

## Foreword

As part of its *Green Growth Strategy*, the OECD has developed a conceptual framework to monitor economic growth and development, while combating climate change and preventing the inefficient use of natural resources and environmental degradation.

This report presents the work undertaken to identify the relevant and measurable indicators for the agricultural sector in alignment with the OECD's *Green Growth Measurement Framework*. These indicators have been then calculated and applied to a selected number of OECD countries in three specific policy areas: the transition to a low-carbon, resource-efficient agricultural sector; the maintenance of a natural asset base; and the implementation of policies aimed at realising the economic opportunities associated with green growth in the agricultural sector.

While most green growth indicators overlap with existing indicators of agricultural policy support, agri-environmental and agricultural commodity indicators, or can be derived from OECD and other economic and environmental statistics, they do not necessarily capture the dynamics of green growth in agriculture and present these in terms of quantifiable indicators that can be unambiguously interpreted and easily communicated to policy makers.

Establishing quantitative assessments of the cause and effect linkages between a country's policies and its green growth performance is a difficult task given the context-specific nature of many environmental issues, the varying preferences constituting green growth across countries, the multiple factors determining environmental outcomes in agriculture, and the lack of objective valuations of environmental externalities and public goods. Any comparisons across countries would need to be undertaken with great caution, but comparison of trends over time could provide useful insights and provide an important focus to monitor progress towards green growth.

This work represents a first step in the further development and refinement of green growth indicators in agriculture. New indicators continue to be developed by the OECD to provide governments with a full range of green growth indicators in agriculture. Gaps in methodology, concepts and data also continue to be addressed.

This report was prepared by the OECD's Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) and has benefited from the expert advice of other Directorates, in particular the Environment Directorate, the Statistics Directorate, the Economics Department, and the Centre on Tax Policy and Administration. It was declassified by the OECD Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment in April 2014.

Dimitris Diakosavvas is the author of this report, which was declassified by the Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment under the title *Monitoring Progress Towards Green Growth in Agriculture: Preliminary Results*. It was prepared for publication by Françoise Bénicourt and Michèle Patterson. Valuable assistance was also provided by Theresa Poincet, Noura Takrouri-Jolly and Véronique de Saint-Martin.



**From:**  
**Green Growth Indicators for Agriculture**  
A Preliminary Assessment

**Access the complete publication at:**  
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264223202-en>

**Please cite this chapter as:**

OECD (2014), "Foreword", in *Green Growth Indicators for Agriculture: A Preliminary Assessment*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264223202-1-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](mailto: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](mailto:info@copyright.com) or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at [contact@cfcopies.com](mailto:contact@cfcopies.com).