# OECD STI Outlook 2016 “Forward Look”: Internal Mini-Workshop on Technology and Sector Trends (4 June, 14:30-17:30)

## Background

The OECD STI Outlook aims to take a more forward-looking approach in 2016 and will include a new introductory “Trends” chapter that discusses expected shifts in science, technology and innovation (STI) and related policies on a 10-15 year future time horizon. To help prepare this chapter, we are organising a series of internal and external workshops to gather and discuss expert views on major trends and issues across a variety of fields.

The first internal mini-workshop aims to draw on OECD’s technology and sector-oriented activities, e.g. in BNCT, CDEP and the Space Forum, but also elsewhere from across the house, to gather insights from OECD staff on emerging trends and issues that could have major socio-economic impacts over the next 10-15 years. Emerging trends and issues can relate to scientific and technological developments, as well as societal, economic, political and environmental developments that could have major impacts on technological change and future societies and economies. To keep the scope of the mini-workshop within manageable boundaries, discussions will be focused on those technology areas and sectors where workshop participants have existing domain knowledge.

## Workshop approach

The mini-workshop will be organised as a mix of small group discussions to encourage exchanges, and whole-group discussions to share views. The agenda is as follows:

1. Retrospective exercise
   1. What have been the most important changes in your field since 2000?
   2. What hasn’t changed but remains extremely important in your field since 2000?
2. Forward-looking exercise
   1. What technological changes do you expect to have disruptive effects in your field by 2030?
   2. What non-technological changes do you expect to have disruptive effects in your field by 2030?
   3. What is the degree of uncertainty around these changes?
3. What are the policy implications of your findings? For example, are there regulatory issues? Are there issues of redistribution? Etc.
4. Wrap-up and debriefing: what worked well and what didn’t? How could the mini-workshop approach be improved?

Workshop results will be used to inform our desk-based analysis and will feed into future workshops, e.g. a workshop involving delegates of the Working Party of Innovation and Technological Policy (TIP) on 17 June.