

"REGIONAL TRADE INTEGRATION AND PRODUCTIVITY"

18 April 2018

Intercontinental Hotel San Jose, Costa Rica



CONTEXT

Slow and diverging productivity growth is a matter of concern in most Latin American and Caribbean countries, as they have failed to find solid foundations for sustained long-run economic growth.

Governments are therefore working on policy reforms, including measures to deepen regional trade integration, which plays an important role in productivity growth. Latin America and the Caribbean underperforms in intraregional trade with respect to other regions, and thus there is policy space to increase productivity increase through deeper integration.

The upcoming Ministerial Summit in Costa Rica will gather researchers and policymakers to engage in substantive discussions on how regional trade integration can boost productivity growth, with the aim of learning from best practices and frontier research on the matter through knowledge-sharing.

The event is organised by the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica, the OECD and the World Bank.

DATE

18 April 2018

VENUE

Hotel Intercontinental, San José, Costa Rica.

REGISTRATION

http://www.productivitysummitlac18.cr/

For any questions, please contact productivity@oecd.org

DRAFT AGENDA

8:15 – 9:00 Registration and welcome coffee

9:00 - 10:00 Welcome remarks

- Luis Guillermo Solís (President of Costa Rica)
- Angel Gurría (Secretary-General, OECD)
- Jorge Familiar (Vice President of the World Bank for Latin America and the Caribbean)

10:00 - 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 - 11:15 Keynote Discussion: Pro-productivity Models of Regional Integration

- Andrés Rodríguez-Clare (Professor at University of California, Berkeley and Research Associate at the NBER)
- Alvaro Santos Pereira (Acting Chief Economist, OECD)

11:15 – 12:30 Plenary Session: High-level Policy panel

What kind of model would be more efficient for boosting regional trade integration and productivity in Latin America and the Caribbean?

Moderator: Eduardo Ulibarri (Journalist)

- William Maloney (Chief Economist, World Bank)
- Melvin Enrique Redondo (Secretary General, SIECA)
- Andreas Schaal (Director, OECD)

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

14:15 - 15:45 Parallel Sessions 1

Session 1A **Regulation, Distortions and Misallocation** 14:15 - 14:20 Chair: María del Rocío Ruiz Chávez (Deputy Secretary of Competitiveness and Normativity, Mexico) Setting the scene: Chiara Criscuolo (Head of Division, OECD) 14:20 - 14:45 R. Fattal: "Entry barriers, misallocation, and the size distribution of firms", presented by Roberto Fattal (Economist, World Bank) 14:45 - 15:10 A. Alfaro and J. Garita: "Misallocation and productivity in Costa Rica", presented by Alonso **Alfaro** (Researcher, Central Bank of Costa Rica and Professor, Universidad de Costa Rica) 15:10 - 15:35 F. Misch and C. Saborowski: "Reaping productivity gains from reducing resource misallocation: Evidence from Mexico", presented by **Florian Misch** (Economist, IMF) 15:35 – 15:45 General discussion Session 1B Trade Facilitation and Integration in GVCs 14:15 - 14:20 Chair: Julio Dougherty (Vice-Minister of Economy and Commerce, Guatemala) **Setting the scene: Francisco Monge** (Director, Ministry of Foreign Trade Costa Rica) 14:20 - 14:45 E. Moïsé, D. Flaig and S. Sorescu: "Economy-wide impacts of trade facilitation: A metro model

- simulation", presented by **Evdokia Moïsé** (Senior Trade Policy Analyst, OECD)
- 14:45 15:10 G. López Noria: "The Impact of NAFTA on total factor productivity: Evidence from the Mexican automobile industry", presented by **Gabriela López Noria** (Economist, Bank of Mexico)
- **15:10 15:35** E. Espinoza: "Trade facilitation in Central America: Actions and strategies after Bali", presented by **Eduardo Espinoza** (Director, SIECA)
- 15:35 15:45 General discussion

15:45- 16:15 Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:45 Parallel Sessions 2

Session 2A Productivity Spillovers from FDI

- **16:15 16:20** Chair: Geannina Dinarte Romero (Minister of Economy, Industry and Commerce, Costa Rica) Setting the scene: Patrick Lenain (Assistant Director, OECD)
- 16:20 16:45 M. Di Ubaldo, M. Lawless and I. Siedschlag: "Productivity spillovers from multinational activity to indigenous firms in Ireland", presented by Iulia Siedschlag (Associate Research Professor, ESRI)
- 16:45 17:10 C. Sandoval, F. Monge, A. Alfaro and T. Vargas: "FDI spillovers in Costa Rica: Boosting local productivity through backward linkages", presented by **Catalina Sandoval** (Economic Analyst, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica)
- 17:10 17:35 J. M. Arnold, B. Javorcik, M. Lipscomb and A. Mattoo: "Services reform and manufacturing performance: Evidence from India", presented by **Jens Matthias Arnold** (Senior Economist, OECD)

17:35 – 17:45 **General discussion**

Session 2B Firm Capabilities, Management and Productivity

- 16:15 16:20 Chair: Luis Fernando Mejía (Director, National Department of Planning Colombia)

 Setting the scene: Paulo Guilherme Correa (Practice Manager, World Bank)
- 16:20 16:45 E. Bitran: "Firm capabilities, business innovation and productivity growth: Lessons from Chile", presented by **Eduardo Bitran** (Professor, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez former Vice President of the Chilean Economic Development Agency Corfo)
- 16:45 17:10 D. Andrews, G. Nicoletti and C. Timiliotis: "Going digital: What determines technology diffusion among firms?", presented by **Giuseppe Nicoletti** (Head of Division, OECD)
- 17:10 17:35 L. lacovone and M. Pereira-Lopez: "Management practices as drivers of innovation: New evidence from Mexico", presented by **Leonardo lacovone** (Senior Economist, World Bank)

17:35 – 17:45 General discussion

17:45 – 18:45 Closing Plenary: Main Takeways and Next Steps

Chair: Alexander Mora (Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica)

- María del Rocío Ruiz Chávez (Deputy Secretary of Competitiveness and Normativity, Mexico)
- Julio Dougherty (Vice-Minister of Economy and Commerce, Guatemala)
- Geannina Dinarte Romero (Minister of Economy, Industry and Commerce, Costa Rica)
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