

# The OECD Codes and Schemes in Asia



## Information Brochure

<p><b>OECD Seed Schemes</b></p>  A close-up photograph of two hands, one wearing a gold bangle, holding a large quantity of golden-brown seeds or grains.	<p><b>OECD Tractor Codes</b></p>  A red tractor is shown in a green field. The image includes circular inset graphics showing different agricultural scenarios.	<p><b>OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme</b></p>  A collection of fresh green citrus fruits, including lemons and limes, along with a whole coconut, resting on a wooden surface.	<p><b>OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme</b></p>  A scenic view of a tropical forest with palm trees and a body of water in the foreground.
--	--	---	---

February 2018

## The OECD Codes and Schemes in Asia

### Date of accession to the Codes and Schemes

	OECD Seed Schemes	OECD Tractor Codes	OECD Fruit & Vegetables Scheme
China		1988	
India	2008	1988	
Iran	1995		
Israel	1968		1963
Japan	1967	1966	
Korea		1995	
Kyrgyzstan	2005		

OECD co-operation with Asian enhanced engagement countries - China, India, and Indonesia - since 2007 helps the OECD better address global economic, environmental, and social challenges.

The OECD Codes and Schemes facilitate international trade through the simplification of procedures in the field of Seeds, Fruit and Vegetables, Forest reproductive material and Tractors.

These programmes contribute to **reducing technical barriers to trade** that particularly affect trade between developing and developed countries.

By joining programmes such as the OECD Codes and Schemes, emerging and developing countries can **reap the benefits of globalization and penetrate global markets**. They will be able to export to foreign markets, at a regional level but also with partners on other continents.

**Being members of the OECD Codes and Schemes is a definite advantage to promote growth thanks to an increased trade in some key agricultural sectors.**

**Already seven countries in Asia** actively participate in 2018 in the OECD Codes and Schemes.

### The OECD's Relations with its Key Partners from Asia



China



India



Indonesia

**Key partners** from Asia contribute to the OECD's work in a sustained and comprehensive manner. A central element of the programme is the promotion of direct and active participation of these countries in the work of substantive bodies of the Organisation. Each country participates in OECD work through a programme containing a mix of several elements, notably:

- participation in OECD committees,
- regular economic surveys,
- adherence to OECD instruments,
- integration into OECD statistical reporting and information systems,
- sector-specific peer reviews.

## OECD Tractor Codes

The first standard Code for the Official Testing of Agricultural Tractors was approved on 21 April 1959. This Code has since been extended to cover forestry tractors and other features of performance, safety and noise.

More than 2750 tractor models have received performance test approval since the Codes were established in 1959.

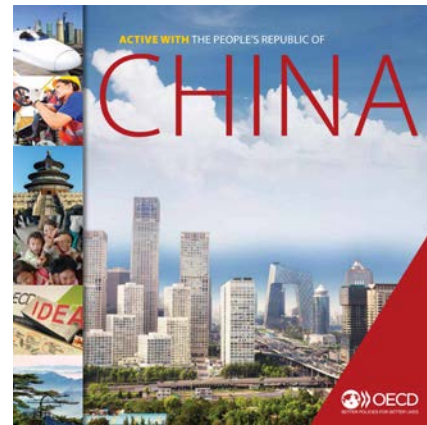
Furthermore, more than 10 800 variants of tractors were tested for noise measurement at the driving position, or for the driver's protection in case of tractor roll-over; Having satisfied the safety criteria of the Codes they have been marketed nationally and internationally.

At present, 26 countries, i.e. 22 OECD Members and 4 countries which are not members of the OECD, adhere to the Codes which are open to all Member States of the U.N.

A particular feature of the OECD Tractor Codes is that, **since 1981, a Test Engineers' Conference** is organised every two years at the invitation of a participating country.

The first **Asian country that joined the Tractor Codes** was **Japan** in 1966. **Japan** hosted the **OECD Test Engineers' Conference in Omiya**, in 1997. This country hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> Biennial Test Engineers' Conference in Saitama in October 2017.

**China** joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988 and was the **second Asian country to host the Engineers' Conference in Beijing and Luoyang** in 2005.



*"... The OECD takes pride in its co-operation with China. Today, with China's increasing importance as a dynamic engine for the world economy, this partnership is more relevant than ever..."*

Brochure available on the public website  
[www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)

The Tractor Codes Brochure is available in Chinese



The OECD Secretary-General visited **Seoul, Korea** in October 2016 to participate in the Seminar on the **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Korea's Membership to the OECD**, hosted by the Government of Korea. During the mission, the Secretary-General also met with high-level government officials.

**Korea** became an official Member of the Tractor Codes in 1995 and was the **third Asian country** to host the **Engineers' Conference in Suwon in 2009**.



**Test Engineers' Conferences** permit a correct and coherent interpretation of testing procedures and their development. Their primary purpose is the observation, review and discussion of testing practices by **Test Engineers**. They facilitate the verification of test reports carried out by the Co-ordinating Centre, which liaises between the National Testing Stations and the OECD for technical matters.



*Technical Visit  
(Roll-over Protective Structure (ROPS))*



*Driver assistance*

**19th Biennial  
Test Engineers'  
Conference**

**23-27 October 2017**

To be hosted by Institute of  
Agricultural Machinery, Japan

OECD Standard Codes  
For the Official Testing  
of Agricultural  
and  
Forestry Tractors

2017		Japan
2015		United States
2013		Italy
2011		Germany
2009		Korea
2007		Turkey
2005		China
2003		Spain
2001		Finland
1999		Czech Rep.
1997		Japan
1995		Italy
1993		Switzerland
1991		United States
1989		Austria
1987		Sweden
1985		France
1983		Germany
1981		United Kingdom

**OECD**

[www.oecd.org/tad/tractor](http://www.oecd.org/tad/tractor)

*The 19<sup>th</sup> Test Engineers' Conference took place in Saitama, Japan on 23-27 October 2017 (The 9<sup>th</sup> Conference was hosted by Japan in 1997)*

Since 2017 **Japan** is incoming Vice chair of the Bureau of the Tractor Codes Meeting.

The three **Asian countries** that have hosted an OECD Test Engineers Conference demonstrated the relevance of the programme in the region. Over the last years, **China** has been one of the three countries with the highest amount of test reports sent to the OECD for approval.

**Malaysia** has the official status of Observer in the OECD Tractor Codes. A delegate from the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) took part in the 2017 Annual Meeting of the OECD Tractor Codes held in Paris.

**Malaysia** was also represented at the 19<sup>th</sup> Test Engineers' Conference held in Japan in October 2017.



*Family photo during the Field trip held in Japan in October 2017*

The OECD Secretariat participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the **ANTAM** (Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery) held in Manila, Philippines in November 2017. The OECD, as a member of the Advisory Panel of ANTAM, was asked to present the certification system for tractors.

The meeting was attended by 16 ESCAP member countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Federation of Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Turkey), Philippines'

government representatives, OECD, ENAMA and the Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers' Association (AMMA-India).

The ANTAM is a regional network of national agricultural machinery testing stations, research and extension institutes and collaborates with manufacturers' associations and farmers' organisations across the Asia-Pacific. It was formally established in 2013 and is composed of 17 participating countries. The ANTAM Secretariat is hosted by CSAM. The five overarching objectives of ANTAM are: i) to forge a common definition of minimum standards for sustainable agriculture; ii) to promote mutual recognition of testing results through development and adoption of harmonized region-wide testing codes and procedures; iii) to improve existing facilities of participations countries through capacity building programmes, seminars and site visits; iv) to reduce the social cost of production; and v) to facilitate intraregional trade.

During the field trip the group visited a factory of small machinery equipment and it witnessed a demonstration of power tillers in rice fields.



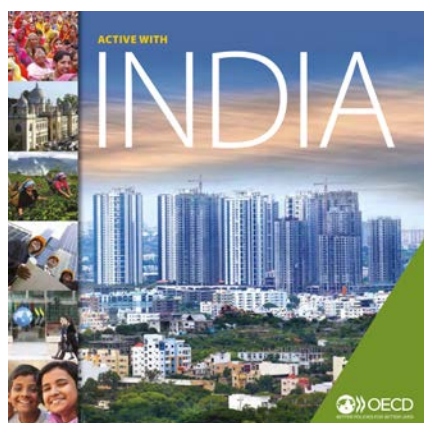
*Visit to a Tractor Manufacturer*



*Field Trip in Rice Fields  
tillage with a type of power tillers*

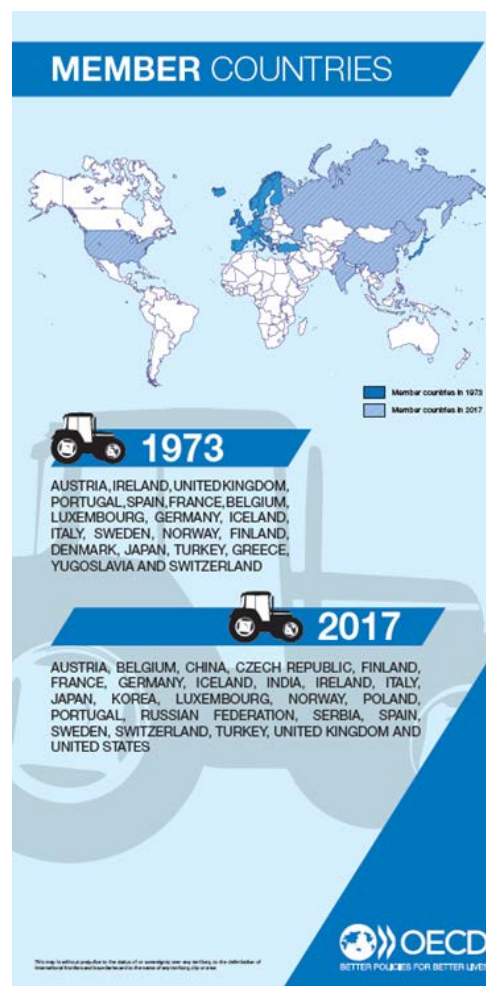
**India** joined the OECD Tractor Codes in 1988. Among other countries, India is a key partner of OECD, together with Indonesia and People's Republic of China as Asian countries.

### OECD Active with...



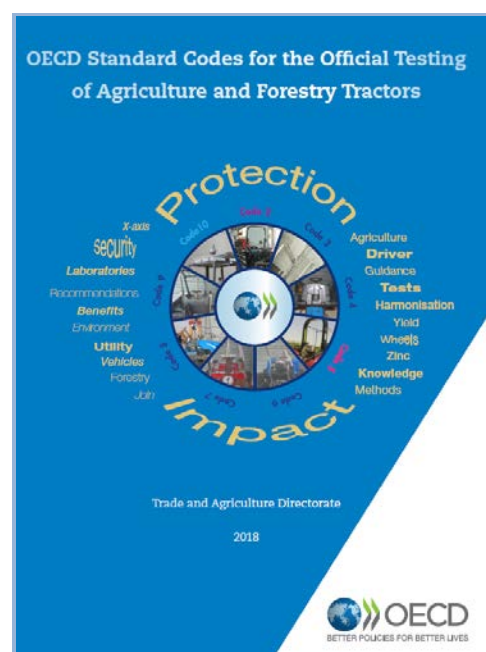
*"... The OECD is proud to have India as a key partner and is working closely with the Indian Authorities to advance socioeconomic development and well-being..."*

”Brochure available on the public website  
[www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)



The full text of the **OECD Tractor Codes** is available in the form of a paper brochure and can be found online at the following address:

[www.oecd.org/agriculture/tractors](http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/tractors)



## OECD Seed Schemes

Among the 61 Member countries, **five from Asia (India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Kyrgyzstan) currently participate in the OECD Seed Schemes.**

The *OECD Seed Schemes* provide an international framework for the certification of agricultural seed moving in international trade.

The Schemes were established in 1958, driven by a combination of factors including a fast-growing seed trade, regulatory harmonisation in Europe, the development of off-season production, the seed breeding and production potential of large exporting countries in America and Europe, and the support of private industry.

**There are seven agricultural Seed Schemes. They aim at encouraging the use of “quality-guaranteed” seed in participating countries.**

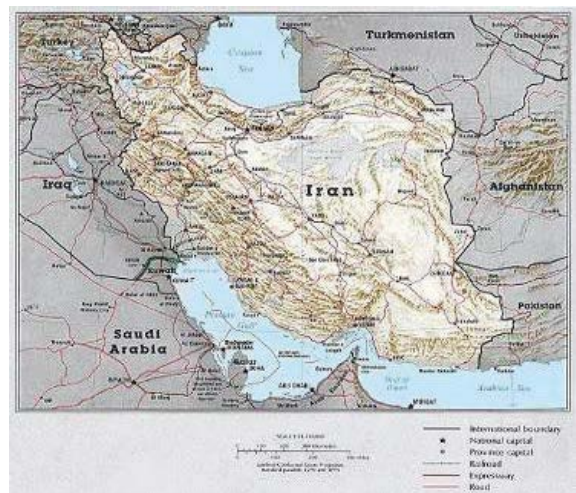
The Schemes authorise the use of labels and certificates for seed produced and processed for international trade according to agreed principles ensuring varietal identity and purity.

**Whenever possible OECD participates in the Asian Seed Congresses. The 2018 APSA Annual Congress will be held in Manila, Philippines.**

The Asia and Pacific Seed Association (APSA) was established in 1994, through the cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and DANIDA, with the aim of promoting quality seed production and marketing in the Asia and Pacific Region. Today, APSA is the largest regional seed

association in the world. It has strong links with international organizations such as FAO, CGIAR institutions, ISF, ISTA, UPOV, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Trade Organization, among others. APSA members include national seed associations, government agencies, public and private seed companies, and associate members.

**The Islamic Republic of Iran (I.R. Iran)** joined the OECD Seed Schemes in 1995. The country is currently a member of the Sugar Beet and Fodder Beet Seed Scheme. The I.R. Iran notified the OECD Secretariat of its wish to extend its participation in the OECD Cereal Seed Scheme and the Maize and Sorghum Seed Scheme. The extension of the Islamic Republic of Iran’s participation in the Seed Schemes to include the Cereals and Maize and Sorghum Seed Schemes was approved at the 2015 Annual Meeting.



### Country Profile

- **Population:** 78.393.084
- **Arable land:** 18.5 million ha
  - **Field Crop:** 12.2 million ha
    - 6.4 million ha — **Wheat**
    - 1.6 million ha — **Barley**
    - 420,000 ha — **Maize**
    - 565,000 ha — **Rice**
  - **Horticulture Crop:** 2.7 million ha

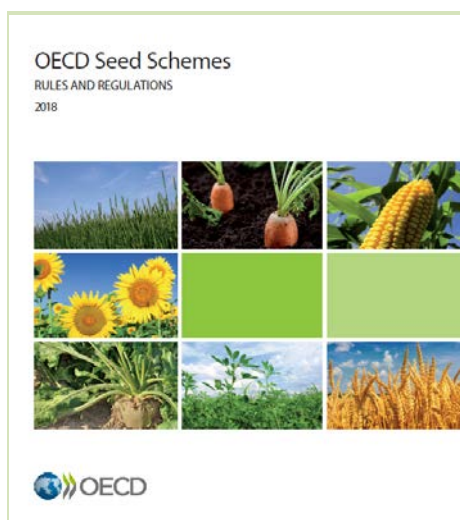


*Seed and Plant Certification and Registration Institute (SPCRI) Molecular markers laboratory (Left) and gel running in a molecular tools workshop of SPCRI conducted in that laboratory (Source: SPCRI)*

During the ISF (International Seed Federation) Annual Congress held in Uruguay in May 2016, the OECD Secretariat had a bilateral meeting with the **Chinese Seed Trade Association** as a follow up to the letter sent by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture to the OECD Secretary-General. They were informed about the advantages of membership in the Seed Schemes (market access, development of the national seed sector, multiplication abroad).

The OECD Secretariat also met with the representatives of the Seed Trade Association of Pakistan during the ISF Congress, and informed them about the different tools of the OECD Seed Schemes.

The 2018 version of the **OECD Seed Schemes Rules and Regulations** exists as a paper brochure and is available online at: [www.oecd.org/tad/seed](http://www.oecd.org/tad/seed)



The **World Seed Partnership** is a joint initiative between the **OECD Seed Schemes, UPOV, ISTA, FAO** and the **ISF** for establishing a "one-stop-shop" information platform for countries which wish to develop their formal seed sector, as well as for developing joint activities e.g. **capacity building** on demand.



**OECD Seed Schemes Website:**  
<http://www.oecd.org/tad/seed>

### **OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme**

**The main objectives of the *OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme* is to facilitate international trade through the harmonization and interpretation of marketing standards.**

A further objective of the Scheme is to facilitate mutual recognition of inspections by participating countries.

**The Fruit and Vegetables Scheme is well known for its explanatory brochures on standards, but is also involved in defining inspection procedures that are recognized in many countries, and in sponsoring training courses.**

<http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/fruit-vegetables/>

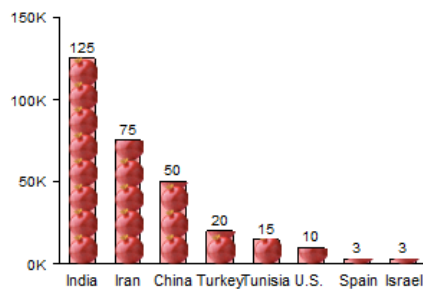


## Where do pomegranates grow?



Hectares pomegranates planted

ESTIMATES



### Ideal pomegranate growing conditions

- Best suited in mild temperate to subtropical weather
  - Favor semi-arid climate and are drought tolerant
  - Can be severely injured by temperatures below 12° F (-11.11° C)
- Thrive on wide range of soil types from calcareous, alkaline soil to deep, acidic loam

Source: DGCIIS Annual Report, AFEDA, Literature search, Internal estimates

10

## Pomegranates are hand harvested



12

Fruit should be handled with care in order to minimize scuffing or cracking (a strong bump may cause the fruit to split open).

Postharvest handling of pomegranate is similar to that of apple. After harvest, fruit are transported to a sorting facility in a timely manner. It is not necessary to pre-cool fruit after harvest, but fruit will benefit from being placed into cold storage as soon as possible after harvest.

**International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables**  
POMEGRANATE

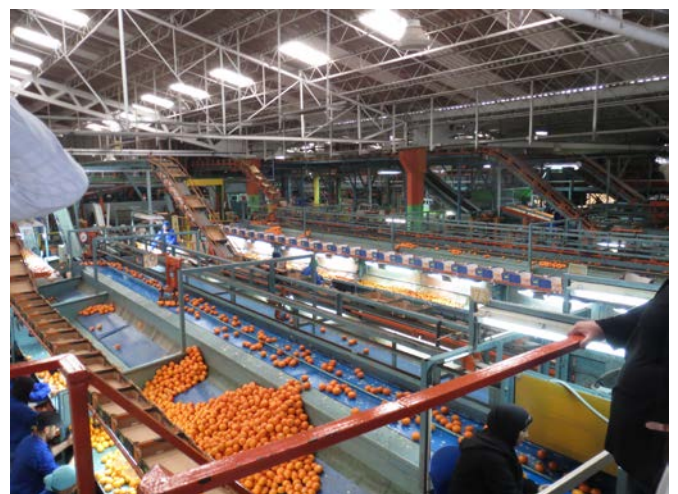
**Normes internationales pour les fruits et légumes**  
GRENADE



OECD  
TRADE AND AGRICULTURE  
ECHANGES ET AGRICULTURE

The Fruit and Vegetables Scheme also organises Peer Reviews with the goal of helping the reviewed country improve its quality inspection system.

In March 2017, the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development volunteered for a Peer Review of their fruit and vegetables quality inspection system. The Israeli inspectors of the Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) organised a series of inspection demonstrations and field trip visits that included the harvest, packing and export of citrus fruit, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, fresh herbs, flowers, avocados and peppers.



*Citrus packing house  
Mehadrin Netanya*



*Evaluation Team visiting a citrus packing house*

**Israel** and the Evaluation Team presented the draft Peer Review Report on Israel's Fruit and Vegetables Quality Inspection System at the 2017 Plenary Meeting of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme. The report was approved by the member countries.

The OECD Secretariat participated in the **ESCAP-OECD joint workshop on fruit and vegetables in Bangkok, Thailand** in November 2017. The organisers were OECD and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

The OECD and ESCAP organised a joint workshop on "international trade of fresh fruit and vegetables -the role of standards and quality inspection systems". The aim of the workshop was threefold: i) to contribute to capacity building and raise awareness of OECD work amongst fruit and vegetables producers around the world; ii) to attract potential new member countries to join the Scheme; and iii) to increase collaboration of OECD with other international organisations.



*OECD Delegates from Germany and Slovakia with the OECD Secretariat*



*Family photo*

The workshop attracted 41 participants from 12 countries (Cambodia, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Slovak Republic, Sri Lanka and Thailand), from academic, institutional and private sectors.

The participants expressed interest in the OECD explanatory brochures. The Secretariat will follow up with these countries for further collaboration.



*Dragon fruit*

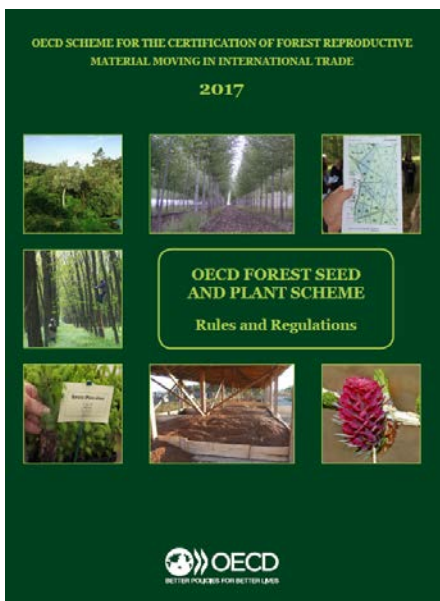
## OECD Forest Seed And Plant Scheme

*The OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme is a certification scheme to facilitate international trade in forest seed and plants.*

The Scheme aims at encouraging the production and use of Forest Reproductive Material that has been collected, processed, raised, labelled and distributed in a manner that ensures their trueness to name. The Scheme reflects the requirement by governments to have these materials correctly identified, with a view to minimising uncertainty in achieving successful afforestation.

Many countries, especially from the tropical areas, have expressed their interest in the OECD Forest Seed & Plant Scheme.

The **Rules of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme** are available in the form of a paper brochure, they include the list of participating countries, and the National Designated Authorities. The database on approved basic material as well as other information are available online at: [www.oecd.org/tad/forest](http://www.oecd.org/tad/forest)



Indonesia and Korea are interested in the Forest Scheme and participated as Observers in some Annual Meeting of the OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme. They informed the Meeting on the Forest Reproductive Material Certification System in their country.



**Membership of the OECD Codes and Schemes not only facilitates trade thanks to certification and harmonized practices for some key agricultural products, but also provides an opportunity to be part of the decision making process on rules to facilitate international trade.**

**OECD Contacts:**

**Mr. Csaba Gaspar**  
Programme Manager  
OECD Seed Schemes & Forest Scheme  
E-mail: [csaba.gaspar@oecd.org](mailto:csaba.gaspar@oecd.org)

**Mr. Jose Brambila Macias**  
Programme Manager  
OECD Tractor Codes  
& Fruit and Vegetables Scheme  
E-mail: [jose.brambila@oecd.org](mailto:jose.brambila@oecd.org)

[www.oecd.org/tad/codes](http://www.oecd.org/tad/codes)