



OECD Trento Centre for Local Development

## Spatial Productivity Lab

Getting to know the Team



### THE SPATIAL PRODUCTIVITY LAB

The Spatial Productivity Lab at the OECD Trento Centre contributes to the broader OECD work on productivity. It develops analysis around the concept of “spatial productivity” in co-ordination with the OECD Global Forum on Productivity. The work of the Spatial Productivity Lab focuses on mechanisms that support the catching up of regions and cities that are lagging behind the (national or global) productivity frontier. It assesses to what extent national productivity can be raised through national, regional and local policy measures, e.g. through better policies and governance arrangements that leverage agglomeration economies generated by cities beyond the city itself.

More on the Spatial Productivity Lab at <http://oe.cd/SPL>

### THE OECD TEAM



**Joaquim Oliveira Martins** is the Deputy Director of the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities. He was previously the Head of the OECD Regional Development Policy Division and supervised projects on *regional and urban economics, governance, regional statistics* and *well-being*. He was the Head of the OECD Structural Economic Statistics Division, where he focused on *Trade & Globalisation* studies, *Productivity measurement* and *Business statistics*. He is author of many academic articles and OECD publications.

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**Rudiger Ahrend** is the Head of the Economic Analysis, Statistics and Multi-level Governance Section in the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities. He has been supervising numerous projects on regional and urban development, including thematic research on productivity and growth in cities and regions and reviews of economic trends and policies in major metropolitan agglomerations. Prior to his work on regional and urban policies, he has worked as a Senior Economist in the OECD's Economic Department. He has published widely, both in academic journals and newspapers.

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**Alexander C. Lembcke** is an Economist and Policy Analyst in the OECD's Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Regions and Cities. His work considers the economic and social development in regions and cities, the growth of SMEs and the role that public policy can play in supporting them. He has (co-)authored many articles and reports including the recently launched OECD report “Productivity and Jobs in a Globalised World: (How) Can All Regions Benefit?”.

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**Alessandra Proto** is the Acting Head of the OECD Trento Centre for Local Development, based in Italy, where she has been working since its establishment in 2004. She supervises the OECD Trento Centre activities, including the Spatial Productivity Lab and the capacity building initiatives. Previously, as policy analyst, she managed numerous projects on capacity building and local development, developed thematic research and reviews including on culture, creative industries and local development.

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**Alexandra Tsvetkova** is an Economist and Policy Analyst at the OECD Trento Centre where she manages research and other activities of the Spatial Productivity Lab. Before joining the OECD, she was affiliated with the Ohio State University and George Mason University. Her research on drivers of local and regional growth in the US has appeared in a number of peer-reviewed academic journals.

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**Wessel Vermeulen** is a Junior Economist at the OECD Trento Centre where he conducts research and other activities for the Spatial Productivity Lab. Before joining the OECD, he was a lecturer at Newcastle University and Research fellow at Oxford University. His research spans issues in international trade and regional economics among others, and was published in various leading academic journals in Economics.

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