Breakout 2: Equipping society in a fast-changing world

Breakout 2 – Panel 2.1: The digital and green transitions: the role of skills and capabilities, facilitated by the Working Party on Technology and Innovation Policy (TIP)

23 April 2024 from 10:45 to 12:30 Paris time, room CC7, OECD Conference Centre, 2 Rue André Pascal, Paris, France

Join us as we delve into the strategies adopted by countries in addressing the complex task of nurturing human capital amidst substantial investments aimed at propelling technological progress for digital and green transitions. Countries are making significant investments to drive technological advancements for digital and green transitions, recognizing the critical need for human capital to ensure their success. Equipping individuals with future skills will greatly impact the inclusiveness of these transitions, influencing societal gains and losses. The evolving nature of technological progress, shaped by science, technology, and innovation policies, will determine how skills contribute to inclusiveness, particularly amidst winner-take-all market dynamics and labour-replacing technologies. A diverse range of skills is required for the development of technologies crucial to greener and more resilient societies, extending beyond STEM to include business management, digital proficiency, policy implementation, and communication skills. Ensuring inclusive transitions necessitates societal engagement, support for SMEs, economically disadvantaged regions, and the inclusion of underrepresented groups in science, technology, and innovation systems. The panel discussion will explore governmental approaches to addressing emerging technology-driven skill demands, with a focus on initiatives targeting underrepresented groups and identifying research priorities for OECD's future agenda on green and digital transitions, skills, and STI policies.

Objectives

- **Exchange perspectives** across different sectors on the key challenges for developing a 'fit for purpose' workforce to support the green and digital transitions agenda.
- **Identify** key policy questions and evidence gaps calling for concerted international action that OECD can facilitate going forward.
- **Showcase examples** of projects and programmes aimed at developing and mobilising skills and capabilities for a world in transition.

Key questions

- What are the most important challenges for the workforce and society in the context of green and digital transitions that STI policy should address?
- How can policy best deal with skills needs in an environment of rapid technological change? What mechanisms for co-operation within and across government are most effective?
- How can STI skills and capability support programmes be designed to facilitate inclusivity, including in less innovative regions and for young and small firms?
- How can in higher education institutions and the private sector best contribute to enhancing skills and capacities needed?
- What role do you envisage OECD playing in this area in the future?

Featured Speakers

Panel 1: Country perspectives on the future skills for digital and green transitions

Moderator: Mr. Göran Marklund, Chair of TIP, Deputy Director General and Head of Operational Development Division, VINNOVA

- **Prof. Dr. Marcia Cristina Bernardes Barbosa,** Vice-Minister, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation, Brazil
- **Ms. Martina Hirayama,** Secretary of State for Education, Research, and Innovation, Switzerland
- **Ms. Teresa Riesgo-Alcaide,** Secretary General for Innovation, Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, Spain
- **Dr. Shigeo Koyasu,** Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and President of National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology, Japan
- **Mr. Satvinder Singh,** Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Economic Community, ASEAN

Panel 2: Building future skills and capabilities: How to succeed in practice?

Moderator: Ms. Susana Borras, Professor at the Department of Organization, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

- **Ms. Elvira Uyarra,** Professor, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
- **Ms. Veronica Nilsson**, Secretary General, TUAC
- **Mr. Lionnel Alexandre**, Carbon Business Lead EMEA, Bayer Crop Science, BIAC representative
- **Dr. Wendy Cukier**, Founder and Director of the Diversity Institute at Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada

Why should you attend?

The multistakeholder meeting is designed as a platform for experts and academics in the field of science, technology, and innovation to convene and actively participate in dialogues, exchanging knowledge and expertise with peers from OECD countries and beyond. It offers an opportunity to engage with high-level representatives from international organisations, as well as from business and civil society. Your presence at the OECD underscores your dedication to the principles of international cooperation while strengthening the pivotal role of science, technology, and innovation in driving sustainability transitions. Don't miss this opportunity to engage, learn, and network with leaders in this space!

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10:45 - 10:50	**Opening Remarks and Welcome**
10:50 – 11:45	**Panel 1: Country perspectives on the future skills for digital and green transitions**
	Moderated Discussion • Panel discussion • Q&A – Open to all participants
11:45 – 12:25	**Panel 2: Building future skills and capabilities: How to succeed in practice?**
	Moderated Discussion • Panel discussion • Q&A – Open to all participants
12:25 – 12:30	**Closing Remarks**

What is TIP?

The OECD Working Party on Innovation and Technology Policy (TIP) provides **evidence-based advice to countries to foster innovation and technology policies** that enhance productivity and facilitate the transition towards a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient future. This includes policies that support the development and diffusion of new technologies, products and services that drive economic growth and social progress; promote an environment that encourages innovation and entrepreneurship; and strengthen collaboration for innovation among public research institutions, businesses, government, and society. The TIP was established by the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP) in 1993. It is made up of government officials responsible for science, technology and innovation and meets twice a year.

The TIP is currently conducting a project "Making technology investments succeed: What should STI policies do for skills and capabilities?", which seeks to provide policy guidance on how STI policies can best enhance skills and ecosystems conditions needed for the success of strategic technology investments for the green and digital transitions. As part of the project, it is organizing a "Moonshot webinar series" and has organised other events such as the workshop "Skills requirements in cutting-edge technologies for green and digital futures: Implications for STI policies". Recent related TIP publications include "Navigating Green and Digital Transitions: Five Imperatives for Effective STI Policy Five Imperatives", and "Engaging citizens in innovation policy: Why, when and how?"

Have Questions? Please contact cstpministerial2024@oecd.org.