

Foreword

The principal aim of the OECD Environmental Performance Review programme is to help member and selected partner countries improve their individual and collective performance in environmental management by:

- helping individual governments assess progress in achieving their environmental goals
- promoting continuous policy dialogue and peer learning
- stimulating greater accountability from governments towards each other and public opinion.

This report reviews the environmental performance of Australia since the previous review in 2007. Progress in achieving domestic objectives and international commitments provides the basis for assessing the country's environmental performance. Such objectives and commitments may be broad aims, qualitative goals or quantitative targets. A distinction is made between intentions, actions and results. Assessment of environmental performance is also placed within the context of Australia's historical environmental record, present state of the environment, physical endowment in natural resources, economic conditions and demographic trends.

The OECD is indebted to the government of Australia for its co-operation in providing information, for the organisation of the review mission to Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney (20-28 March 2018), and for facilitating contacts both inside and outside government institutions.

Thanks are also due to the representatives of the two examining countries, Shannon Elaine Castellarin (Canada) and Jenna Bishop (New Zealand).

The authors of this report were, Nathalie Delrue, Alexa Piccolo, Mikaela Rambali and Frédérique Zegel from the OECD Secretariat and Rachel Samson of Carist Consulting. Nathalie Girouard and Frédérique Zegel provided oversight and guidance. Sarah Sentier and Carla Bertuzzi provided statistical support, Annette Harcastle provided administrative support and Rebecca Brite copy-edited the report. Natasha Cline-Thomas provided communications support. Preparation of this report also benefited from inputs and comments from several members of the OECD Secretariat, including Anthony Cox, Gwendolen Deboe, Bob Diderich, Luisa Dressler, Guillaume Gruère, Philip Hemmings, Xavier Leflaive, Eeva Leinala, Rahul Malhotra, Sylvie Poret, Richard Sigman and Will Symes, as well as Sylvia Beyer of the International Energy Agency.

The OECD Working Party on Environmental Performance discussed the draft Environmental Performance Review of Australia at its meeting on 6 November 2018 in Paris (the meeting included a joint session with the OECD Chemicals Committee to discuss the chapter on chemical management), and approved the Assessment and Recommendations.



From:
**OECD Environmental Performance Reviews:
Australia 2019**

Access the complete publication at:
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264310452-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2019), "Foreword", in *OECD Environmental Performance Reviews: Australia 2019*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264310452-2-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.