

Draft Agenda

7-8 July 2022

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE OECD GLOBAL FORUM ON PRODUCTIVITY

Challenges for productivity growth  
in the post COVID-19 era



**2022 Annual Conference of the Global Forum on Productivity (GFP)**  
co-organised with the European Commission DG ECFIN

***“Challenges for productivity in the post-COVID-19 era”***

7-8 July 2022

Bozar Palace of Fine Arts | Brussels, Belgium

*Draft Agenda*

## Background

The COVID-19 shock and the associated policy response carries potential challenges for future productivity growth while also creating opportunities. From this perspective, this year’s conference will aim at shedding light on a number of questions. First, the recovery measures put forward by governments and international institutions to “Build Back Better” serve as a unique opportunity to accelerate climate mitigation. But how will the energy transition be shaped by innovation and resource reallocation and what are the broader implications for productivity growth?

Second, COVID-19 has accelerated the digital transformation and forced firms to experiment with new business models and modes of work. But will the diffusion of best practices be sufficiently broad to facilitate the catch-up of lagging firms? Or will it contribute to a further widening of differences in performance?

Third, the pandemic has accentuated frictions in the international trading system and calls for greater self-reliance in some strategic sectors could lead to a significant re-organisation of global value chains. What are the related risks and opportunities for productivity growth?

Overall, the economic restructuring needs are significant, both across sectors and between firms within industries. This will entail a major reallocation of resources – including physical, intangible and human capital – and necessitates policies to facilitate these structural changes and mitigate the associated disruption.

## Setup

Following the tradition of previous years’ Global Forum on Productivity events, our 2022 Annual Conference will include a range of high-level academics and policymakers as keynote speakers or panellists, spanning over two days. The event will be held on 7 and 8 of July 2022, in a hybrid format, with the possibility to join online. The conference dinner will take place on the 7th and will be open to speakers, organisers and Steering Group members of the GFP. Speakers and organisers of the conference and Steering Group members of the Global Forum on Productivity will be greeted by a welcome cocktail on the evening of the 6th of July.

## About the Global Forum on Productivity

**The OECD Global Forum on Productivity (GFP)** aims to foster international co-operation between public bodies with responsibility for promoting productivity-enhancing policies. It consists of a group of interested OECD member states, non-member countries and international organisations and provides a platform for participants to convene in order to exchange information and discuss best practices, as well as a framework in which to undertake productivity analysis that is complementary to the OECD’s regular work programme. Higher productivity opens up opportunities for growth in times of demographic change, creates scope for the distribution of wealth, secures international competitiveness, enables the financing of a better quality of public services, and facilitates the provision of care for an increasing number of older people. By advising on productivity-enhancing policies, the GFP therefore contributes to meeting these broader objectives.

## Organisers

- *Agenda and speakers:* Plamen Nikolov, Wouter Simons, Alessandro Turrini and Lukas Vogel from the European Commission, and Chiara Criscuolo, Lilas Demmou, Peter Gal and Francesco Losma from OECD Global Forum on Productivity
- *Logistics:* Andre Simal and Wouter Simons from the European Commission, Sarah Michelson Sarfati, Marcio Carvalho and Antonia Vanzini from OECD Global Forum on Productivity
- *Contact information:* E-mail: [Productivity@oecd.org](mailto:Productivity@oecd.org) | Website: <http://oe.cd/gfp>

## Day 1 | 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Master of Ceremony:** European Commission

10:30-10:50

### Welcoming remarks

Mathias Cormann (OECD)  
Elena Flores (European Commission)

10:50-11:45

### Keynote speech and conversation

**Chair:** Ottavio Ricchi (Italian Ministry of Economy)  
**Speaker:** Corrado di Maria (University of East Anglia)  
**General discussion** (15 minutes)

11:45-12:45

### Policy panel: The accelerated green transition in the post-COVID19 era: what implications for productivity?

**Moderator:** Marco Buti (European Commission)  
**Participants:**  
Philipp Steinberg (German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action)  
Philip Lane (ECB)  
Laura Diaz Anadon (University of Cambridge)  
Sven Smit (McKinsey Global Institute)  
**Open floor discussion** (10 minutes)

12:45-14:15

### Lunch break

14:15-15:30

### Session 1: The green transition and productivity

**Chair:** Luiz De Mello (OECD)  
**Presenters** (25 minutes each)  
Paula Bustos (CEMFI)  
David Hémous (University of Zurich)  
**Lead Discussant** (10 minutes): Antoine Dechezleprêtre (OECD)  
**General discussion** (10 minutes)

15:30-15:45

### Coffee break

15:45-17:00

### Session 2: Digital transformation and productivity

**Chair and Setting the Scene:** Debora Revoltella (EIB)  
**Presenters** (25 minutes each)  
Frederic Warzynski (University of Aarhus)  
Mirko Draca (Warwick University)  
**Lead Discussant** (10 minutes): Daniel Mawson (Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, UK)  
**General discussion** (10 minutes)

19:00-21:00

### Dinner (*Speakers, Steering Group members and organisers only*)

Dinner speech on climate change challenges  
**Chair:** Geraldine Mahieu (European Commission)  
**Speaker:** Michael E. Mann (Climatologist and Geophysicist from Penn State University)

## Day 2 | 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**Master of Ceremony:** European Commission

### 10:30-11:30 Keynote speech and conversation

**Chair:** Andrew Wyckoff (OECD)  
**Speaker:** John Van Reenen (MIT and LSE)  
**General discussion** (15 minutes)

### 11:30-12:30 Panel discussion: Reorganising production for the post-COVID digital era

**Moderator:** Dirk Pilat (OECD)  
**Participants:**  
Beata Javorcik (EBRD)  
Michael Brennan (Australian Productivity Commission)  
Swati Dhingra (LSE)  
Elke Grooten (Novartis)  
**Open floor discussion** (10 minutes)

### 12:30-14:15 Lunch break

### 14:15-15:30 Session 3: Reallocation post-COVID-19: how to mitigate the costs?

**Chair:** Geraldine Mahieu (European Commission)  
**Presenters** (25 minutes each)  
Jose Maria Barrero (ITAM Mexico Business School)  
Abigail Adams-Prassl (Oxford University)  
**Lead Discussant** (10 minutes) Rita Bessone Basto (Ministry of Economy and Maritime Affairs, Portugal)  
**General discussion** (10 minutes)

### 15:30-16:00 Concluding remarks and the way forward

Paolo Gentiloni (European Commission)  
Andrew Wyckoff (OECD)