Foreword

I he OECD Digital Economy Outlook is a biennial series which examines and documents evolutions and emerging opportunities and challenges in the digital economy. It highlights how OECD countries and partner economies are taking advantage of ICTs and the Internet to meet their public policy objectives. Through comparative evidence, it informs policy makers of regulatory practices and policy options to help maximise the potential of the digital economy as a driver for innovation and inclusive growth.

This publication replaces and builds upon the OECD Communications Outlook and Internet Economy Outlook (formerly OECD Information Technology Outlook) to provide a more holistic overview of converging trends, policy developments and data in the digital economy on both the supply and demand sides.

The Digital Economy Outlook 2015 has been prepared by the OECD Secretariat under the guidance of the OECD Committee on Digital Economy Policy (CDEP), chaired by Jörgen Abild Andersen (Denmark). It has benefited from the input of delegates to the Committee and its Working Parties on Communications Infrastructure Services Policy (CISP), chaired by Tracey Weisler (USA), on Measurement and Analysis in the Digital Economy (MADE), chaired by Luis Magalhes (Portugal), and on Security and Privacy of the Digital Economy (SPDE), chaired by Jane Hamilton (Canada). A large part of its content builds on the responses by Member countries and Partner economies to the OECD Digital Economy Questionnaire sent in June 2014.

The Digital Economy Outlook has been declassified by the Committee on 8 May 2015.

The Secretariat team which drafted the Digital Economy Outlook is part of the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry headed by Andrew Wyckoff, and worked under the direction of Anne Carblanc assisted by Cristina Serra Vallejo for the overall coordination. Authors include, by alphabetical order, Brigitte Acoca, Frederic Bourassa, Agustín Díaz Pinés, Michael Donohue, David Gierten, Pedro Herrera Gimenez, Aaron Martin, Pierre Montagnier, Hajime Oiso, Sam Paltridge, Christian Reimsbach-Kounatze, Elettra Ronchi, Cristina Serra Vallejo, Vincenzo Spiezia, Sukham Sung, Rudolf van der Berg and Verena Weber. Contributions have been received from the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development directorate, in particular from Arthur Mickoleit and Barbara Ubaldi. Geoff Huston from Potaroo and Karine Perset from ICANN have provided the team with useful insights as did Colin Blackman, Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies.

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