

Second OECD/Ford Foundation Workshop

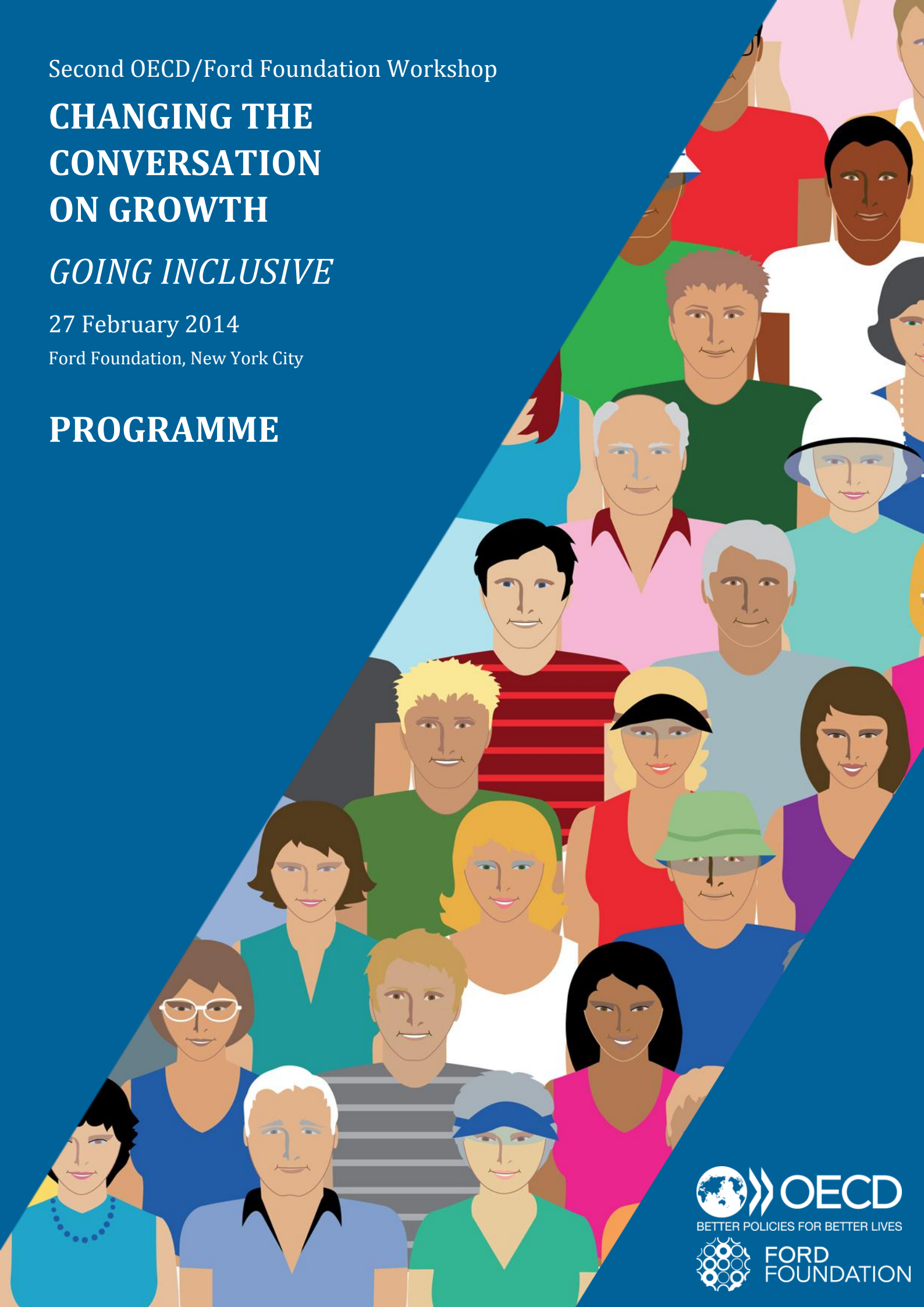
CHANGING THE CONVERSATION ON GROWTH

GOING INCLUSIVE

27 February 2014

Ford Foundation, New York City

PROGRAMME



SECOND OECD/FORD FOUNDATION WORKSHOP

CHANGING THE CONVERSATION ON GROWTH *GOING INCLUSIVE*

THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2014

FORD FOUNDATION
320 E. 43RD ST. NEW YORK, NY 10017

Economic growth should deliver better living standards for all, and increased prosperity must be accompanied by better social outcomes and well-being. Therefore, the benefits of stronger growth should be shared more evenly in society. Together, with the right tools and policies, we can make it happen.

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General

Leaders from across the world are searching for proven, evidenced-based approaches to rising poverty and inequality, and we hope this project can help point the way toward promising solutions. By working together, we can build a smarter approach to growth that taps the potential of everyone to contribute to society and share more equitably in its gains. That will strengthen all of us.

Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation

CHANGING THE CONVERSATION ON GROWTH GOING INCLUSIVE

The World is Calling for Change!

The OECD and Ford are ready to lead the conversation by identifying the main elements of inclusive growth, so that societies may drive progress and pave inclusive ways forward.

There are more than 200 million people out of work worldwide, and poverty continues to affect millions more. In many countries, the gap between rich and poor is widening and youth unemployment is soaring, while in others granting access to basic services to all remains a challenge. Countless numbers of people are experiencing low levels of life satisfaction, and are missing out on opportunities to start a fulfilling and prosperous life. They are also losing confidence in the ability of policymakers to respond to their needs and demands.

The socio-economic fallout from the financial crisis has exacerbated many of these trends, showing that “how”, not only “by how much” countries grow, and whether this growth translates into tangible benefits for citizens today and in the future, are important policy questions. This calls for changing the conversation on growth focusing on the drivers and policy levers to make growth more inclusive.

Supported by the Ford Foundation, the **OECD Inclusive Growth Initiative** was launched in response to rising inequalities and persistent unemployment, which can threaten long-term growth, political and economic stability, and weaken social contracts and welfare. Its ultimate objective is to inform policy making, by identifying trade-offs and synergies among the various policy instruments that can be deployed for inclusive growth. It will reflect the needs, special conditions and experiences of advanced, emerging-market and developing economies by engaging decision-makers and stakeholders at national, regional and city levels.

This Workshop “**Changing the Conversation on Growth: Going Inclusive**” will shed further light on the growth-inequality nexus, discuss policy instruments to simultaneously drive growth and inclusiveness, and address implementation challenges by looking at the role of cities as crucial actors of change. The workshop will seek to build on the first OECD/Ford Workshop, Inclusive Growth for Shared Prosperity, which took place on the 3rd of April 2013 in Paris and focused on the key elements of a policy-relevant concept of Inclusive Growth.

8:30-9:00 **REGISTRATION/COFFEE**
Ford Foundation, 320 E. 43rd St. New York, NY 10017

9:00-9:30 **WELCOME REMARKS**

- **Darren Walker**, President, Ford Foundation
- **Angel Gurría**, Secretary-General, OECD

9:30-11:00 **SESSION I: WHY INCLUSIVENESS MATTERS FOR GROWTH**
Moderator: **Zeinab Badawi**, Presenter, World News Tonight, BBC

In the wake of the global crisis, a debate has emerged on the limits of growing unequally for resilient and prosperous societies. This session will discuss the importance of putting inclusiveness at the centre of the policy debate on growth by building on the OECD Inclusive Growth Initiative, and glean insight from recent examples in developing and emerging economies, in particular in Latin America and Asia.

- Why is inclusiveness important for growth? How should the costs of unequal growth be assessed and where should their limits be drawn?
- Can inclusion enhance performance and deliver better outcomes than conventional policies that ignore the distributive aspects of growth?
- What are the key aspects of well-being that can be placed at the centre of a multidimensional strategy for Inclusive Growth?
- How can Inclusive Growth strategies be tailored for emerging market economies and developing countries?
- Some countries have experienced growth and reduction in inequalities whilst others have grown more unequal. What are the key policy elements that account for these differences?

Coffee break **11:00-11:15**

11:15 - 12:45 **SESSION II: WIN-WIN POLICIES FOR EQUITY AND GROWTH**
Moderator: **Zeinab Badawi**, Presenter, World News Tonight, BBC

This session will focus on possible trade-offs and synergies between pro-growth and inclusive sectoral policies relating to finance, labor, technology, and innovation. Participants will begin to unpack the relationship between economic growth and inclusion in policy areas that include the social and labour market, education and skills, tax, competition and regulation, innovation and entrepreneurship, as well as access to public services and infrastructure.

- How do macroeconomic fundamentals affect inclusive growth? What should be done to protect or enhance the redistributive role of fiscal policies in a period of fiscal constraint? What are the redistributive effects of monetary policy?
- What policies can make labour markets more dynamic whilst simultaneously encouraging workers to participate in the labour force and become more efficient?
- Are there any trade-offs in education and skills-related policies aimed at fostering inclusive growth?
- What is the right mix of policies to maximise the contribution of innovation and ICT policies to inclusive growth? How to mitigate the possible unintended consequences of innovation-based pro-growth policies on inclusiveness?

13:00-14:15 **LUNCH AND KEYNOTE SPEECH**
Shaun Donovan, Secretary, US Department of Housing and Urban Development

14:15-15:45 SESSION III: CITIES AS ACTORS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Moderator: **Xavier de Souza Briggs**, Vice President, Ford Foundation

Cities are places of opportunity and have become the engines of national economies, but they confront poverty and increases in income and wealth inequality, which fosters political instability. This session will look at the potential for cities to foster more Inclusive Growth and identify challenges and areas for strengthening inter-governmental co-ordination.

- There is much evidence that urbanization has helped reduce extreme poverty, in some places dramatically. But the rapid growth of cities has also been accompanied by proliferating problems with slum housing conditions, crime, pollution, and inequality. Is this inevitable or have some cities been able to address these challenges proactively?
- What cities have been most successful in reducing poverty and/or inequality? How did they do it? Which policies and practices have been effective in achieving less poverty and social inequity in cities, and did this strengthen or hinder economic growth?
- Many countries have experienced serious urban unrest in recent years, some because of perceived corruption amid poor economic conditions, such as the lack of jobs and inadequate basic services. To reduce tensions, what is more important: addressing the lack of transparency and accountability in government or attending to economic performance and service delivery?
- At the local level, which distributive measures have proven to be most effective in the pursuit of more Inclusive Growth? Can they keep pace with rapid urbanization? Have some cities been able to harness large investments in urban development to achieve more social inclusion? Can those investments also shape peoples' access to opportunities through better location of housing, improved transportation, and greater economic integration in communities?

Coffee break 15:45-16:00

16:00-17:00 GOING FORWARD TOGETHER

Moderator: **E.J. Dionne**, Columnist, Washington Post

This consultative process marks a starting point for continued debate and discussion among active decision makers on inclusive growth. It lays a foundation to shed light on how to identify, design, and implement policies that foster strong yet more equitable growth. How can the results of the workshop translate into strategic policies that work and are easily implementable?

Rapporteur Summary

- **Andrew Sharpe**, Executive Director, Centre for the Study of Living Standards, Canada, Session I
- **Teresa Ter-Minassian**, Former Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund, USA, Session II
- **Angela Glover Blackwell**, Founder and CEO, PolicyLink, USA, Session III

Interview

- **Darren Walker**, President, Ford Foundation
- **Angel Gurría**, Secretary-General, OECD

17:00 COCKTAIL