Information and communication technologies have facilitated disruptive innovations, affecting fundamentally opportunities for productivity improvements and economic growth and also for enhanced wellbeing.

This emerging digital economy poses multiple challenges for policy as it places into question received views on the key underpinnings of economic growth and global competitiveness for developed, emerging and developing countries alike.

In a context of growing income inequalities across the OECD and beyond, the question of what opportunities the new emerging economy holds for different groups in society, and what policy can do, also needs addressing.

The Symposium’s discussions will focus on the impacts of the main technologies behind these changes, and critically explore the following critical questions:

1. What is the potential of new technologies as engines of growth? What factors are critical to competing in the emerging global economy?
2. How disruptive are technologies, such as automation, for industry and people? How do they impact the income distribution?
3. What are the key implications for policy? What can be done to support the successful implementation of technology to serve inclusive growth?

Among the diverse group of speakers will be Philippe Aghion (Professor at Harvard University and Collège de France), Robert Atkinson (President of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation), Dr. Youngah Park (President of the Korea Institute of S&T Evaluation and Planning) and Manuel Trajtenberg (Professor at Tel Aviv University). Learn about all speakers here.

Further information

The agenda of the event and more details on the symposium, including details about the speakers and a blog with contributions from participants, can be found online at: https://www.innovationpolicyplatform.org/inclusive/symposium2016

Register for the event

The OECD welcomes experts’ participation at the 28-29 April 2016 Symposium, as well as their contribution to the event's online blog, where they can share their views on the topics of discussion ahead of the Symposium. Attendance to the symposium is by invitation only. To request an invitation and submit a contribution to the event’s blog, please contact inno4dev@oecd.org by 15 April 2016, indicating your name, position, institution and country.