



Media Release

Breaking silos is essential to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Paris, 30th October, 2019 – At its 4th Annual Forum on Health, senior representatives from business, governments, and the OECD agreed on the critical role multi-stakeholder partnerships play to break silos and leverage collective action towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Moderated by Riz Khan, the Forum showcased the on-the-ground initiatives across the innovative, agri-food, and sports sectors for populations to adopt healthier lifestyles and for governments to drive better health outcomes through innovation.

“Reaching the SDGs is fundamental to global growth and prosperity. But no sector can do it alone. Business, governments, and civil society must collaborate closely to meet the goals on time,” said Russel Mills, *Business at OECD* Secretary General. “Healthy populations are the backbone for a sustainable economy and interventions should recognize the positive impact well-designed health policies can have to strengthen tomorrow’s workforce.”

Participants pointed to ways in which the OECD can promote best practices and measure progress. “Business looks to the OECD as a platform where we can strengthen the evidence base, have timely dialogue with governments, and ensure stakeholders can navigate towards the right direction,” said Thomas Cueni, Chair of the *Business at OECD* Health Committee and Director General of IFPMA. “We must continue translating horizontal thinking into action, and we need policies to support the required innovation ecosystem to deliver on the SDGs.” Commenting on the potential of Artificial Intelligence, Nicole Denjoy, Vice Chair of the *Business at OECD* Health Committee and Secretary General of COCIR, stated, “business is at the forefront of AI with innovative solutions. It is critical that both public and private sectors work together to optimize the use of this technology for the benefit of society, and we look forward to our continued collaboration with the OECD in this field.”

About *Business at OECD*

Established in 1962, Business at OECD stands for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to growth, economic development, and societal prosperity. Through Business at OECD, national businesses and employers’ federations representing over 7 million companies provide and receive expertise via our participation with the OECD and governments promoting competitive economies and better business.

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