2021 OECD SME AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OUTLOOK:
“MEET THE AUTHORS”

Moderated by
Nadim Ahmad, Deputy Director, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship for SMEs, Regions and Cities

DESCRIPTION
SMEs, self-employed and entrepreneurs have been hard hit during the COVID-19 crisis. But despite the magnitude of the shock, available data point to vigorous business dynamism, sustained start-up creation, no major increase in bankruptcies. The crisis has also served as a catalyst for some forms of innovation and entrepreneurship in most countries. The 2021 OECD SME and Entrepreneurship Outlook provides new evidence on the critical role governments and their support packages have played in cushioning the blow. It also stresses that not all people, places and firms have been able to get support as needed, but those who did have performed better. In addition, the report explores through a forward-looking lens, how the crisis may have exacerbated vulnerabilities or revealed sources of resilience among SMEs and entrepreneurs, looking also at the structural policy responses to the crisis and efforts by governments to foster SME&E resilience for a more sustainable recovery.

OPENING
Martin Godel, Chair of the OECD Committee on SMEs and Entrepreneurship (CSMEE)

KEY MESSAGES
“On short-term impact and governments’ emergency responses”
Pierre-Alain Pionnier, Head of Section Productivity, Prices, PPPs, Labour and Business Statistics, OECD Statistics and Data Directorate

“On longer-term impact, structural shifts and recovery policies”
Sandrine Kergroach, Head of SMEs and Entrepreneurship Performance, Policies and Mainstreaming unit, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship for SMEs, Regions and Cities

DISCUSSION
Interventions from country delegates and stakeholders

CLOSING REMARKS
Nadim Ahmad, Deputy Director, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship for SMEs, Regions and Cities

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