

Fifth workshop of the OECD IPA Network

Investment promotion for a
sustainable and resilient COVID-19
recovery

Agenda

20-22 October 2020

OECD virtual workshop



■ Background

The OECD is working with investment promotion agencies (IPAs) to conduct analytical work and facilitate peer-learning in the area of investment promotion and facilitation. The **OECD IPA Network** brings together on a yearly basis senior IPA representatives and policymakers from OECD and partner countries to benefit from OECD expertise, share experience on topics of common interest and exchange on good practices.

The COVID-19 pandemic has provoked a worldwide health, economic and social crisis. The economic contraction, [projected drop in foreign direct investment](#) (FDI), changes to government policies and the pressure on public budgets are just some of the areas that have an impact on the strategies and activities of IPAs. They are at the forefront of investment promotion and facilitation, and have to continuously adapt since the beginning of the pandemic. Their roles and activities have to be optimised to meet the evolving priorities of both their governments and investors. In this context, international dialogue and peer-learning are all the more important in ensuring coordinated and informed responses to the crisis.

The fifth meeting of the OECD IPA Network will, for the first time, be fully virtual and spread across several days. Some sessions will be fully dedicated to IPAs and others will be organised jointly with other OECD events to bring the perspective of other regions and policy areas.

■ Objectives

The overall purpose of the workshop is to prepare IPAs to confront future challenges, including their responses to the COVID-19 crisis, ensuring their impact and effectiveness, and considering how they can adapt their strategies to best contribute to a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery. It will include the following:

- Session 1 (open) on **the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on investment promotion and facilitation: lessons learned and future perspectives** will build on earlier discussions and research (see [OECD Investment Promotion Agencies in the time of COVID-19](#)).
- Session 2 (by invitation) on **IPA monitoring and evaluation** will deepen the analysis and discussions held over the past years (see [Monitoring and evaluation: a brief guide for investment promotion agencies](#)), including its relevance to the COVID-19 context.
- Session 3 (by invitation) on **Strategic Foresight for IPAs** will aim to help practitioners use ideas about the future in a structured and systematic way to anticipate and better prepare for change. It will draw on the expertise of the [OECD Strategic Foresight Unit](#) and be adapted to the IPA context.
- A **concluding session** will discuss the way forward of the OECD IPA Network (by invitation).
- Broader sessions in the context of the **OECD Investment Committee**.

■ Participants

Workshop participants will include senior IPA representatives and investment policymakers from OECD and partner countries as well as representatives from the private sector and civil society. Such format will allow participants to benefit from an exchange of perspectives among specialists and conduct an evidence-based and forward-looking discussion. Some sessions will allow for wide participation while others will feature smaller groups of practitioners evolving in similar contexts.

■ Contact

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■ Website

www.oecd.org/investment/investment-promotion-and-facilitation.htm

■ Agenda (Central European Time – CET)

SESSION 1 – Open to the public

The impact of the COVID-19 crisis on investment promotion and facilitation: lessons learned and future perspectives

20 October 2020, 13h30-15h30 (CET)

Background

The dramatic economic contraction, the drop in FDI and the social crisis generated by the COVID-19 pandemic pose major challenges to IPAs and policymakers, who have revised their strategies and adapted their actions accordingly. The session will enable a discussion on the investment community's responses to the crisis and its future prospects by addressing the role of investment promotion and facilitation in the recovery, the evolving role of IPAs and their interactions with other players.

The session will draw some lessons since the webinar held in April 2020 with OECD IPAs and the policy note released shortly thereafter. The wide range of participants will bring perspectives from other regions and policy areas. The discussion will allow for an informed dialogue on the experience of IPAs and policymakers in creating resilient supply chains, mitigating the risk of divestments and declining FDI projects, adapting to new ways of working with rapid digitisation, adjusting prioritisation efforts towards increased sustainability, and focusing on investment climate improvements through policy advocacy.

Chair & moderator: **Jeroen Nijland**, Chair of the OECD IPA Network and Commissioner of the Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency

Introductory remarks

- **Ana Novik**, Head, Investment Division, OECD

Speakers

- **Winand Quaadvlieg**, Chair, Investment Committee, Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD
- **Seung-Hoon Shin**, Director-General, Invest Korea, KOTRA
- **Jorge Sequeira**, Managing Director, CINDE Costa Rica
- **Stefano Nigro**, Director, FDI Attraction Coordination, ICE – Italian Trade and Investment Agency
- **Michael Manocha**, Director, Investor Services, Invest in Canada
- **Tanita Sirisup**, Executive Director of International Affairs Division at the Thailand Board of Investment and Former Chair of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment

Interactive discussion

Technical sessions:

The plenary session of the OECD IPA Network meeting will be followed by more technical sessions providing an opportunity for IPAs to conduct focused peer-to-peer exchanges in smaller groups of practitioners.

SESSION 2 – By invitation*

IPA Monitoring & Evaluation (21 October 2020)

This session will focus on the main practical challenges in implementing effective monitoring and evaluation systems. It will build on the earlier analysis and discussions and focus on current experiences of IPAs in light of new challenges. It will also consider how COVID-19 has affected the IPAs' M&E needs and obligations and what the priorities are for the future.

SESSION 3 – By invitation*

Strategic foresight for IPA practitioners (22 October 2020)

This session will challenge participants on their expectations about the future, and invite them to consider ways in which the future might be different. It will aim to reframe and expand what is considered relevant for making resilient and flexible IPAs today, and identify options for new and different actions in the present.

CONCLUSION & WAY FORWARD – By invitation*

(22 October 2020)

This concluding session will allow participants to take stock of all sessions of the workshop and to discuss their ideas and priorities for the future, including those that could be addressed by the OECD IPA Network in 2021.

Note: * These sessions are open to IPA practitioners from the OECD and selected partner economies engaged in the OECD IPA Network 2020 Work Plan.