

Place-based policies for the future: **Workshop #6**

What place-based policies for the future?

19 October 2023 | Paris



Place-based policies for the future

Workshop 6

What place-based policies for the future?

■ Background

Governments are challenged to address both long-term megatrends and short-term shocks. Reaching the objectives of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, for example, will require tailoring actions and investments to the needs and realities of different regions, cities, and rural areas, as mitigation and adaptation challenges and opportunities differ sharply across places. Addressing persistent territorial inequalities and demographic challenges, which pose long-term risks for social cohesion is also moving up the agenda for governments at all levels. Existing inequalities may deepen in the future as a result of these megatrends in addition to future shocks exposing new fault lines. Leaving these challenges unaddressed now is likely to lead to significantly higher remedial costs in the future.

A discussion on future-proofing place-based policies requires properly identifying their scope, scale, and relevance in the current and future context. Identifying which problems to solve using place-based policies, and which to leave to other policy instruments is important for defining the scope of place-based interventions. Relatedly, properly positioning place-based policies within the broader framework of horizontal and sectoral policies is critical for policy coherence and efficiency. Such policies should be developed to build effective governance structures, institutional capacity, and confidence in policymaking.

The scope and scale of public goods provided by place-based policies must be discussed. Monitoring the effectiveness of place-based policies is vital to improve their quality and accountability. Identifying synergies among place-based policies and other structural public action to manage the transition towards greener and more digital societies is of high importance so to implement relevant incentives and limit resistance to change from the local communities who consider themselves as the losers of the megatrends.

■ Key topics

Based on the conclusions reached from the previous seminars in the series, the concluding seminar could discuss key questions including:

- How can policymakers decide when place-based policies are appropriate?
- How can place-based policies anticipate and respond to long-term megatrends while still being sensitive to short-term shocks that may differ across regions and localities?
- How can place-based policies help managing the transition towards greener and more digital societies and include incentives to address resistance to change?
- Where should place-based policies head next?

■ Venue

Room E, OECD Headquarters, Paris

The OECD Headquarters are situated at 2 rue André Pascal, 752016 Paris. The following link provides various transport options: <https://www.oecd.org/site/conferencecentre/gettingtotheoecd.htm>

Security arrangements are tight around the OECD complex. Participants will need to be registered for the meeting to obtain access to the conference centre (security badge). There is a security check outside the Conference Centre where participants must show a QR pass and will be given a badge (sent out by email to registered participants and can be in either printed form or on a smart phone). **Participants will also need to show some form of ID.**

Agenda

[Central European Time]

19 October 2023

9.00-9.30

Welcome

9.30-9.50

Opening remarks

Nadim Ahmad, Deputy Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD

Peter Berkowitz, Director for Policy, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

9.50-11.00

What place-based policies for the future? An EU perspective

MODERATOR

Dorothee Allain-Dupré, Head of Regional Development and Multi-Level Governance Division, CFE, OECD

9.50-10.20

SCENE SETTER

Peter Berkowitz, Director for Policy, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

10.20-11.00

REACTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Princesa de Asturias Chair & Professor of Economic Geography at the London School of Economics

Peter Wostner, Senior Advisor and Editor, National Productivity Report at the Institute for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development, Slovenia

Franziska Sielker, Professor of Urban and Rural Research, TU Wien and Affiliated Professor, Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge

Piotr Zuber, Faculty of Geography and Regional Studies, University of Warsaw, and Adviser and former Director of the Department of Structural Policy Coordination, Ministry of Economic Development, Poland

11.00-11.30

Coffee break

11.30-12.50

Open discussion with participants

13.00-14.30

Lunch break, Restaurant de Nations (OECD headquarters)

14:30-15.40

Place-based policies for inclusive economic development

MODERATOR

Rudiger Ahrend, Head of Economic Analysis, Data and Statistics Division, CFE, OECD

14.30-15.00

SCENE SETTER

Amy Glasmeier, Professor of Economic Geography and Regional Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

15.00-15.40

REACTIONS AND ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Jed Kolko, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce

Flavia Terribile, Senior Advisor, Programming, Evaluation and Analysis Unit of the Presidency of Italy's Council of Ministers

Roberta Capello, Professor of Regional and Urban Economics, Politecnico di Milano

Tony Venables, Professor and Research Director of The Productivity Institute, University of Manchester and Senior Research Fellow, University of Oxford

15.40-16.10

Coffee break

16.10-17.30

Open discussion with participants

17.30-17.45

Summary and closing remarks

Nadim Ahmad, Deputy Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD

Peter Berkowitz, Director for Policy, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

■ About the workshops

This workshop is in a series of six EC-OECD workshops on “Place-Based Policies for the Future”.

The six workshops consider place-based policies from the following angles: how place-based policies have evolved; the articulation of place-based policies against other policymaking frameworks; how place-based policies can address current and future societal problems; policy design, measurement and evaluation; governance and coordination; and, what place-based policies are needed for the future.

The workshops will result in a series of papers and a summary report on future directions for place-based policies. This work will ultimately be relevant for policymakers at all levels of government who are interested in improving the design and implementation of place-based policies to contribute to equitable and sustainable economic futures.

The OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities 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.

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