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“Not all people, firms and places experience a level playing field in today’s global economy. Megatrends such as digitalisation, new forms of work, ageing, migration and environmental imperatives could further widen divides. The CFE is working to ensure that all people, and businesses of all sizes, can contribute to and benefit from inclusive growth, whether they are located in a capital city or in remote rural areas.”

Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

The **Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE)** provides comparative statistics, analysis and capacity building. It helps local and national actors work together to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), promote inclusive and sustainable regions and cities, boost local job creation, and support sound tourism policies.

As highlighted at the 2019 Regional Development Policy Ministerial meeting, we need to prepare regions, cities and rural areas for megatrends. The CFE unveiled new data on regional disparities, decentralisation and subnational finances in the *Regional Outlook 2019*, *Regions and Cities at a Glance 2018* and the handbook on *Making Decentralisation Work*. At their fourth meeting, Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth committed to leverage social, public sector and technological innovations to fight inequalities.

Following the 2018 SME Ministerial Conference, CFE continues to strengthen the evidence base for SME policies with the Scoreboard on *Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs 2019*. A new *SME and Entrepreneurship Outlook* has been developed, along with initiatives on Digitalisation for SMEs and Women’s Entrepreneurship. Work has also begun on an OECD Strategy for SMEs.

The local dimension of the future of work was the focus of *Job Creation and Local Economic Development 2018* and the 14th Forum for Local Development Practitioners, Entrepreneurs, and Social Innovators, where innovative practices were identified to prepare workers for tomorrow.

The first OECD Conference on Culture and Local Development explored how to unleash the power of creative industries for economic growth and well-being. The 15th Global Forum on Tourism Statistics covered many themes, from big data to the SDGs. ■

■ AREAS OF FOCUS

- SMEs and entrepreneurship, www.oecd.org/cfe/smes
- Local economic and employment development, www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/; <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/trentocentre.htm> (OECD Trento Centre, Italy)
- Regional development, www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy
- Urban development and inclusive and sustainable cities, www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/urban-development.htm
- Rural development, www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/oecdworkonruraldevelopment.htm
- Tourism, www.oecd.org/cfe/tourism
- Regional statistics and indicators, www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/regionalstatisticsandindicators.htm
- Multi-level governance, subnational finance and investment, www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/multi-level-governance.htm
- Water governance, www.oecd.org/cfe/watergovernanceprogramme.htm

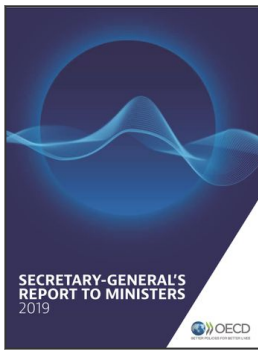
■ KEY EVENTS

- 4th OECD Regional Development Ministerial Meeting – Megatrends: Building Better Futures for Regions, Cities and Rural Areas, 19-20 March 2019
- 7th OECD Roundtable of Mayors and Ministers, 19 March 2019
- 4th Meeting of the OECD Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth Initiative, 18 March 2019
- OECD Conference on Culture and Local Development, 6-7 December 2018
- 15th Global Forum on Tourism Statistics, 28-30 November 2018
- 14th Forum for Local Development Practitioners, Entrepreneurs, and Social Innovators – A New World of Work: Global Trends and Local Actions, 18-19 September 2018

■ KEY CONTENT

- Compare your country: Tourism in the economy (data visualisation)
- Cultivating successful entrepreneurs (video)
- *SME and Entrepreneurship Outlook 2019*
- *OECD Regional Outlook 2019: Leveraging Megatrends for Cities and Rural Areas*
- *OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance 2018*





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