



Launch of the OECD Observatory on Social Mobility and Equal Opportunity

25 November 2022

11:30-14:00 (CET)

Virtual launch

Over the past fifteen years, the OECD has collected a significant body of evidence on the extent and drivers of inequalities, social mobility and equal opportunity, including policy responses on how to tackle these issues. This evidence has shown how reducing inequalities can be highly beneficial for society as a whole.

To capitalise on these lessons and address existing information gaps, the OECD is launching an Observatory on Social Mobility and Equal Opportunity. The Observatory will push forward the OECD's work on these key topics, by collecting new data, discussing new policy options and analysing the role played by the civil society and the private sector.

During the launch event, the OECD Secretary-General will provide an opening keynote address exploring the issues of social mobility and equal opportunity in the context of the recovery and ongoing megatrends, and will introduce the Observatory and the new OECD hub on social mobility and equal opportunity. The keynote will be followed by an intervention by a representative from Youthwise, the OECD's Youth Advisory Board, who will provide insights into what youth see as priorities for the agenda on equal opportunities. There will then be a high-level roundtable with policy makers and key civil society stakeholders on how to promote social mobility and equal opportunity. In a first round of interventions, panellists will be invited to provide insights from their policy and/or research experience, focusing on the following questions:

- What are the key challenges to promoting social mobility in the years to come?
- What policies and interventions should be prioritised to foster social mobility and equality of opportunity in the post-COVID-19 recovery? What policies and interventions are being discussed in your country?
- What interventions do we need to mainstream equality and anti-discrimination in our policies?

While in a second round, panellists will be invited to respond to questions from participants and the moderator, and comment on what other panellists have shared.

The roundtable will be followed by an expert workshop focused on sharing research experience and innovations from around the world.

To register to attend this event via Zoom, please click [here](#).

Preliminary Agenda

Presentation of the Observatory and high-level roundtable

- 11:30-11:40 Opening remarks and presentation of the Observatory by the OECD Secretary-General **Mathias Cormann**
- 11:40-11:45 Intervention by **Michael Bakare**, Philosophy, Politics and Economics Student, and Representative of Youthwise, the OECD's Youth Advisory Board
- 11:45-12:45 Roundtable discussion on the key challenges to promoting social mobility in the years to come moderated by **Romina Boarini**, OECD Director of the Centre for Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity

Invited speakers include:

Congresswoman **Sara Jacobs**, US Representative and Member of the Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth (pre-recorded video)

Barbara Kauffmann, Director for Employment, Social Government, Analysis, European Commission

Patrick Bussière, Director, Social Research Division, Employment and Social Development Canada and Chair of the OECD Working Party on Social Policy

Camille Putois, Chief Executive Officer, Business for Inclusive Growth (B4IG) Coalition

Michelle Holder, Professor of Economics at City University of New York and former President of the Washington Centre for Equitable Growth

Atje Drexler, Senior Vice President, Inequality, Peace, Global Issues of the Robert Bosch foundation

12:45-13:00 Short break

Workshop on “Measuring social mobility and equal opportunities: how innovative data and techniques can provide new evidence”

13:00-13:10 **Holly Bathgate**, Lead Analyst, Integrated Data Analysis, UK Office for National Statistics: *Why students from poorer backgrounds go on to earn less than their peers: evidence from the Longitudinal Educational Outcomes dataset*

13:10-13:20 **Francisco Meneses**, Senior Researcher, The Chilean Atlas de Oportunidades: *Tracking intergenerational mobility by combining large surveys with administrative data*

13:20-14:00 Roundtable discussing methodological issues related to new advances in data and techniques, with a focus on what it means for cross-country comparisons, chaired by **Nadim Ahmad**, OECD Deputy Director of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

Invited panelists include:

Béatrice d'Hombres, Researcher & Policy Analyst, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Elena Costas, Member of the Expert Group, Atlas de Oportunidades Spain and Founding Partner, Knowledge Sharing Network

Miles Corak, Professor of Economics, The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Paolo Acciari, Head of Unit, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Italy

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