



## Message from Angel Guría, Secretary-General of the OECD



The world economy is in its worst economic crisis in modern times. No country is immune, for while recession started in some developed countries, emerging markets and developing countries are also suffering from slower global activity.

The OECD is helping governments chart a way through the crisis with a strategic response designed to create a stronger, cleaner and fairer global economy for the future. Coherent, co-ordinated and determined policies have been launched around the world, and though we all hope for a speedy upturn, we are still at the beginning of the road to recovery. Much more work is needed.

The OECD Forum offers a chance for people from all parts of society to play their part in shaping our response to these global challenges. This year's event will discuss how we can make the world economy **stronger**, by strengthening corporate governance, avoiding protectionism, boosting development and fostering innovation and competition for sustainable growth. We will debate ways to make the global economy **cleaner** – not just by tackling the likes of corruption and tax abuse, but by better managing the environment, particularly fragile resources such as water, and confronting climate change. And we will explore how to make the world economy **fairer**, by tackling employment issues, education and health, and how to achieve a more balanced world economy.

Ministers from around the world and representatives of international organisations will join us in Paris for OECD Week, starting 22 June. But we will need your input.

This is why the OECD Forum has become such a vital part of OECD Week and a "must-go" event on the international calendar. For a decade, more than 10,000 policy makers, experts, business and trade unions and stake-holders have come to the Annual Forum to exchange ideas and experiences and play their part in shaping our responses to global challenges. Because the Forum takes place in conjunction with the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting, participants play a real role in influencing policy decisions. This interaction gives the Forum its unique strength.

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> OECD Forum, yet never before has the public's contribution to their policy discussions been so critical.

Many lessons are being drawn from this crisis, though few are as poignant as the need for people to work together in a fast changing world. I find this very encouraging, not least because co-operation is what OECD stands for.

Don't miss out on your chance to be part of this important debate! We look forward to welcoming you for OECD Week and forging real progress together towards solving the crisis and building a stronger, cleaner, fairer world economy.