

## *Foreword*

Innovation, Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability in Sweden is part of the OECD Food and Agricultural Reviews series. This review was undertaken at the request of the Swedish Ministry for Enterprise and Innovation and it examines the conditions in which farms and businesses undertake innovation in the food and agriculture sector to become more productive and environmentally sustainable.

The review begins with an overview of developments in the food and agriculture sector and outlines the challenges and opportunities it faces (Chapter 2). The range of policies which influence the incentives and conditions for innovation are then examined: economic stability, governance and trust in institutions, the regulatory and tax system, and investment framework (Chapter 3); the capacities and public services that enable business development, including infrastructure, rural development, labour market, and education and skills policies (Chapter 4); agricultural policy (Chapter 5); and the operation and functioning of the agricultural innovation system (Chapter 6). The findings from the review are summarised in Chapter 1 and policy recommendations are advanced.

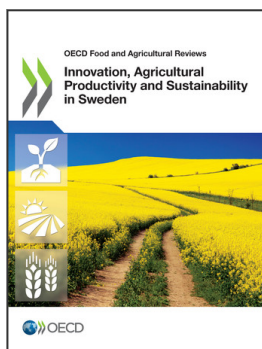
The analysis of this review follows the framework developed by the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate in response to a request from the G20 in 2012 under the Presidency of Mexico to evaluate the extent to which a range of policies can facilitate productivity growth and sustainability in the food and agriculture sector. This framework has been applied to studies on Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, Turkey, the United States, and Estonia. Additional reviews are underway or planned.

This review was prepared by Dimitris Diakosavvas, with contributions from Michael Ryan (Chapter 3), Clara Frezal (Chapter 4) and Catherine Moreddu (Chapter 6). It draws heavily on a comprehensive background report prepared by experts from the Swedish Board of Agriculture, led by Joel Karlsson. Lena Lind from the Ministry for Enterprise and Innovation was the overall co-ordinator. At the Swedish Board of Agriculture, Mari Andersson, Lina Bjerke, Helena Elofsson, Knut Per Hasund, Johan Holmer, Joel Karlsson, Pasi Kemi, Cecilia Koch, Karin Lothigius, Svante Nilsson, Lars M. Widell, and Karolina Åsman provided the information for the background report.

Valuable comments from OECD colleagues were greatly appreciated, including those from Carmel Cahill, Charles Cadestin, Jared Greenville, Olga Melyukhina, Emily Gray, Morvarid Bagherzadeh, Urszula Ziebinskaf, Franck Jesus, Julien Hardelin, Frank van Tongeren, Christophe André and Jose Enrique Garcilazo. Theresa Poincet provided secretarial assistance. Michèle Patterson prepared the report for publication and co-ordinated its production. Wilfrid Legg, formerly OECD staff, provided editorial assistance.

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