



OECD Workshop on “Why Intersectionality Matters to Policy”

Friday 1 December 2023
13:00-14:30 CET

Intersectional approaches have made a significant contribution to the analysis of inequalities and discrimination, notably by providing a deeper understanding of the lived experience of vulnerable populations. Yet, while the benefits of these approaches are well understood in some circles, their potential contribution to policy-making may be broader still with further important lessons remaining to be drawn. This workshop will seek to build the policy case for intersectional approaches by exploring the use and value of these approaches as a tool for social policy. In order to do so, it will highlight the frameworks and practices through which governments and civil society organisations are applying intersectional approaches. It will also look to define the agenda for future research on this important topic by identifying the key constraints encountered when applying intersectional approaches and challenges to be addressed.

Organised under the umbrella of the [OECD Observatory on Social Mobility and Equal Opportunity](#), the workshop “*Why intersectionality matters to policy*” constitutes the first conversation on intersectional policy-making convened by the OECD. Prepared in collaboration with the [Robert Bosch Stiftung](#) and the support of the [Open Society Foundations’ Global Justice and Intersectionality team](#), it will feature two roundtable discussions bringing together experts from OECD member-countries, the European Commission, civil society organisations and partner foundations. The aim of the workshop is to raise awareness among OECD members about intersectional approaches, based on examples from countries and civil society organisations that are pioneering these types of approaches. In doing so, it also seeks to enable an open and inclusive discussion on how the design, planning and outcomes of social policy can be improved by better connecting policies and practices to the experiences of marginalised individuals and communities.

The event will be held in the margins of the Fall 2023 meeting of the *OECD Working Party on Social Policy* and will be open to Delegates to the Working Party as well as to OECD staff and country delegations.

Agenda

- 13:00-13:03 Welcoming by **Romina Boarini**, Director of the OECD WISE Centre
- 13:03-13:15 Keynote speech by **Peter Flegel**, Exec. Director of the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat, Canada
- 13:15-13:50 1st Roundtable Discussion: ***Intersectional Approaches in Social Policy - What Is Being Done?***
- **Jennifer Burnszynski**, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Human Services Policy – Department of Health and Human Services, United States of America
 - **Yafit Alfandari**, Senior Director – Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel
 - **Sarah Chander**, Board Member – Systemic Justice
 - **Piyumi Samaraweera**, Programme Director – CREA
- 13:50-14:25 2nd Roundtable Discussion: ***The Road Ahead - What Are the Main Challenges to Address?***
- **Nicolas Marugan**, Deputy-Director General – Ministry of Equality, Spain
 - **Tanja Florath**, Policy Officer – DG JUSTICE, European Commission
 - **Ángela Franco-Calderón**, Professor – Universidad del Valle, Colombia
 - **Sachini Perera**, Executive Coordinator – RESURJ
- 14:25-14:30 Closing remarks by **Patrick Bussière**, Senior Director ESDC Canada and outgoing Chair of the OECD Working Party on Social Policy, and **Romina Boarini**, Director of the OECD WISE Centre

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