The recovery of the Croatian economy and its convergence of income levels towards more advanced European countries will largely depend on the extent to which long-awaited structural reforms can successfully enhance the business landscape. Drawing on experiences from important global developments in capital markets, the OECD Capital Market Review of Croatia offers policy recommendations to improve the legal, regulatory and institutional framework for capital markets in a way that will foster a resilient and dynamic business environment, help realise the potential of Croatian corporations and give households better opportunities to diversify their long-term savings.

After a period of weak economic performance following the 2008 global financial crisis, Croatia had experienced strong economic growth over the five years up to 2019. Supported by ambitious reform initiatives, the country had been able to reduce its indebtedness and improve its public finances. However, as in other countries, the unprecedented economic shock caused by the COVID-19 crisis has disrupted this progress and resulted in a severe recession. In particular, many otherwise sound Croatian businesses are facing financial challenges caused by a sharp decline in revenues and tightened credit conditions.

Today, it is particularly important to ensure that the Croatian corporate sector has access to capital market financing in order to achieve a successful and sustainable recovery. Long-term market-based financing can help Croatian entrepreneurs reduce their reliance on short-term financing and match long-term investments with long-term patient capital. The analysis and reform proposals in the Review invite the Croatian authorities to consider reforms that will support further capital market development, with a view to supporting corporate investment, job creation and sustained economic growth.

We are pleased to invite you to the virtual launch event of the OECD Capital Market Review of Croatia 2021, in the presence of Mario Nava, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) of the European Commission; Greg Medcraft, Director of the OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs; and, Stjepan Ćuraj, State Secretary at the Croatian Ministry of Finance.
Registration

Registration will be required in order to receive the link to the event and your personal ID. Once registered, participants will receive meeting documentation in electronic format.

For more information, please contact: Ms. Anaísa Gonçalves at anaisa.goncalves@oecd.org

Technical specifications

Please note that the online meeting will be open one hour before its official starting time, and you are encouraged to log in early (at least 30 minutes before) to ensure sufficient time to be cleared into the meeting. You will receive a link to the event and your personal ID upon registration.

Once logged in, you will be led to a virtual waiting room and participants will be allowed into the Event’s virtual meeting manually one at a time. Please note that if there is a backlog of many people entering at the same time, it may take a while to approve your virtual presence in the meeting.

Once you have joined the virtual meeting, you are kindly requested to rename yourself as follows: COUNTRY or ORGANISATION – LAST NAME First name (e.g., OECD_MEDCRAFT Greg) in order to facilitate recognition. To change your Zoom name, please click on the icon “Participants” on the bottom of your screen, then select “More” and then “Rename”. Your name will always appear on top of the list.

Further logistical information will be sent to registered participants.
## DRAFT AGENDA
**11:00 (Central European Time)**
**Wednesday, 16 June 2021**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:00</td>
<td>Registration and log-in</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:15</td>
<td><strong>Opening remarks</strong></td>
<td>Mario Nava, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM), European Commission</td>
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<td>11:15 – 11:30</td>
<td><strong>Findings and recommendations</strong></td>
<td>Greg Medcraft, Director, OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs</td>
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<td>11:30 – 11:45</td>
<td><strong>Current situation in Croatian capital market and planned measures</strong></td>
<td>Stjepan Čuraj, State Secretary, Croatian Ministry of Finance</td>
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