

**Chumir-Brookings Project on The Great Policy Challenge:  
Booming Technology but Slowing Growth and Rising Inequality  
First Project Workshop: August 1, 2016  
St. Louis Room, The Brookings Institution**

**Welcome and Lunch** (12:00pm – 12:30pm)

**Introductory Remarks** (12:30pm – 1:00pm)

Joel Bell and Kemal Derviş

**Productivity: Trends, Measurement, Macro/Sectoral/Micro Perspectives** (1:00pm – 2:45pm)

Chair: Kemal Derviş

*Issues for Discussion*

- What are the recent trends in productivity? How do they differ from historical patterns?
- Are there notable differences by country or other characteristics?
- Is the recent productivity slowdown real or mainly mismeasurement?
- Is it innovation or diffusion that has slowed?
- What do sectoral and firm-level analyses show?
- What is the outlook for productivity and potential growth?

**Coffee Break** (2:45pm – 3:00pm)

**Income Inequality: Trends and Issues** (3:00pm – 4:15pm)

Chair: Joel Bell

*Issues for Discussion*

- What are the trends in global, inter-country, and within-country inequality?
- Is rising income inequality accompanied by declining economic mobility?
- What are the linkages between technology, productivity, and rising inequality?
- How are these linkages influenced by industry characteristics, method of technology deployment, globalization, and public policy context?
- What insights are provided by measures of subjective well-being?

**Brainstorming on Follow-up Agenda** (4:15pm – 5:15pm)

Chair: Zia Qureshi

*Issues for Discussion*

- What are the key factors that explain observed trends in productivity and inequality?
- Are these factors fundamentally structural rather than cyclical in nature?
- What should be the focus areas as the project moves from “what” to “why” and the policy agenda?

**Closing Remarks: Next Steps** (5:15pm – 5:30pm)

Joel Bell and Kemal Derviş

**Working Dinner: The Metropolitan Club** (6:00pm – 8:30pm)

Attachment: List of supporting discussion notes.

## **SUPPORTING DISCUSSION NOTES**

### **Productivity: Trends, Measurement, Macro/Sectoral/Micro Perspectives**

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“The Productivity Slump: A Summary of the Evidence.” *Karim Foda*

“The Productivity Slump – Fact or Fiction: The Measurement Debate.” *Kemal Derviş and Zia Qureshi*

“The Productivity Outlook: Pessimists versus Optimists.” *Zia Qureshi*

“The Drivers of Productivity Dynamics Over the Last 15 Years.” *Diego Comin*

“The Slowdown in Manufacturing Productivity Growth.” *Chad Syverson*

“Using Firm-Level Data to Study Growth and Dispersion in Total Factor Productivity.” *Dany Bahar*

“Productivity in the Education Sector.” *Eileen Gallagher*

“Education’s Impact on Economic Growth and Productivity.” *Eileen Gallagher and Rebecca Winthrop*

### **Income Inequality: Trends and Issues**

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“Trends in Income Distribution: Global, Inter-Country, and Within Countries.” *Zia Qureshi*

“Income Distribution Within Countries: Rising Inequality.” *Kemal Derviş and Zia Qureshi*

“Technology and Disparities: An Overview of Analytical Frameworks and a Suggested Policy Packages Approach.” *Joanna Chataway and Anton Spisak*

“Innovation and Inequality: A View from the South.” *Susan Cozzens*

“Some Thoughts on How Subjective Well-Being Metrics Can Contribute to ‘The Great Policy Challenge’.” *Carol Graham*