

Green jobs and skills: The local labour market implications of addressing climate change

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This working paper has been prepared as part of the project Climate Change, employment and Local Development undertaken the auspices of the OECD LEED Directing Committee, within the framework of the OECD's Green Growth Strategy. The impacts of climate change, and especially subsequent mitigation and adaptation policies, on labour markets are still largely unknown despite the recent demand for knowledge production and diffusion on this topic and the increasing avalanche of reports and studies from public and private organisations as well as from community groups. The search for alternative models of growth in the midst of the financial crisis has increased the interest in the 'green growth paradigm'. This paper discusses some of the impacts of climate change including its regulation on labour markets, the dynamics of green growth at the levels of jobs and skills development, and the local implications for mitigation and enabling green growth. Although the paper does not provide all the answers to the green enigma (green jobs will come but how?), it argues that much benefit will come from focusing efforts on the skills transformation tools and initiatives.

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