Putting people’s well-being at the top of the agenda

Ensuring that recovery and reconstruction strategies put people first

25 November 2020
14:00-15:30 (CET)
Virtual high-level roundtable

Putting people and their well-being at the centre of public policy has been an OECD priority for several years. A number of governments are also taking more people-centred approaches and focusing on how well-being can improve policy design, decision-making and delivery. COVID-19 is reshaping our world and affecting each and everyone’s well-being across all dimensions, from health and financial security to social relations and trust in others and in institutions. The crisis is also drawing attention to the many socio-economic divides fracturing of our societies, and deepening these divides by hitting the most vulnerable hardest.

There has never been a more important time to create the OECD Centre on Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity (WISE) to continue putting people’s well-being at the top of the agenda. Ensuring that better lives for all, both now and in the future, remain at the heart of COVID-19 response and recovery strategies, should be our main priority. WISE aims to work hand-in-hand with governments, businesses, foundations and civil society to support them in achieving their mandates. WISE’s mission includes strengthening the measurement of well-being, inequalities, inclusion and sustainability, as well as better understanding the impact that policies and business actions have on people’s lives today, and on the sustainability of well-being over time.

This virtual high-level roundtable will bring together the OECD Secretary-General, Ministers and Heads of Foundations who have integrated well-being as a central part of their mandate and activities. They will discuss how to ensure that recovery and reconstruction strategies put people’s well-being and inclusion at the centre.

The event will be open to all, including media, civil society, policy professionals, academics, statisticians, and others interested in this important agenda.

**Agenda**

14:00 Opening remarks by Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General

14:10 Roundtable discussion on “How to ensure that recovery and reconstruction strategies put people’s well-being and inclusion at the centre”, moderated by Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, OECD Deputy Secretary-General

Invited speakers include:

Aino-Kaisa Pekonen, Minister of Social Affairs and Health & Saila Ruuth, State Secretary to the Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Finland

Hon Mona Fortier, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance, Canada

Hon Grant Robertson, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, New Zealand (pre-recorded video)

Olivia Grégoire, Minister of State for the Social, Inclusive and Responsible Economy, attached to the Minister of the Economy, Finance and the Recovery, France

Her Royal Highness Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands

Martin Abregu, Vice President for International Programs, Ford Foundation

15:30 End of event