

# Pillar 3.b. A just transition to a low carbon economy for rural areas: Industrial transition and the circular economy

25<sup>th</sup> Septembre . 10:00- 11:30, The Plaza Hotel, Seoul.

The 12th OECD Rural Development Conference, *Delivering Rural Well-being* is part of the OECD Rural Conference Series since 2002. These events provide an international forum to share lessons on rural development policies among national, regional and local policy officials, international experts, civil society and private sector representatives whilst strengthening existing networks and fostering knowledge-sharing. The conference *Delivering Well-being* will discuss the importance of enhancing innovative practices, undertaking demographic trends and fomenting a transition to a low carbon economy to delivery wellbeing in rural areas.

## Aim of the session:

Rural regions will play a crucial role in the transition to a climate-neutral - economy because of their specialisation in resource-based industries. Climate change is already affecting these economic sectors (agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mining and energy), for example, due to dislocation and costs associated with the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. Further, measures to decarbonise the economy that put a price on carbon disproportionately affect carbon-intensive rural industries such as energy production and agriculture, and rural households and firms due to higher transport costs. Rural economies are less resilient than urban economies in responding to these structural adjustment pressures because their economies are less diverse with lower levels of human capital.

These socio-economic impacts of these trade, policy and technological induced adjustments can generate discontent and blockages to building domestic and international consensus about climate change policies. Rural regions will also play a key role in the fight against climate change through carbon sinks and the provision of eco-system services. However, this value is often not monetised and forces rural communities to make trade-offs between the environment and development. There is a need to explore what a "just transition" means for rural regions to address the challenge of climate change and deliver future business and job opportunities.

The seminar will explore how rural regions can adapt to these changes, address these risks, and generate economic opportunities in a carbon constrained world

#### **Guiding questions:**

- What are the transition pathways and policies to a climate-neural economy in rural areas?
- What are the socio-economic/ distributional impacts on rural regions resulting from the shift to a climate-neutral economy?
- What are the future risks for the rural regions specialized in carbon intensive industries face to policy measures for a climate-neutral economy?

## Type of Session:

- Plenary Session
- All speakers will be sitting in armchairs at the stage.
- Power pointpresentations will be given in *ted talk style*, encouraging speaker to walk around the stage
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## Session Structure:

[Moderator and 5 speakers sit in armchairs at the stage] [Moderator will have a tablet on his hands to see the questions from the public, which will use a participatory software- Glisser- to address questions]

- Moderator sets the scene; introduce the main questions and present speakers (7 minutes).
- Each speaker will present during 10 minutes. PPT should be maximum 7 slides (total 50 minutes).



- Moderator opens Q&A from public. Audience can make questions by microphone or through their cell phones using *Glisser* software. Questions and tweets could show up in the main screen, thus speakers and moderator can see them (15 minutes)
- Moderator summarises and ask speakers for any closing remark, 2 minutes per speaker (10 minutes).