

# *I am* **THE FUTURE OF WORK** A PEOPLE POWERED INITIATIVE

**The future of work is now.**  
Our actions today are shaping tomorrow's world of work. The OECD wants to contribute to a positive and inclusive transition to the future of work.

Digitalisation and globalisation are raising fundamental questions about jobs and life. What skills do we need to find a job? Will we always have jobs? Will those jobs offer good wages and safe working conditions? How will we transition in and out of jobs at different moments of our lives? Are workers losing their bargaining power? How is climate change reshaping industries?

The OECD has launched the *I am the Future of Work* campaign to listen to and better understand people's views and ideas for the future of work.

The website [oe.cd/fow](https://oe.cd/fow) presents portraits and testimonies collected by photojournalists of Agence MYOP from people around the world, and offers a platform to citizens who wish to take part in the debate around on-going transformations in the world of work.

This new OECD initiative revolves around four priority areas:

- the impact of automation and AI
- evolving skills needs
- workers' representation and social protection
- job quality

## **Are we ready ?**

Everyone has a role to play in shaping the solutions that will affect their future. Through this campaign, the OECD is committed to listening to these voices and amplifying them in decision-making processes.

Together, we can take action to reduce inequality in the world of work and build better lives for all.

**Join the conversation!**  
[oe.cd/fow](https://oe.cd/fow)

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A selection of copyright-free photos are available to journalists upon request.

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## Social protection for all

**SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

In more than half of G20 countries, most self-employed have **no access to unemployment benefits**



and **37%** risk not receiving **health** benefits



More people are in “non-standard” jobs: they work part-time, have temporary contracts, or are self-employed, including as “gig” workers. These kinds of workers are less likely to benefit from many labour law protections, as these systems are based people having a stable job with a single employer. Social protection systems need to catch up with these new forms of work.

## The skills we need

**DISADVANTAGED ADULTS AREN'T RECEIVING ENOUGH TRAINING**



% of adults participating in training (OECD)

Category	Low	Medium & High
Skill level	~20%	~55%
Age	54+	prime age (25-53)
Employment status	unemployed	employed
Income	low	medium & high

Jobs that do not exist today will require skills not yet even identified, which requires changes to how we learn throughout our lives. Educational systems need to catch up with the future of work, as low-skilled, the unemployed and those with lower incomes are the least likely to receive training.

## Tech is reshaping our work

**JOB AUTOMATION**

**14%** of jobs in OECD countries are highly automatable  
**32%** could face substantial changes in how they are carried out



Routine tasks that were traditionally done by people are increasingly being carried out by machines, while – due to artificial intelligence and ever-increasing computing power – more complex tasks are also becoming automated. Many jobs being created are in digitally intensive sectors and new roles are not the same, either in kind or quality, as the jobs that are disappearing.

## What makes a good job

**NON-STANDARD WORK**

on average in the OECD,

**1 in 6** workers is **self-employed**



and

**1 in 8** employees is on a **temporary contract**



A job's quality is determined by its wages, stability and working conditions. Digitalisation has brought benefits but improving job numbers are hiding worsening working conditions and prospects, especially for youth and low-skilled workers. Although men are being hit harder by these changes, women's job prospects and working conditions are still worse.

