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## OECD Local Development Forum Webinar Social Vouchers: Innovative Tools for Social Inclusion and Local Development



29 November 2021



15.00-16.30 CEST (Paris Time)



Zoom

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[Registration](#) | [Contact](#)

Over the last 70 years, social vouchers have been developed in more than 40 countries, including 19 EU member states, for use by an estimated 80 million people worldwide.<sup>i</sup> Social vouchers are now widely recognised for their contribution to local economic development, well-being and social impact, and valued for the benefits they create such as better nutrition and access to goods and services; job creation and formalisation of work; increased tax revenues; and greener purchasing power. Social vouchers are increasingly seen as a viable solution for achieving specific social, economic and environmental goals, and their use is gaining momentum.

As countries begin to emerge from the COVID-19 crisis, national and local governments increasingly see social vouchers as an efficient way to stimulate recovery efforts via immediate consumption (e.g. consumption vouchers in Belgium) or target people and sectors that need them most (e.g. vouchers for informal workers in Brazil, culture vouchers in France). As we seek to build back better, how can the potential of social vouchers be more effectively leveraged to strengthen the recovery? This webinar will launch the **OECD report on [Social Vouchers: Innovative Tools for Social Inclusion and Local Development](#)**. It will explore how social vouchers have been and are being successfully deployed to meet the urgent needs created by the pandemic and examine what this success means for the use of social vouchers in the future.

**Moderator:** **Karen Maguire**, Head, Local Employment, Skills and Social Innovation Division / LEED Programme, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

**Scene setting:** ***Social vouchers: why and how are they used?***

**Amal Chevreau**, Policy Analyst, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

**Panel discussion:** ***Deep dives on local experiences with social vouchers in selected countries***

- **Rudi Delarue**, President, National Council for Labour, Belgium
- **Antonio Neto**, Chair, Central dos Sindicatos Brasileiros (CSB), Brazil
- **Vit Jasek**, Executive Director, Union of Employers' Associations, Czech Republic
- **Florin Jianu**, President, National Council for SMEs, Romania
- **Frédérique Lardet**, Member of Parliament, Deputy Mayor of Annecy and President of the communauté d'agglomération du Grand Annecy France
- Representative of Morocco (TBC)

**Q & A and Closing**

#### About CFE

The **OECD's Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE)** provides comparative statistics, analysis and capacity building for local and national actors to work together to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises, promote inclusive and sustainable regions and cities, boost local job creation, and support sound tourism policies.

The mission of the **Local Employment and Economic Development programme (LEED)** is to build vibrant communities with more and better quality jobs for all. Since 1982, the Programme has been supporting national and local governments through tailored reviews and capacity building activities, as well as research and good practice reports on innovative approaches to local development.

This event is part of the **OECD Local Development Forum** is a network of thousands of individuals worldwide, united by their shared commitment to making their communities more resilient, inclusive and sustainable. It counts members from over 70 countries, representing city, regional and national governments, employment and training agencies, chambers of commerce, social innovators, start-ups, businesses and NGOs. The Local Development Forum is a place for peer learning and dissemination of local innovations and best practices at the global level.

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<sup>i</sup> Source: Social Vouchers International Association