Productivity, jobs, wellbeing: making infrastructure deliver

If done well, infrastructure can drive productivity growth, increase the well-being of citizens, generate jobs and economic activity where they are most needed, and help meet the challenges of climate change. Countless infrastructure initiatives have, however, failed to deliver on their promises, in terms of timing, cost and funding and integrity. Even with sufficient access to finance, much depends on the governance of infrastructure - the capacity to identify needs, analyse how to meet those needs, involve the relevant stakeholders at the right moment, and ensure that across the government the key decision-makers are working towards a common purpose. Governance failures seem to have led to a loss of confidence among citizens in public infrastructure policy – too expensive, too slow, too corrupt.

This meeting will look at good practices in key areas for making infrastructure deliver; such as infrastructure policy and planning, stakeholder participation, integrity, procurement, and institutional arrangements for multi-level investment projects. It will gather decision-makers covering relevant fields, professions, regions, the public and private sector; from centres of government, ministries of finance, regulators, investors, sub-national governments, cities, financial institutions and institutional investors to work together on new solutions that good governance of infrastructure can bring to today’s challenges.

The Forum will be followed, on 21 March, by the 10th Annual Network Meeting of Senior PPP and Infrastructure Officials.
2\textsuperscript{nd} OECD Forum on Governance of Infrastructure

DRAFT-AGENDA

20 March 2017
Paris, France

Chair: Mr. Gordon McKechnie, former Head, PFI and PPP Policy, HM Treasury, UK and Chair of the OECD Network of Senior PPP and Infrastructure Officials.

9:30 - 9:50 Opening session

- Welcome remarks by Mr. Rolf Alter, Director for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD
- Chairman’s introduction

9:50 - 11:00 Session 1: Infrastructure: why, for whom and where?

Infrastructure is back on the political agenda as a means by which to address multiple, but potentially contradictory, objectives. How can countries develop a coherent agenda for investments that weighs the costs and benefits soberly, uses evidence to drive decision-making, gives genuine voice to citizens and delivers efficient, resilient and sustainable infrastructure? This session will explore the political vision for infrastructure today, and the governance tools that are required to implement it.

Speakers:

- Minister Pedro Marques, Minister of Planning and Infrastructure, Ministry of Infrastructure, Portugal
- Mr. Parks Tau, President of the Global Network of Cities and Local and Regional Governments (UCLG)

Followed by an open discussion

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee

11:30 - 13:00 Session 2: Jobs and wellbeing - can infrastructure investment actually create jobs and secure wellbeing where it is most needed?

Using public works to create jobs has been around for centuries. In today’s context of persistent unemployment in many countries, the value of infrastructure in generating jobs has not been lost on leaders from across the political spectrum. How can we ensure that infrastructure projects deliver labour market benefits at a reasonable cost? How can public investment be directed towards the high unemployment regions where it can do the most good? What tools are available to promote job creation that goes beyond the construction phase? What lessons can be
learned from recent stimulus programmes? This session will focus on the job creation potential of infrastructure and, in particular, the rationale for targeting investment to economically disadvantaged areas.

Speakers:

- **Mr. Andres Rodriguez Pose**, Professor of Economic Geography at the London School of Economics
- **Mr. Alain Desruisseaux**, Director General of Policy at Infrastructure Canada

Followed by an open discussion

This session will be guest-chaired Ms. Claudia Serrano Madrid, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Chile to the OECD

### 13:00-14:30 Lunch

### 14:30-16:00 Session 3: Public investment in the public interest: Implementing standards for sustainable infrastructure governance

Infrastructure projects can be selected, designed and organised in such a way so as to promote special interests rather than the wider public interest of present and future generations. This can result from the ‘capture’ of infrastructure projects or systemic biases in the way evidence is considered and decisions are taken. A comprehensive risk- and evidence-based approach can ensure that infrastructure projects are selected and delivered in a way that benefits the society as a whole and in line with social, economic and environmental sustainability standards. What are the best mechanisms to protect infrastructure decisions from undue influence and short-termism? How can public decision-makers be held more accountable for their management and delivery of infrastructure projects? What instruments and mechanisms can help ensure balance among potentially competing objectives (value for money, affordability, environmental sustainability, social impact, present user need vs. projected future demand,...)? This session looks at the governance frameworks, standards and instruments to ensure that infrastructure investment is guided by a clear understanding of (present and future) public interest.

Speakers:

- **Ms. Alison Hoare**, Senior Researcher, Chatham House
- **Ms. Geneviève Cartier**, Professor at Faculty of Law, University of Sherbrooke, Quebec, and former Director of Research and Public Policy at the Charbonneau Commission
- **Ms. Shiho Sakai**, Director for International Negotiations Management Policy Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan

Followed by an open discussion
### 16:00-16:30  
**Coffee**

### 16:30-17:45  
**Session 4: Crowding in private financing to support a public vision for infrastructure**

If well planned, public and private investment can be complementary, with public investment leveraging or ‘crowding in’ private investment. Such a positive relation can increase the level of private investment while also increasing the impact of the use of public funds. At the same time, infrastructure plans include a multitude of projects with complex socio-economic objectives and with varying potential for cost recovery. Is there a risk that the ‘bankable projects’ crowd out the ‘good projects’? How can public administrations generate synergies between public and private investment? Has the governance of PPPs matured so that they now offer the best of both worlds? This session will discuss efforts to harness the capacities of the private sector to strengthen infrastructure design and delivery.

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Laurence Carter**, Senior Director for PPP, World Bank Group
- **Mr. Thomas Barrett**, Permanent Representative of the European Investment Bank and Minister of the European Union Delegation to the United States
- **Discussant: Mr. Iain Begg**, Professorial Research Fellow at the European Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science

*Followed by an open discussion*

### 17:45-18:00  
**Closing Session**

- **Mr. Rolf Alter**, Director for Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD
- **Chairman**

### 18:00  
**Cocktail for participants hosted by the OECD**
MEETING INFORMATION

Registration Form
All Delegates must complete the attached registration form and return it to the Secretariat (helene.leconte-lucas@oecd.org) ahead of the meeting.

Accommodations
Delegates are responsible for their own accommodation. Information on hotels close to the OECD at special rates and our online booking system can be found at: http://www.oecd.org/site/conferencecentre/hotels-close-to-oecd.htm

Meeting Location
The meeting will take place at the Conference Centre at OECD Headquarters – Château de la Muette – which is located at: 2, rue André Pascal in the 16th arrondissement (district) of Paris. The closest metro station is “La Muette” on line 9 or “Boulaivilliers” or “Henri Martin” on line C of the RER. More information on getting to the OECD can be found at: http://www.oecd.org/site/conferencecentre/gettingtotheoecd.htm

Security and Badges
Please be advised that OECD Headquarters is a secure complex. Badges can only be issued to registered Delegates, and a passport or national identity card is required in order to receive a badge. Delegates must go to the main entrance and pass through the security checkpoint in order to pick up badges. Please allow up to 15 minutes to complete these formalities.

Luncheon
Participants are kindly invited to a buffet luncheon on Monday, 20 March, in the Château de la Muette.

Reception
Participants are kindly invited to a cocktail reception on Monday 20 March after the Forum at the Expresso Café in the Conference Centre.

Simultaneous Translation
Simultaneous translation between English and French, the OECD’s two official languages, will be available throughout the meeting. Any delegation/participant wishing to have interpretation into or out of a language other than English or French is requested to notify the Secretariat (Infrastructureevent@oecd.org) at their earliest convenience. Please note that the costs of interpretation in a language other than English or French must be borne by the delegation requesting this service.

Wi-Fi Internet Access and Business Centre
The OECD Conference Centre features complimentary Wi-Fi Internet Access throughout its facilities. Internet access is available in the Espresso Café. There is also a Business Centre located in the Conference Centre offering complimentary desktop computers with standard Microsoft Office software, Internet connections and printers.

Contacts
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact: Infrastructureevent@oecd.org