



MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉCONOMIE,
DES FINANCES
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Global Forum on
PRODUCTIVITY

2024 Annual Conference

**Boosting growth and productivity:
the role of human capital**

GFP Steering group members and speakers



15th and 16th

October

Paris, France



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du Trésor



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OCDE

AGENDA

15

OCT.

9:15 – 10:00 **Welcome breakfast**

10:00 – 10:20 **High level opening of the conference**

- Marc FERRACCI, *Minister Delegate for Industry, France*
- Mathias CORMANN, *OECD Secretary-General*

10:20 – 11:00 **Keynote speech: Post-Covid productivity overview: assessment, challenges and prospects**

The session offers a perspective on the current productivity slowdown, including an assessment of its causes, challenges, and potential future trajectories. Of the various factors underpinning the deceleration, special place should be given to the role of human capital, matching, and labour allocation. The speech explores the obstacles hindering productivity growth and discusses avenues for revitalizing it, considering policy interventions and new technological trajectories.

Keynote speaker: Prof. Jonathan HASKELE, *Imperial College, London*

11:00 – 11:20 **Coffee break**

11:20 – 12:45 **Session n°1: Explaining the productivity slowdown: human capital and other factors. Facts, conclusions, recommendations and actions**

The session discusses the pivotal role of human capital in shaping productivity growth, and the long-standing productivity slowdown. Panelists will discuss how a skilled workforce, an effective matching of workers and firms, and appropriate complementary investments can boost productivity growth. The session will further provide concrete actions to be undertaken by policymakers to optimize human capital utilisation and foster productivity growth on a global scale, touching on education, labour market and industrial and innovation policies.

Moderator: Stefan PROFIT, *Deputy Director General, Economic Policy Department, German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Action*

Panellists:

- Luis Carlos REYES HERNANDEZ, *Minister, Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism, Colombia*
- Dorothee ROUZET, *Chief Economist, French Treasury*
- Alvaro PEREIRA, *Chief Economist, OECD*
- Catherine de FONTENAY, *Commissioner, Australian Productivity Commission, and associate professor, University of Melbourne*

12:45 – 14:30 **Buffet lunch**

14:30 – 15:30 **Session° 2: Investing in the "right" skills: the role of training and education policies in driving productivity**

The session explores the role of training and education policies in shaping productivity outcomes, via the skills workers, firms and governments decide to invest in. It examines the nexus between productivity growth and initiatives for skills development and investment in a skilled workforce. Drawing upon these insights, the session will discuss the importance of aligning training and education policies with the evolving demands of the labour market to maximize productivity gains.

Moderator: Alain DURRÉ, *General Rapporteur of the French National Productivity Board, France Stratégie*

Panellists:

- Luca MARCOLIN, *Senior Economist, Global Forum on Productivity, OECD*
- Maria GUADALUPE, *Professor, Institut européen d'administration des affaires (Insead) and Conseil d'analyse économique, France*
- Jonathan BARR, *Senior Director, Economic Research and Analysis, Innovation, Science, and Economic Development (ISED), Canada*

15:30 – 15:40 **Coffee break**

15:40 – 16:40 Session n° 3: The green transition: Opportunity or risk for productivity?

Recognizing that substantial investment and innovation will be needed to navigate the green transition effectively, this session delineates how investment and innovation in this field can serve as catalysts to unlock greater productivity growth and examines how the need to change the nature of some jobs can create short-term productivity challenges. Lastly, it will discuss how public policies and private business practices can mitigate such challenges, facilitating a smoother transition towards a sustainable, productive future.

Moderator: Daniel MAWSON, *Senior Economic Advisor, Department for Business and Trade, United Kingdom*

Panellists:

- Lone ANK, *Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs, Denmark*
- Géraldine MAHIEU, *Director of Investment, growth and structural reforms, DG ECFIN, European Commission*
- Rodrigo KRELL, *Executive Secretary, National Productivity Commission, Chile*

16:40 – 17:00 Wrap-up day 1

Amélie de MONTCHALIN, *Permanent Representative to the OECD, France*

16

OCT.

From 9:00 Welcome breakfast

9:30 – 9:45 Opening of the conference (day 2)

- Bertrand DUMONT, *Director General of the Treasury, France*
- Alain DE SERRES, *Acting Director, Economics Department, OECD*

9:45 – 10:15 Introductory session: National Productivity Boards' work

Presentation by Natacha VALLA, *Chair of the French National Productivity Board*

Discussion by Juan Francisco JIMENO SERRANO, *Chair of the Spanish National Productivity Board, Adviser at the Bank of Spain*

10:15 – 11:45 **Session nº4 and keynote: Will artificial intelligence rescue us from the productivity slowdown?**

Like previous technological revolutions, artificial Intelligence (AI) could lead to major economic transformations in terms of productivity and employment. If initial empirical studies suggest significant positive effects on the productivity of individual workers, quantifying its impact is still at an exploratory stage due to the lack of adoption and the potential for productivity gains in the production of ideas. In recent years, highly qualified workers have tended to be most exposed to advances in AI, unlike other waves of automation. The spread of AI could increase labour market disparities across workers of different skill level, and across firms of different productivity level. That is why public policies will have an important role to play in reaping the potential benefits of AI, by strengthening education, by ensuring an integrated approach to skills development for AI at all stages of life and by targeting training on professions and firms undergoing change.

Keynote speaker: Prof. Kristina McELHERAN, *University of Toronto and Rotman Business School*

Moderator: Jens LUNDGAARD, *Deputy Director, Science, Technology and Innovation Directorate (STI), OECD*

Panellists:

- Philippe AGHION, *Professor at the College de France and at the London School of Economics*
- Takayuki SAKO, *Deputy Director of the Software and Information Service Industry Strategy Office, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan*
- Michele PETROCELLI, *Director of Research Innovation and Cross-functional Projects, Treasury Department, Italy*

11:45 – 12:00 **Coffee break**

12:00 – 13:00 **Session° 5: Human capital, productivity and inclusiveness: sharing the benefits of productivity growth**

The session discusses the interplay among human capital, productivity, and inclusiveness, with a particular focus on enhancing the participation of underrepresented categories, such as women and low-skill workers. It discusses public interventions and private business practices aimed at levelling the playing

field across different groups of workers and at empowering marginalized groups, fostering more inclusive economic growth.

Moderator: Serge ALLEGREZZA, *Director General of the Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies (STATEC)*

Panellists:

- Richard SAMANS, *Director of Research Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)*
- Melissa VEGA MONGE, *Economist, Central Bank of Costa Rica*
- Laura HOSPIDO, *Advisor to the Secretary of State for the Economy and Business Support, Ministry of the Economy, Commerce and Business, Spain*

12:45 – 13:15 **Wrap-up day 2 - end of the conference**

- Dorothée ROUZET, *Chief Economist, French Treasury*
- Alvaro PEREIRA, *Chief Economist, OECD*