief overview of the ongoing work of the Working Party on Territorial Indicators (WPTI) and the outcome of its 18th Session on 30 November. He reported on the future orientations of the WPTI work in light of the renewed TDPC mandate for 2010-14. In particular, this involves increasing the tools to analyse regional economies and move towards a better integration of analysis and policy. Mr. Virdee highlighted the implications this will have for WPTI future outputs, such as Regions at a Glance. He then presented the work in progress: A refined classification of rural regions to take into account distance from urban centre (Refinement of the OECD regional typology: the economic performance of remote rural regions [GOV/TDPC/TI(2009)4, and GOV/TDPC/TI(2008)4]), which was discussed by WPTI delegates and submitted to the TDPC for approval. In addition, Mr. Virdee highlighted a proposed methodology to define and compare world-metro regions, which was discussed at the WPTI meeting together with appraisal on how to carry out this work in the future. Finally, he described the preliminary results on the analysis of public investment in regions and the outcome of the experts meeting on "Regional prioritization of investment strategies for economy recovery: What information is necessary?" co-organized by the OECD and the Korea Institute of Public Finance on 19-20 of November 2009 in Seoul.

Item 6: Innovation and Green Growth: the Regional Dimensions

10. Deputy Secretary-General Pier Carlo Padoan and Senior Project Manager Miriam Koreen presented the OECD Innovation Strategy. They discussed the goals, current status and different Innovation Strategy documents being produced for the 2010 Ministerial. The TDPC is contributing sections to each of the different documents (Policy Principles, Analytic Report, Compendium, and Handbook). Delegates (European Commission, France, Italy, Netherlands, and Canada) provided feedback on their views of the regional dimension of innovation and noted that it should be prominent in Innovation Strategy documents.

OECD Reviews of Regional Innovation: The Case of Catalonia (Spain)

11. The report *OECD Reviews of Regional Innovation: Catalonia, Spain* was approved. Manuel Lopez, Industrial Counsellor of the Spanish Permanent Delegation to the OECD, noted the importance of innovation for the Spanish Presidency of the EU as well as support for the work on regional innovation in

Spain—which will be continued in 2010 with a Review of the Basque Country. The Catalonia region, as represented by Carme Botifoll (General Director of ACCIO, the region’s firm competitiveness agency), presented the challenges and key recommendations of the review. Key challenges include the need to transition to a productivity-based growth model, prioritisation and alignment of public action within the region and with other levels of government, and improving the technology transfer system, among others. Italy, as represented by Mario Calderini (President of Finpiemonte, Piedmont region), focused its peer review comments on a selection of these challenges. Delegates (including the US and Canada) noted common issues for their regions, such as the importance of human capital as a driver of the regional innovation system and the role of clusters.

Item 7: Strategies for regional competitiveness and green growth

Competitive cities and Climate Change

12. Competitive cities and Climate Change

The Secretariat approved the report *Competitive Cities and Climate Change*, which was an OECD deliverable for the COP 15 meeting in December 2009. The report presents findings on the impact of cities on climate change. It provides evidence that if a global climate policy (e.g. a carbon tax) is complemented by urban policy tools (e.g. densification or congestion charges), it is possible to reach a deduction of the global energy demand and CO₂ emissions and reduce by half the overall costs of abatement. The report also discusses ways in which cities can be active in the green economy and identifies successful cases where environmental sustainability has furthered economic development. The Secretariat also informed TDPC about the release of another OECD report on Cities, climate change and multi-level governance conducted jointly with the Environment Directorate. In the lively debate that followed the Secretariat’s presentation, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, and the United States commended the Secretariat on the quality and timeliness of the report and described their country’s policy experience in this area. The Chair stressed the importance to enlarge the work to other types of regions. The Secretariat informed of forthcoming activities related to this activity, including the OECD Urban Roundtable for Mayors and Ministers: Cities and Green Growth, 25 May 2010; the project on Compact City Policies (as discussed below), Climate change and cities – a specific sector in the OECD metropolitan reviews and national urban policy reviews (currently underway Korea and Poland). Possible future outputs concern working papers and reports on cities and climate change in China, climate change and local finance, cities and green growth.

Compact City Policies: Project proposal

13. The Secretariat introduced the project proposal on ‘Compact City policies’. This work will be one of the contributions to the OECD Green Growth Strategy. Given that urban densification is becoming a major concern for climate policy, the aim of the project is to analyse the effect of “compact city” on climate policy, especially the reduction of Green House Gas (GHG) emission, as well as on sustainable regional development, and to discuss the effective policy tools including land use control, building requirement, public transport and fiscal incentives. The final output included policy guidelines for national and local policy makers, and assisted them in developing the policy framework that corresponds to their needs. The Chair invited delegates to send comments on the proposal, regarding for example, the scope, methodology, output, as well as interest in funding the project.

Peer Reviews of Territorial Policies

14. Mr. Joaquim Oliveira, Head of Division, Regional Competitiveness and Governance, GOV, presented recent, current and future developments regarding national and regional reviews, making the link with the priority themes of the future work programme of the TDPC.

Item 8: Territorial Review of Sweden

15. The Territorial Review of Sweden was approved. H.E. Ambassador Mats Ringborg underlined the timely contribution of the Review to the Swedish government's recovery strategy and EU Presidency. Peer reviewers from Austria (Georg Schadt on behalf of Roland Arbter) and Canada (David Slade) presented the key recommendations of the Review, focusing on how to sustain growth and equity objectives in the long term by strengthening regional innovation systems and further implementing regional governance reforms. The Swedish authorities (Ms. Catrin Mattsson, Political Advisor, Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications) gave an overview of their plans to implement the recommendations made, notably to improve cross-sectoral co-ordination for regional growth policy at the regional and national level. Delegates (including from the European Commission, Korea, Poland, France and Italy) shared concrete examples of promoting innovation, implementing regional governance reforms, strengthening vertical co-ordination mechanisms across levels of government, and consolidating local finances through close collaboration between national and regional levels in their own countries, and Slovenia confirmed its interest in requesting a Territorial Review in 2010-11.

Item 9: OECD Territorial Reviews, Venice (Italy)

16. The Territorial Review of Venice was approved. Paolo Tricholo of the Italian Mission to the OECD opened the session and explained how the Review builds upon the TDPC's earlier research in Italy (Milan Review, Territorial Policy of Italy Review, Italy Rural Review) and extends the analysis to include water governance and climate change. Marino Folin, President of the Fondazione di Venezia, and Stefano Micelli, Dean of the Venice International University, reacted to many of the findings of the Review and briefed TDPC participants on the state of metropolitan economic policy and intergovernmental collaboration. Delegates from Portugal, Germany, Mexico, the United States, and Japan provided concrete recommendations on how to link universities to the private sector, facilitate access to global markets for SMEs, maintain an active manufacturing sector, enforce land use planning, and metropolitanise approaches to water policy. The Venetians expressed their interest in translating the Review into Italian to inform policymakers in the Provinces of Padua, Treviso, and Venice.

Closing Remarks
Mark Drabenstott
Chairman, TDPC

This has been a great day for the TDPC—I can hardly remember a better one. The Symposium format has served us very well. The discussion has been extremely rich and it has focused our thinking on critical topics that loom large on our horizon. Finally, this Symposium has been an excellent way to continue and leverage the momentum coming off our Ministerial meeting in March.

As I listened to the discussion today, I heard five strong themes. Conveniently, each theme begins with an “i.” So, I offer some closing remarks focused on these five “I’s.”

Identity

A central question coursing the whole of the day is the very identity of the TDPC. *What is regional policy today?* One of the most cogent answers to this question was Chris Brooks’ elegant summation phrase: *Regional policy is development, not symmetry.* We also know that regional policy is now “post-crisis.” It is “post-new paradigm.” It is post “climate change.” And it is “post globalization.” All of these “posts” will make regional policy different tomorrow from what it was today or yesterday.

Fabrizio Barca drew an especially valuable distinction this morning. He pointed out that regional policy is “one” policy for both equity and efficiency objectives. However, the critical distinction is that policy officials intervene *differently* for the two main objectives. What is more, policy interventions for equity purposes must be place-based, just as efficiency programs are. What is less clear, in the end, is the extent to which there are useful synergies between the two. Is it more synergy or trade-off between equity and efficiency? This is a powerful question that we must take with us today.

Implementation

Regional policy can only be implemented in a political economy. As shepherds of this policy, our task in implementing it is great and the risks are even greater. We can take considerable comfort and pride in the strong consensus that has formed on the power of the new regional paradigm. This consensus extends far beyond our own community. To cite but two examples, key staff from two of OECD’s key divisions—Environment and Science, Technology, and Industry—provided strong endorsements of our policy framework in the discussion today. Our regional policy framework goes unchallenged. 2

But that does not mean it will be quickly implemented. Powerful forces in the political economy are still arrayed against it. Based on today’s discussion, I would point out three risks that seem particularly important.

- Borrowing Fabrizio Barca’s lexicon, there appears to be an “institutional trap.” We do not have the policy institutions that can readily implement the new regional policy framework. Too many policy institutions were built for the *old* paradigm.
- There is too much “macro momentum.” To give but one example, the Pittsburgh Statement of the G-20 hands the new framework for sustained recovery over to finance ministers and central bank governors. They are far too absorbed with the macro-economy to implement the kind of framework we have worked so hard to construct.

- The fiscal legacy of the crisis will work *against* implementing the new paradigm. As my good colleague, Chuck Fluharty, stressed, provincial and local governments will be so strained in the wake of the crisis that leaders will have probably have little enthusiasm and even less capacity to shift to a whole new approach to economic development.

In short, we have won a critical battle, but the policy war is far from over. We must be vigilant in defending the new paradigm. Even more, we must join the policy debate, especially the one that happens far from this room. The G-20 is a prime example of where our ideas must shed new light on the path to a better future.

Innovation

Green growth and innovation represent the brave new frontier for us. They are firmly rooted in all we have done, but both demand that we go much further. Put another way, we must “innovate” our framework and especially our guidelines for policy officials.

As I listened to the discussion on innovation and green growth, I reached two conclusions. The first is that we are probably looking at one framework for policy—one principally focused on innovation. Green growth simply represents a special case of this more general framework.

The second conclusion is that our framework for regional innovation likely builds on elements we already know well, but probably reaches further to other elements less firmly in our grasp. I found it helpful in my own mind to imagine a pyramid of sorts:

- Targeted Regional
- Investment
- Regional Innovation System
- Regional Strategy Capacity Partnership

The bottom row is one that we know well. Our Chilean colleague did a very good job showing that these foundation elements must form the basis for any regional approach to innovation. The 3 middle tier is the “systems” that will work in various types of regions. Our discussion confirms in my own mind that we still have much to learn here. In particular, we need a much stronger taxonomy of regional innovation systems, with some “mapping” to help us understand the features that most distinguish one from the other. Our Portuguese colleague’s suggestion to “map” regional innovation systems is a very strong one. Finally, the capstone to the pyramid is where policy can make the biggest contribution—targeted innovation investments, but tailored to the unique potential and innovation system needs of every region.

Another way of summing up the discussion on innovation today is to recognize that regional innovation must combine engines, transmissions, and drivers. The engines are the idea powerhouses, whether public or private research institutes. The transmissions are intermediary organizations that transfer that power to real businesses in regions. The drivers are the entrepreneurs who must navigate the economic roads of the real world. In some regions, the engines are missing. In others, engines are powerful but there are few intermediaries to translate those ideas into business ideas. In still others, the underlying culture of the region is too path-dependent on large firms opening up a new factory. I believe the TDPC must do a better job diagnosing these various problems and suggesting effective remedies.

Investment

We can help policy officials target public investment, but we must improve our tools in order to deliver this powerful benefit. We have just passed through a period of extraordinary financial losses, which have created enormous economic and social distress as they have been digested. As a result, capital will be scarce in the period ahead and public expectations will be high. This amounts to a highly charged, very demanding fiscal climate. We must engage this great set of investment decisions, but we must also bring more powerful instruments to help our cause. Specifically, we must stress regional strategies as the absolutely critical foundation for future investments in public goods. Without such strategies, decision makers will operate in the dark. We must also stress a new generation of tools that help every region prioritize the investments required to unlock their economic potential. As noted at our Ministerial meeting, we have work to do in refining these tools. Lastly, we must stress the ongoing need to constantly evaluate public investments once made. We can do a better job of doing this, and one of the aftershocks of the financial crisis will be a public demand to spend public funds *much* more wisely. This demands strong evaluation metrics.

One way of reminding ourselves of the importance and urgency of our contribution to public investment is to reflect on the fiscal stimulus packages of recent months. How much better those packages would have been if every region in each of our nations had regional investment priorities in hand *before* the funds were allocated!

Indicators

We are what we measure. Whether it is the sustainability of our growth or the extent of our social inclusion, we have gone beyond the ability of traditional measures to tell us where we are. The financial crisis reminds us of the consequences of indicators that are measuring the wrong thing. We must learn this lesson well. Indeed, as a community of policy experts we have a huge stake in the whole topic of indicators. We must recognize, though, that to a considerable extent we are policy “outsiders” in our respective capitals. The policy “insiders”, many of them of the macro bent described above, hold great skepticism about the new paradigm of regional policy. In fact, this skepticism is often expressed much like the slogan of my home state of Missouri, which is “Show Me!”

We must be prepared to “show” the benefits of regional policy. This will require rigorous evaluation of the rich laboratory of new paradigm programs now on the ground. But it will also require developing new measures of economic progress in a world that values far more than economic efficiency. We must summon our best creativity in this quest.

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