

The G20 Research Group
at Trinity College at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy
in the University of Toronto
presents the

2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Report

2 December 2018 to 10 May 2019

Prepared by
Alessandra Cicci, Ji Yoon Han and the G20 Research Group, Toronto,
and Irina Popova, Andrey Shelepov, Andrey Sakharov and Alexander Ignatov and the
Center for International Institutions Research
of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration,
Moscow

26 June 2019

www.g20.utoronto.ca
g20@utoronto.ca

“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

munkschool.utoronto.ca



At Trinity College
1 Devonshire Place
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K7
T: 416.946.8900 F: 416.946.8915

At the Observatory
315 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 0A7
T: 416.946.8929 F: 416.946.8877

At the Canadiana Gallery
14 Queen's Park Crescent West
Toronto, ON
Canada M5S 3K9
T: 416.978.5120 F: 416.978.5079

Contents

Contents.....	2
Preface.....	3
Toronto Research Team	4
CIIR G20 Research Team	5
Introduction and Summary.....	6
Commitment Breakdown.....	7
Selection of Commitments	7
Final Compliance Scores.....	7
Final Compliance by Member	7
Final Compliance by Commitment	7
Table 1: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring	8
Table 2: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Scores	10
Table 4: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Member	11
Table 5: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Commitment	12
Table 6: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2017	13
Conclusions.....	14
Future Research and Reports	14
Considerations and Limitations	14
Appendix: General Considerations	15
1. Climate Change: Disaster Resilience.....	16
2. Development: Early Childhood Development	47
3. Digital Economy: Data Governance	74
4. Employment: Skills Development	104
5. Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems	146
6. Financial Regulation: Tax Administration	208
7. Food Security: Malnutrition	240
8. Gender: Economic Empowerment.....	302
9. Reform of the International Financial Institutions: International Monetary Fund.....	358
10. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth.....	379
11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement.....	430
12. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	461
13. Employment: Future of Work.....	490
14. Energy: Energy Security.....	513
15. Financial Regulation: Technology	541
16. Financial Regulation: International Taxation	567
17. Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture	584
18. Health: Universal Health Coverage.....	616
19. Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment.....	651
20. Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization	672

13. Employment: Future of Work

“We endorse the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work which we will draw on, considering individual country circumstances, to: harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.”

Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.65	

Background

Issue of employment is one of the key priorities of G20 since London Summit in 2009. Already in the second summit leaders committed to support those affected by the crisis by creating employment opportunities and through income support measures and support employment by stimulating growth, investing in education and training, and through active labour market policies, focusing on the most vulnerable.³¹⁸⁰ In Pittsburgh G20 leaders pledged to implement recovery plans that support decent work, help preserve employment, and prioritize job growth. They also promised to continue to provide income, social protection, and training support for the unemployed and those most at risk of unemployment.³¹⁸¹

In Seoul in 2010 G20 focused on implementation of structural reforms to boost and sustain global demand, foster job creation, contribute to global rebalancing, and increase growth potential, and where needed undertake, including through education and training to increase employment in quality jobs, boost productivity and thereby enhance potential growth. The leaders pledged to improve the

³¹⁸⁰ London Summit – Leaders’ Statement, Center for International Institutions Research RANEP (London). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2009london/2009communiqu0402.pdf>

³¹⁸¹ G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEP (Pittsburgh). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2009pittsburgh/G20%20Leaders%20Statement.pdf>

development of employable skills matched to employer and labor market needs in order to enhance the ability to attract investment, create decent jobs and increase productivity.³¹⁸²

The 2011 Cannes Summit paid a lot of attention to employment issues as well. Decisions were made in spheres of taxation to make it more employment-friendly, promoting youth employment, promotion of full respect of the fundamental principles and rights at work, strengthening the social dimension of globalization.³¹⁸³

Employment became the central issue for the Mexican presidency in 2012. In Los Cabos G20 leaders committed to intensify our efforts to strengthen cooperation in education, skills development and training policies, including internship and on-the-job training, which support a successful school-to-work transition. They also pledged to work towards developing travel facilitation initiatives in support of job creation, quality work, poverty reduction and global growth.³¹⁸⁴

In St. Petersburg in 2013 employment remained in the focus of G20 leaders. They committed to continue their efforts to support inclusive labour markets, with the exchange of country-specific plans or sets of actions, developed as appropriate according to our different constitutional circumstances. The leaders also expressed their intention to stimulate the creation of formal jobs through pro-growth structural reforms in product and labour markets, including by promoting labour market adaptability and efficiency, ensuring adequate labour protection, as well as appropriate tax regimes and other government initiatives that may be required according to national circumstances. Skills development, life-long learning, employment of vulnerable groups and especially young people, vocational training and other issues were also given attention in St. Petersburg final documents.³¹⁸⁵

In 2014 in Brisbane G20 leaders set the goal of reducing the gap in participation rates between men and women in G20 countries by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances, to bring more than 100 million women into the labour force significantly increase global growth. They also reaffirmed their commitment to reducing unemployment among the youth. Also, employment plans were adopted for the first time.³¹⁸⁶

In Antalya leaders set the goal of reducing the share of young people who are most at risk of being permanently left behind in the labour market by 15 per cent by 2025 in G20 countries. They also reaffirmed the need to implement Employment plans adopted in Brisbane.³¹⁸⁷

In Hangzhou and Hamburg, the focus of employment agenda shifted towards matching the work force skills with the demands of digital economy. These issues became the center of attention during the Argentinian presidency in 2018. G20 leaders adopted the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work. In these Menu leaders pledged to harness technology to strengthen growth and

³¹⁸² The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders' Declaration, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Seoul). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2010%20Korea/g20seoul.pdf>

³¹⁸³ Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Cannes). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2011cannes/Cannes%20Summit%20Final%20Declaration.pdf>

³¹⁸⁴ G20 Leaders Declaration Los-Cabos, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Los Cabos). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2012loscabos/G20%20Leaders%20Declaration%20-%20Los%20Cabos%2018-19%20June%202012.pdf>

³¹⁸⁵ G20 Leaders' Declaration St.-Petersburg 2013, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (St.-Petersburg). Access date: 14 May 2019. <http://en.g20russia.ru/load/782795034>

³¹⁸⁶ G20 Leaders' Communiqué Brisbane Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communiqu%C3%A9%20Brisbane%20Summit,%2015-16%20November%202014.pdf>

³¹⁸⁷ G20 Leaders' Communiqué Antalya Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Antalya). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2015Antalya/000111117.pdf>

productivity; support people during transitions and address distributional challenges; secure sustainable tax systems; and ensure that the best possible evidence informs our decision-making. They also reaffirmed their commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting decent work, vocational training and skills development, including reskilling workers and improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, with a focus on promoting labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable, subject to national law and circumstances. They also promised to continue fostering cognitive, digital and entrepreneurship skills, and encourage the collection and exchange of good practices. The G20 leaders also pledged to promote increasing labour force participation of underrepresented as well as vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and implement policies to improve the employment situation of young people, consistent with the G20 Antalya Youth Goal.³¹⁸⁸

Commitment Features

The commitment implies actions aimed at harnessing technology to strengthen growth and productivity in line with the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work. New technologies present the greatest challenge for the future of employment, creating both opportunities and threats. That is why G20 leaders committed to harness technology to provide the most advantageous conditions for the future of work. Technology is the key to productivity growth and rising living standards. However, innovation as well as technology diffusion and adoption are uneven.

Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work contains several key spheres of actions to ensure high employment levels. One of them is harnessing the benefits of technology for growth and productivity.

This line of actions consists of three aspects.³¹⁸⁹

- Bridge the productivity gap between frontier and lagging firms.

To ensure that more firms benefit from technological change, countries could foster a more competitive environment where new entrants can enter, innovate, grow and gain market share, limiting the “winner-takes-all” effect where appropriate. Countries could also consider tax and public expenditure as well as nonfinancial measures to help improve the productivity of lagging firms, particularly of small and medium-sized enterprises, through measures aimed at facilitating technology diffusion. Access to private funding is also key.

- Close the technological divide between advanced and emerging market economies.

To realise the benefits of innovation, emerging economies could develop comprehensive strategies to increase R&D investment while supporting the enhancement of other elements needed for the innovation process such as infrastructure, firms’ capabilities, human capital, and physical capital. International trade and investment also have an important role in technology adoption and knowledge diffusion.

- Expand the technological frontier.

³¹⁸⁸ G20 Leaders’ Communique Hangzhou Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Hangzhou). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communique%20Hangzhou%20Summit.pdf>

³¹⁸⁹ G20 Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Buenos Aires). Access date: 14 May 2019. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_menu_of_policy_options_for_the_future_of_work_0.pdf

To raise growth, productivity, and living standards, countries could consider public investment in priority areas where the private sector is unlikely to invest and consider ways to crowd-in private investment. Countries could also consider policies that simplify their regulatory frameworks and reduce regulatory barriers so that businesses can test innovative products, services and business models.

The commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity thus implies actions inside the country aimed at bridging the productivity gap between frontier and lagging firms and promoting new technologies in general and actions outside the country aimed at closing the technological divide between advanced and emerging market economies.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member does not take actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically or help other countries.
0	The G20 member takes actions EITHER to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically OR helps other countries
+1	The G20 member BOTH takes actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically AND help other countries

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on employment.

On 21 December 2018, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Korean Agency for International Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic on the Triangular Cooperation Project for the Development of Agricultural Capacities in Paraguay was signed.³¹⁹⁰ The MoU aims to develop human resources in the spheres of agro-industry, health and justice.

On 23 January 2019, a platform for women aspiring to be bus drivers was launched by the Argentinian Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security.³¹⁹¹ This measure is in line with the Argentinian court's resolution for public transport companies to hire at least 30% of drivers from women.

On 14 February 2019, the Agreement for the Competitiveness and Employment of Tierra del Fuego was renewed.³¹⁹² In the document the national and provincial governments, companies and unions committed to make their contribution to improve the productivity and competitiveness of the electric industry to safeguard quality employment.

On 28-29 March 2019, the 14th edition of the Fair of the Future (Feria Futuro) took place in the Cultural Warehouse of the city of Mendoza.³¹⁹³ The event was organized by the Ministry of

³¹⁹⁰ Cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular entre la Argentina, Corea y Paraguay, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Buenos Aires) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/actualidad/noticias/cooperacion-sur-sur-y-triangular-entre-la-argentina-corea-y-paraguay>.

³¹⁹¹ Se creó el Listado de Mujeres Aspirantes a Choferes de Colectivo, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creo-el-listado-de-mujeres-aspirantes-choferes-de-colectivo>.

³¹⁹² Se renovó el Acuerdo por la Competitividad y el Empleo de Tierra del Fuego, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-renovo-el-acuerdo-por-la-competitividad-y-el-empleo-de-tierra-del-fuego>.

³¹⁹³ Más de 7500 jóvenes visitaron la Feria Futuro en Mendoza, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/mas-de-7500-jovenes-visitaron-la-feria-futuro-en-mendoza>.

Production and Labor of Argentina and National Institute of Youth and brought together more than 7500 young people who had the opportunity to communicate with companies' representatives, attend trainings and receive advice how to develop their ventures.

Argentina has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 14 February 2019, the Productivity Commission released a report "Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)."³¹⁹⁴ The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government's independent research and advisory body. The report looks at the broad challenges and opportunities created by the digital economy and at what institutional and regulatory settings by the Australian and New Zealand Governments would be most effective. It identifies new opportunities for trans-Tasman collaboration in the delivery of trans-Tasman financial services, digital identity frameworks, streamlined digital trade processes and other areas.³¹⁹⁵

On 13 December 2018, the federal government announced an inquiry into the "integration, employment and resettlement" of refugees and humanitarian migrants in Australia. Peter Shergold, the coordinator general of refugee resettlement in New South Wales, said: "It's generally seen that refugees come with many skills and experiences, and refugees tend to be risk takers, entrepreneurial. They are the group of Australians most likely to derive income from setting up family businesses."³¹⁹⁶ "I think it's important that almost from the day refugees arrive, we start to talk to them from day one, about what are their aspirations for employment ... and provide them with the advice they need," he said.³¹⁹⁷

On 15 April 2019, the Australian Government asked the Productivity Commission to develop a whole-of-government evaluation strategy for policies and programs affecting Indigenous Australians, to be used by all Australian Government agencies. The productivity is expected to rise as the Productivity Commission will consult widely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations, and with all levels of government. They will also consult with non-Indigenous organisations and individuals responsible for administering and delivering relevant policies and programs.³¹⁹⁸

³¹⁹⁴ Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Productivity Commission (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/completed/growing-digital-economy>.

³¹⁹⁵ Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Productivity Commission (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/completed/growing-digital-economy>.

³¹⁹⁶ Coalition plans inquiry into integration and employment of refugees, The Guardian (Sydney) 13 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/dec/14/coalition-plans-inquiry-into-integration-and-employment-of-refugees>.

³¹⁹⁷ Coalition plans inquiry into integration and employment of refugees, The Guardian (Sydney) 13 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/dec/14/coalition-plans-inquiry-into-integration-and-employment-of-refugees>.

³¹⁹⁸ Indigenous Evaluation Strategy, Productivity Commission (Canberra) 15 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/indigenous-evaluation>

Australia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 14 December 2018, the Manaus Free Trade Zone's Board of Directors approved 15 industrial and service projects totalling USD77, 8 million. Six projects were approved for implementation and 9 for expansion, diversification and updating. Together, they are expected to generate 936 new jobs and BRL98,2 million in research and development investments in three years.³¹⁹⁹

On 21 December 2018, the Secretariat of Commerce and Services issued new employment booklet covering work on Sundays and holidays, licenses, occupational safety, and health and guarantee fund on duty.³²⁰⁰

On 20 December 2019, the Executive Secretariat of the Foreign Trade Chamber represented the products developed throughout the year for an investment advisory (the website of the Ombudsman for Direct Investments; Investment Newsletter; Camex Indicator of Foreign Direct Investments; and the Technical Group of Support to the Direct Investor, created by Resolution Camex n° 80, within the scope of the National Investment Committee.³²⁰¹

On 7 January 2019, Financier of Studies and Projects, the institute promoting Brazil's economic and social development through public funding, opened the second round of the program of investments in innovative startups. The initiative was aimed at both technology-based companies in the final stages of product development, and those that need to gain scale of production. The proposals submitted should be within the following subject areas: Agritech, Smart and Sustainable Cities, Construtech, Circular Economy, Defense, Creative Economy - Electronic Games, Education, Energy, Fintech, Healthtech, Mining, Oil & Gas, Chemistry.³²⁰²

On 8 January 2019, the Special Secretary for Productivity, Employment and Competitiveness (Sepec) on the opening ceremony of the body stressed that the relationship with the private sector, in the

³¹⁹⁹ Conselho de Administração da Suframa aprova 15 projetos de investimentos industriais e de serviços, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 14 December 2018. Access Date : 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3738-conselho-de-administracao-da-suframa-aprova-15-projetos-de-investimentos-industriais-e-de-servicos>

³²⁰⁰ Secretaria de Comércio e Serviços lança novos cadernos da série de cartilhas das relações de trabalho, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 21 December 2018. Access Date : 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3770-secretaria-de-comercio-e-servicos-lanca-novos-cadernos-da-serie-de-cartilhas-das-relacoes-de-trabalho>.

³²⁰¹ Secretaria-executiva da Camex apresenta as entregas de 2018 relacionadas ao tema investimento, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3766-secretaria-executiva-da-camex-apresenta-as-entregas-de-2018-relacionadas-ao-tema-investimento>

³²⁰² Aberta segunda rodada do programa de financiamento de startups, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/educacao-e-ciencia/2019/01/aberta-segunda-rodada-de-programa-de-financiamento-de-startups>.

next four years, will be partnership and much dialogue to increase Brazilian productivity, generate jobs, make economy more competitive, free companies from bonds.³²⁰³

On 6 February 2019, a representative of the Sepec attended the headquarters of Sebrae in Brasília and reaffirmed the Government's commitment to work in partnership with micro and small enterprises, improve the business environment and implement fiscal reforms in order to boost the productive sector and thus increase competitiveness, competition and the generation of employment, and income for families.³²⁰⁴

On 15 February 2019, the Sepec held a panel discussion with businessmen. There were discussed investments in infrastructure, professional training and partnerships with the private sector, and the reduction of a viable level of the tax burden.³²⁰⁵

On 26 February 2019, the Federal Government, State Government of São Paulo and São Paulo City Hall gathered entrepreneurs in this year's edition of Doing Business Brasil to discuss credit supply, flexibility in opening and closing companies, updates on legislation and opening of markets.³²⁰⁶

On 27 February 2019, the Sepec of the Ministry of Economy presented the New SINE (the National Employment System), including the provision of the data for the System for companies and serving one more channel in the search for employment. Another planned step for the coming months in the New SINE was the standardization of data throughout the country.³²⁰⁷

Brazil has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions to help other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Polina Petrova

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 December 2018, Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell on behalf of the Canada's Minister of Natural Resource Amarjeet Sohi announced a CAD645,000 investment in two Indigenous forestry projects in Yukon that will create jobs and boost the local economy.³²⁰⁸ The first investment of CAD595,000 helped the Teslin Tlingit Council purchase biomass wood chip boilers

³²⁰³ Carlos Da Costa apresenta equipe ao setor produtivo, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3784-carlos-da-costa-apresenta-equipe-ao-setor-produtivo>.

³²⁰⁴ "É preciso impulsionar a produtividade e melhorar o ambiente de negócios", Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3805-e-preciso-impulsionar-a-produtividade-e-melhorar-o-ambiente-de-negocios>.

³²⁰⁵ "Nós estamos de portas abertas para dialogar com o setor privado", Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3812-nos-estamos-de-portas-abertas-para-dialogar-com-o-setor-privado>.

³²⁰⁶ Evento em São Paulo debate melhorias no ambiente de negócios, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3821-evento-em-sao-paulo-debate-melhorias-no-ambiente-de-negocios>.

³²⁰⁷ Governo apresenta medidas para acelerar recolocação profissional, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3823-governo-apresenta-medidas-para-acelerar-recolocacao-profissional>.

³²⁰⁸ Canada Invests in Indigenous Participation in the Forestry Sector in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-indigenous-participation-in-the-forestry-sector-in-yukon.html>

for the community. The project is part of a larger initiative, supported by the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), which reduces reliance on expensive non-renewable heating fuels and helps create jobs by installing direct heating systems.³²⁰⁹

On 18 December 2018, Member of Parliament for Tobique–Mactaquac, T.J. Harvey on behalf of Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, announced CAD295,000 in funding for two Indigenous forest sector projects in New Brunswick that will create jobs and boost the local economy.³²¹⁰ The first project is a multi-year investment of CAD255,000 to the Tobique First Nation that will establish a forest-based community business to create long-term employment opportunities and increase revenues in the community.³²¹¹ Part of this funding has so far supported a detailed analysis of Tobique’s manufacturing options, which led to the purchase of a sawmill in Perth-Andover. The next phase of this funding will create standard operating procedures, training in grading and stamping lumber and management succession planning for the mill that will lead to more local jobs.³²¹²

On 18 December 2018, Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi together with Canada’s Minister of International Trade Diversification Jim Carr announced more than CAD1.6 billion to support jobs and workers in Canada’s oil and gas sector as Canada seeks to diversify export markets for its resources beyond the United States. These measures will support workers and their families, foster competitiveness and improve the long-term environmental performance of the industry.³²¹³

On 30 January 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Paul Lefebvre announced an investment of CAD4.5-million towards the CAD161-million project for Louisiana-Pacific’s Dawson Creek sawmill, which will boost the aging facility’s economic competitiveness and support local forest sector jobs.³²¹⁴ The funding, which is provided through Natural Resources Canada’s Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program, will support everything from engineering and design work to procurement, construction and start-up of Louisiana-Pacific’s mill conversion.³²¹⁵

On 5 March 2019, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories Michael McLeod, on behalf of Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi, announced an investment of more than

³²⁰⁹ Canada Invests in Indigenous Participation in the Forestry Sector in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-indigenous-participation-in-the-forestry-sector-in-yukon.html>

³²¹⁰ Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

³²¹¹ Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

³²¹² Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

³²¹³ Government of Canada Announces Support for Workers in Canada’s Oil and Gas Sector, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-workers-in-canadas-oil-and-gas-sector.html>

³²¹⁴ Government of Canada Supports Innovation and Jobs in British Columbia’s Forest Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 30 January 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supports-innovation-and-jobs-in-british-columbias-forest-industry.html>

³²¹⁵ Government of Canada Supports Innovation and Jobs in British Columbia’s Forest Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 30 January 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supports-innovation-and-jobs-in-british-columbias-forest-industry.html>

CAD3.5 million in two Indigenous-owned Nihtat Corporation projects that will create jobs, cut energy costs and reduce fossil fuel consumption in the North.³²¹⁶

Canada has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions to help other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Uliana Kopyukh

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on employment.

On 5 December 2018, the Chinese government introduced a new set of reform policies and measures to boost innovation. More efforts planned to be made for the commercialization of research and development findings; new fin-tech services will be introduced to explore more financing channels for small- and medium-sized tech companies.³²¹⁷

On 27 December 2018, The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology announced that China would accelerate developing advanced manufacturing, strengthening its innovation and upholding the protection of intellectual property.³²¹⁸

On 2 January 2019, China's Central Bank eased evaluation rules for qualifying financial institutions for supporting small businesses. Financial institutions can enjoy lower reserve requirements ratios if they lend a certain share of their loans to small and micro firms.³²¹⁹

On 6 January 2019, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a meeting with Senegalese Foreign Minister Sidiki Kaba. During the meeting, Wang Yi reaffirmed Chinese willingness to facilitate the construction of infrastructure projects and expand cooperation in building industrial parks in Senegal.³²²⁰

On 9 January 2019, Chinese authorities adapted a new policy on tax regulations for small and medium firms. The tax rate of small firms with taxable revenues of less than 1 million yuan will decrease to 5 percent, and firms with revenues above CNY1 million but lower than CNY3 billion will have a tax rate of 10 percent.³²²¹

On 14 February 2019, General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council issued a guide on strengthening financial support for small companies. According to the document, differentiated monetary and credit policies should be

³²¹⁶ Canada Invests in Clean Energy for Indigenous Communities in the North, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-clean-energy-for-indigenous-communities-in-the-north.html>.

³²¹⁷ China to implement new set of policies to boost innovation, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 6 December 2018.

Access date: 20 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/06/c_137653447.htm.

³²¹⁸ China to speed up development of advanced manufacturing, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 12 December 2018.

Access date: 10 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/27/c_137702617.htm

³²¹⁹ China's central bank adjusts targeted RRR policies to support small firms, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 3 January 2019. Access date: 10 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/03/c_137715434.htm

³²²⁰ China, Senegal to strengthen ties, promote China-Africa cooperation, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 7 January 2019. Access date: 9 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/07/c_137726018.htm

³²²¹ China gives more tax breaks to small firms, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/09/c_137731754.htm

adopted, and financial institutions are encouraged to lend more loans to private enterprises and small and micro businesses.³²²²

China has taken actions both to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score +1.

Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 28 January 2019, Minister of State, Minister for Ecological and Solidarity Transition François de Rugy, Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire, and Chairman of the Strategic Committee for nuclear sector Dominique Minière signed the strategic contract of the nuclear industry to provide employment, skills and training, to develop digital transformation of the nuclear industry, R&D and ecological transformation of the nuclear industry and international development and cooperation.³²²³

On 15 March 2019, Bruno Le Maire signed the contract of Strategic Committee of the Electronic Industries Sector and announced the launch of the development and industrial deployment Nano 2022.³²²⁴ This contract will help to maintain French excellence in key digital technologies by boosting the research, development and innovation effort for the electronic components and by developing strategic partnerships across Europe and to develop the alternating training offer with the aim of doubling the number of alternates in the sector and to promote a competitive 'Made in France' electronic manufacturing by accelerating the transformation of the sector towards the sustainable electronic industry of the future.³²²⁵

On 19 February, Bruno Le Maire signed Franco-German Manifesto for a European Industrial Policy adapted to the 21st century (measures to increase investment in innovation).³²²⁶

On 28 March 2019, Bruno Le Maire and Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal, Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier Runacher decided to continue financing the 9 companies in the amount of EUR147.5 million to

³²²² China issues guideline on reinforced financial support to private enterprises, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 14 February 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/14/c_137822103.htm

³²²³ Signature du contrat stratégique de la filière nucléaire, , Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 28 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019.

https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=E02EEB78-662E-4F7D-A197-D1EA4F9DDF5F&filename=991%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20de%20fili%C3%A8re%20Nucl%C3%A9aire.pdf

³²²⁴ Signature du contrat du comité stratégique de filière de l'industrie électronique et présentation du plan Nano 2022, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 15 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf

³²²⁵ Signature du contrat du comité stratégique de filière de l'industrie électronique et présentation du plan Nano 2022, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 15 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf

³²²⁶ Manifeste franco-allemand pour une politique industrielle européenne adaptée au XXI^e siècle, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 February 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/1043-manifeste-franco-allemand-pour-politique-industrielle-europeenne-adaptee-au-xxie-siecle>

accelerate the transfer of Technology (SATT) created in 2012 as part of the Programmes d'Investissements d'Avenir.³²²⁷

On 15 March 2019, the Business Growth and Transformation Action Plan which aims to empower businesses to innovate, transform, grow and create jobs was adopted in second reading by the National Assembly.³²²⁸

On 9 April 2019, Minister to the Minister of State Elisabeth Borne, Minister for Ecological Transition and Solidaire, in charge of Transport Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Secretary of State for Minister of Economy and Finance, Henri Poupart-Lafarge signed the railway sector contract, in the presence of the Regions of France and trade union organizations (forward planning of jobs and skills allowing to develop the skills of employees to support major projects the sector).³²²⁹

On 7 December 2018, was announced that French Development Agency starts two new programs in Mauritania that will rapidly improve the daily life of people in the southern part of the country by promoting local development and the employment of young people in three vulnerable regions in south Mauritania.³²³⁰

France has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 20 March 2019, the German Government adopted the benchmark figures for the 2020 federal budget. One of the spending priorities identified is strengthening innovations in the private sector, one example being the field of artificial intelligence.³²³¹

On 10 April 2019, the German Government adopted the National Reform Programme 2019. It provides for steps Germany will take to attain the economic and financial goals agreed at the European level. Inter alia, Germany will take measures to strengthen innovation and investment, particularly in the fields of infrastructure, digitalization and education, including through increasing

³²²⁷ Poursuite du financement de 9 sociétés d'accélération du transfert de technologie, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 28 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=F6474ACD-5151-46F4-876E-3F078C88838B&filename=1127%20-%20CP%20SATT%20PIA.pdf

³²²⁸ Le projet de loi PACTE adopté en seconde lecture à l'Assemblée nationale, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/plan-entreprises-pacte>

³²²⁹ Signature du contrat stratégique de la filière ferroviaire, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=4F9DC012-8448-4433-AF90-6C00F4A69D2B&filename=1154%20-%20%20COMMUNIQUE%20DE%20PRESSE%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20strat%C3%A9gique%20de%20la%20fil%C3%A8re%20ferroviaire.pdf

³²³⁰ Support For The People Of South Mauritania: Emergency Action, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/support-people-south-mauritania-emergency-action>

³²³¹ For cooperation and innovation, German Federal Government (Berlin) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/for-cooperation-and-innovation-1592412>.

public investment at regional and municipal level. In addition, incentives will be developed to raise employment rates.³²³²

In 2019, Germany has continued the implementation of projects harnessing technology to strengthen growth and productivity in other countries. As part of its initiative ONE WORLD – No Hunger, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development set up green innovation centers in 14 partner countries. The Ministry will provide funding of EUR277.7 million for these centers until March 2022. The aim of the centers is to use innovation in the agriculture and food sector to increase regional food supplies, boost the income of smallholders, and to create more employment opportunities, particularly in the area of food processing.³²³³

Germany has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepon

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 19 December 2018, the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) under the Government of India unveiled its comprehensive national Strategy for New India, which defines clear objectives for 2022-23 with forty-one crucial areas. Regarding the issue of employment, the NITI has pitched for completing labour reforms, increasing participation of women workers to 30 per cent, implementing minimum wage, improving employment data collection, easing industrial relations to encourage formalization, and broadening social security.³²³⁴

On 31 December 2018, a number of Joint Research Programmes were agreed to be implemented through Memoranda of Understanding and Agreements between the Government of India and the Government of other countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Israel, Norway, New Zealand and Germany. The Programmes are being implemented to provide opportunity to young Indian researchers and teachers of all disciplines to have international collaborative research training in advance techniques and technologies in emerging fields.³²³⁵

On 6 February 2019, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the introduction of National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019. The objective of the bill is to confer the status of Institutions of National Importance to National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management at Kundli, Haryana, and the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. The legislation would provide for functional autonomy to the institutes to design and develop courses, undertake research

³²³² National Reform Programme 2019, German Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

³²³³ Green innovation centres – increase the income of smallholders, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Food/gruene_innovationszentren/hintergrund/index.html.

³²³⁴ The Strategy for New India, National Institution for Transforming India (Delhi) 19 December 2018. Access date: 9 December 2018. <http://niti.gov.in/the-strategy-for-new-india>

³²³⁵ Joint Research Programme to promote collaboration of Indian researchers with international techniques and technologies, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 31 December 2018. Access date: 31 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1557977>

activities and leverage enhanced status in their academic pursuits, so that they become world class institutes.³²³⁶

India has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Polina Stanko

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 February 2019, it was reported that governments of Indonesia and Australia will work jointly to address employment and labor force issues, in particular through a recently launched research platform called the Knowledge Sector Initiative, which will discuss ideas and solutions during the upcoming in July 2019 annual Indonesia Development Forum to be focused on employment and productivity.³²³⁷

On 22 February 2019, it was reported Indonesia's government pledged to improve the digital economy regulatory framework, which will include issuing or revising regulations on e-commerce, a personal data protection bill and a tax office regulation on the e-commerce tax, e-commerce road map and regulation management of electronic transactions and systems; these reforms are intended to help transform Indonesia into a regional digital economy hub by 2020.³²³⁸

On 3 March 2019, Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK), Indonesia's financial services authority, held a national seminar entitled "Millennial Collaboration and Fintech Towards 4.0 Industrial Revolution"; during the seminar it was noted, in particular, that OJK intends to contribute to development of Fintech startups with preparing infrastructure such as the Fintech Center that entrepreneurs can consult with prior to launching a startup, as well as regulatory sandbox arrangements.³²³⁹

On 4 March 2019, it was reported that Indonesia's Minister of Communication and Information encouraged state and private universities in the country to establish a Digital Economy Study Program; to this end, the Ministry pledges to help universities obtain syllabus on digital economy from foreign educational institutions; additionally, the Ministry announced Digital Talent Scholarship 2019 for 25,000 Indonesian nationals who are not yet scholars aimed to develop the knowledge as well as to improve the skills and competencies of the younger generation.³²⁴⁰

Indonesia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

³²³⁶ Cabinet approves introduction of National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019 in the Parliament, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1562969>

³²³⁷ Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>

³²³⁸ Indonesia aspires to be regional digital technology hub next year, The Phnom Penh (Phnom Penh) Post 22 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/indonesia-aspires-be-regional-digital-technology-hub-next-year>

³²³⁹ Help Startup, OJK Opens Free Consultation through the Fintech Center, Detikfinance (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://finance.detik.com/moneter/d-4462482/bantu-startup-ojk-buka-konsultasi-gratis-lewat-fintech-center>

³²⁴⁰ Indonesia's initiatives to meet human resources requirement, OpenGovAsia (Singapore) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesias-initiatives-to-meet-human-resources-requirement/>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 5 December 2018, during the third session of the joint Italy-Serbia commission in Belgrade Italian Ambassador to Serbia Carlo Lo Cascio and Minister of Education, Science and Technological Development Mladen Šarčević signed the 2019-2021 Executive Protocol that includes the list of bilateral projects aimed at funding in six specific areas: basic sciences; health and wellness; agriculture and food technology; safe, clean and efficient energy: development and environmental protection; information and communication technologies, including technologies applied to cultural heritage; advanced production and treatment, nanotechnologies and biotechnologies.³²⁴¹

On 4-6 December 2018, during Week I of Italy-China of Innovation Minister of Education Marco Bussetti and Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China Wang Zhigang signed nineteen economic and academic cooperation agreements on artificial intelligence, robotics, collaboration for the construction of the new Chinese national synchrotron, construction of clusters on emerging technologies, start of summer schools for Chinese and Italian students in mechatronics, robotics advanced and digital systems.³²⁴²

On 19 December 2018, Ministry of Economic Development approved projects for the reconversion and industrial redevelopment of the Porto Torres and Portovesme crisis areas that aim to promote the revitalization of the territory through the promotion of new productive investments and the re-employment of personnel who have escaped from the labor market and to orient industrial reconversion towards the sectors considered priority by the work group, thus able to ensure lasting and sustainable economic development.³²⁴³

On 30 December 2018, the Italian Government approved Budget law that includes introduction of a tax discount for companies that purchase functional (material) functional assets for the technological and digital transformation of activities and a non-repayable contribution for the acquisition of specialist consultancy related to the technological and digital transformation through the technologies envisaged by the Business Plan 4.0.³²⁴⁴

On 7 February 2019, the Ministry of Economic Development approved a law “Nuova Sabatini 2019” that includes measures to make micro, small and medium-sized companies invest in capital goods such as plants, machinery, industrial equipment, commercial equipment, hardware, software and digital technologies, big data, cloud computing, cybersecurity, advanced robotics and mechatronics,

³²⁴¹ Italia-Serbia firmato il Protocollo Esecutivo di cooperazione scientifica e tecnologica 2019-2021, Innovitalia 3.0 (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.innovitalia.net/notizia/italia-serbia-firmato-il-protocollo-esecutivo-di-cooperazione-scientifica-e-tecnologica-2019-2021/>.

³²⁴² Italia-Cina, al via la Settimana dell'Innovazione Sottoscritti 19 accordi di cooperazione: sistemi di ricerca più vicini, Settimana Italia-Cina della Scienza, della Tecnologia e dell'innovazione (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.cnr.it/it/intervento-presidente/allegato/1558>.

³²⁴³ Al MiSE approvati i progetti di riconversione e riqualificazione industriale delle aree di crisi di Porto Torres e Portovesme, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2038991-al-mise-approvati-i-progetti-di-riconversione-e-riqualificazione-industriale-delle-aree-di-crisi-di-porto-torres-e-portovesme>.

³²⁴⁴ La manovra è legge, ecco le misure in dettaglio, La Stampa (Rome) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.lastampa.it/2018/12/30/economia/la-manovra-legge-ecco-le-misure-in-dettaglio-ngeyXPCU2pZNd75OUi6GsK/pagina.html>.

augmented reality, 4D manufacturing and radio frequency identification.³²⁴⁵ It provides access to the Guarantee Fund for small and medium-sized enterprises in support of loans provided by banks and financial intermediaries (up to 80 per cent of the investment amount), as well as a contribution from part of the Ministry of Economic Development compared to the whole number of loans.³²⁴⁶

On 23 March 2019, Italian President of the Council Giuseppe Conte and the President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping signed Memorandum of Understanding between Italy and China on cooperation in the area of the Economic Silk Road and the Initiative for a 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. 29 agreements were signed by different ministries of Italy and China that aim to collaborate in sphere of Innovative and Technological Startups, electricity trade sector, export of fresh citrus fruits, energy.³²⁴⁷

On 11 April 2019, the first meeting between the 18 Digital Innovation hubs promoted by Confindustria and the eight competence centers promoted and financed by the Ministry of Economic Development was held at the Ministry of Economic Development. At the end of the meeting the first two decrees for the granting of loans were signed to the START competence centers in Genoa, promoted by the CNR (Italy's national research centre), and by the MADE competence center, promoted by the Milan Polytechnic.³²⁴⁸

On 18 April 2019, the Global Entrepreneurship Congress took place in Manama (Bahrain), an event that annually brings together the international community of entrepreneurs, investors and startups and saw the presence of operators from over 150 countries. Marco Bellezza, Councilor for Digital Innovation and Communication of the Minister of Economic Development, Luigi Di Maio, was present for Italy. In a meeting on the sidelines of the work with the CEO of the local organization it was agreed to investigate possible bilateral collaborations in the Fintech area.³²⁴⁹

Italy has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

³²⁴⁵ Nuova Sabatini 2019, riaperto lo sportello per le PMI, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039198-nuova-sabatini-2019-riaperto-lo-sportello-per-le-pmi>.

³²⁴⁶ Nuova Sabatini 2019, riaperto lo sportello per le PMI, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039198-nuova-sabatini-2019-riaperto-lo-sportello-per-le-pmi>

³²⁴⁷ Via della Seta, 29 accordi tra Italia e Cina: agrumi, tasse, spazio, turismo, Affari Italiani (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. www.affaritaliani.it/politica/geopolitica/via-della-seta-29-accordi-tra-italia-e-cina-agrumi-tasse-spazio-turismo-595361.html?refresh_ce

³²⁴⁸ Finanziati i Competence center Start di Genova e Made di Milano, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 11 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039585-mise-primo-incontro-digital-innovation-hub>

³²⁴⁹ In Bahrein il Global Entrepreneurship Congress 2019, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039620-in-bahrein-il-global-entrepreneurship-congress-2019>

On 19 December 2018, it was reported that a special website Knowledge Base for Startups was opened to provide useful information for startups such as need-to-know basics concerning intellectual property strategies, support measures and the latest event information.³²⁵⁰

On 9 January 2019, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) announced revision of the “promotion standards” under the Act on the Promotion of Subcontracting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in order to improve the business transaction conditions for SMEs and other subcontractors.³²⁵¹

On 11 January 2019, METI announced launch of a Study Group for Human Resource Management toward Enhanced Competitiveness, which will discuss ideal approaches to human resource management to enhance the competitiveness of Japanese companies, in order to enhance their earning power and create virtuous cycles in the economy amid the dramatic changes in social and economic environments such as globalization, digitalization and an aging society with fewer children.³²⁵²

On 6 March 2019, METI held a seminar bringing together representatives of mid-ranking Japanese companies successfully engaging in business overseas and overseas companies with significant achievements in global business activities, to discuss the roles of mid-ranking companies and their business opportunities for expanding business into foreign markets, as well as measures to support them.³²⁵³

On 7 January 2019, it was reported that the International Organization for Standardization, per request from Japan led by METI, approved the establishment of a new technical committee for the development of international standards for the sharing economy to enhance safety and trustworthiness of information exchange in sharing economy; the new committee will be led by Japan.³²⁵⁴

On 15 January 2019, METI and the Ministry of Economy and Industry of the State of Israel, signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of digital health for building collaboration between medical startups and medical institutions of the two countries, as well as hold events concerning healthcare business environments and measures for supporting companies related to digital health.³²⁵⁵

On 20-22 January 2019, Japan-Russia summit was held in Moscow; as one of its outcomes, achievements in Japan-Russia cooperation in industry were confirmed, including the project being undertaken to determine the productivity of Russian companies that take advantage of Japan’s

³²⁵⁰ Portal Website Titled “IP Knowledge Base for Startups” Opens, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219_004.html

³²⁵¹ METI Revises “Promotion Standards” under Article 3 (1) of the Act on the Promotion of Subcontracting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0109_002.html

³²⁵² METI Launches Study Group for Human Resource Management toward Enhanced Competitiveness, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0111_001.html

³²⁵³ Event Titled “Seminar on Global Top Management: Effort for Encouraging Regional Companies to Enter Global Markets” to be Held, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_002.html

³²⁵⁴ ISO Approved the Establishment of a Technical Committee for International Standardization for the Sharing Economy in Response to Japan’s Proposal, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0107_002.html

³²⁵⁵ Health is Wealth: METI and the Ministry of Economy and Industry of Israel Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Digital Health, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0117_002.html

knowhow and experience and the project for advancing human resources development in supporting industries; the two countries agreed to continue advancing these efforts.³²⁵⁶

Japan has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 4 December 2018, the leaders of Korea and New Zealand held a meeting in Auckland, New Zealand. Moon Jae-in, the President of Korea, and Jacinda Ardern, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, agreed to boost cooperation between the two countries in various spheres including information and communications technologies (ICT), healthcare, defense and biotechnologies.³²⁵⁷

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of Science and ICT signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with CABI (Central American Bank for Economic Integration) with a goal to promote cooperation in the field of ICT and joint investment. The vice-minister of science and ICT of Korea said that the agreement will facilitate spread of the Korean ICT development model to Central America with a purpose to expand broadband Internet and ICT development.³²⁵⁸

On 17 January 2019, the Government of Korea presented a roadmap aimed at increase in usage of hydrogen-powered cars. The Government plans to increase domestic production of eco-friendly types of cars, fuel cell production and total number of charging stations. The ambition is driven by ecological concerns as well as economic calculations: expecting revenue from increase in hydrogen-powered vehicles production would reach KRW40 trillion by 2040 with more than 420000 created jobs.³²⁵⁹

On 14 February 2019, Korea and Croatia signed a MoU on Science and Technology cooperation. The parties agreed to expand cooperation in joint research and talent exchanges in various spheres including ICT, energy, life sciences, etc.³²⁶⁰

Korea has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

³²⁵⁶ METI Minister Seko Visits the Russian Federation, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_003.html

³²⁵⁷ Leaders of Korea, New Zealand agree to boost cooperation, economic ties, Korea Herald (Seoul) 4 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181204000074&ACE_SEARCH=1

³²⁵⁸ Korea to Strengthen ICT Cooperation with Central America, Ministry of Science and ICT (Seoul) 27 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catelid=mse42&artId=1502251>

³²⁵⁹ Gov't unveils roadmap for hydrogen-powered economy, Korea Times (Seoul) 17 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/01/419_262238.html

³²⁶⁰ Korea – Croatia MoU on Science and Technology Cooperation Signed, Ministry of Science and ICT (Seoul) 14 February 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catelid=mse42&artId=1703799>

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 18 December 2018, President López Obrador and Nestlé Mexico announced historic investment of MEX154 million for the installation of a new factory in Veracruz. Construction, installation and operation stages of the new factory will generate more than 10 thousand direct and indirect jobs in the state of Veracruz.³²⁶¹

On 27 February 2019, Ministry of Labor and Social Security published information on the extension of the current Employment Support Program, which allows to ensure providing citizens with jobs.³²⁶²

Mexico has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 30 December 2018, the Order No. 3025-p approved the Special Program for Vocational Training and Additional Professional Education for Citizens of Pre-retirement Age for the Period up to 2024 and a plan for organizing such training. The program is designed to create economic and social conditions that exclude discrimination of citizens of pre-retirement age due to the changes in pension legislation. They will be able to continue working in both the former and the new jobs according to their professional skills. By the end of 2024 at least 450,000 people will likely be trained.³²⁶³

On 20-22 January 2019, Japan-Russia summit was held in Moscow; as one of its outcomes, achievements in Japan-Russia cooperation in industry were confirmed, including the project being undertaken to determine the productivity of Russian companies that take advantage of Japan's knowhow and experience and the project for advancing human resources development in supporting industries; the two countries agreed to continue advancing these efforts.³²⁶⁴

Russia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anna Piekalnits

³²⁶¹ Presidente López Obrador y Nestlé México anuncian inversión histórica de 154 mdd para instalación de nueva fábrica en Veracruz, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 December 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/presidente-lopez-obrador-y-nestle-mexico-anuncian-inversion-historica-de-154-mdd-para-instalacion-de-nueva-fabrica-en-veracruz?idiom=es>

³²⁶² Programa de Apoyo al Empleo, Mexican Government (Mexico) 27 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/stps/documentos/programa-de-apoyo-al-empleo>

³²⁶³ On approval of the program of vocational training and additional professional education of citizens of pre-retirement age, Russian Government (Moscow) 31 December 2018. Access date: 16 February 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35283/>

³²⁶⁴ METI Minister Seko Visits the Russian Federation, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_003.html

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 8 February 2019, the Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Saudi Arabia and the General Authority of Small and Medium Enterprises (Monshaat) presented a number of new services to encourage the development of small and medium enterprises in Saudi Arabia to increase total employment among Saudi nationals.³²⁶⁵

On 28 April 2019, Saudi Arabia presented an initiative aimed at creation of more than 500.000 jobs in digital-related industries by 2023 in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Saudi Arabia also announced launch of the Qiwa online platform to combine all the country's employment services in one-window system.³²⁶⁶

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 20 March 2019, Provincial Minister for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Sihle Zikalala announced R18 billion expansion plan for Dube Trade Port the expansion of one of two KwaZulu-Natal Special Economic Zones, Dube TradePort, was set to create hundreds of jobs as the province geared for yet another round of the miracle in its Durban Aerotropolis precinct.³²⁶⁷

On 28 March 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the Business Leadership South Africa Connect. Business Leadership South Africa Connect was an online trading platform which would link registered small, medium and micro enterprises access to supply chain opportunities of large South African corporations that had an integrated global footprint. The online portal would promote supplier diversity and the inclusion of black suppliers in the value chain.³²⁶⁸

South Africa has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov

³²⁶⁵ New "Saudization" labor initiatives aim to encourage startups, Arab News (Jeddah) 8 February 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1448851/saudi-arabia>

³²⁶⁶ Saudi Arabia plans to create 561.000 jobs under new digital employment initiative, Arab News (Jeddah) 28 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1487711/saudi-arabia>.

³²⁶⁷ MEC Sihle Zikalala announces R18 billion expansion plan for Dube Trade Port, South African Government (Cape Town) 20 March 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-sihle-zikalala-announces-r-18-billion-expansion-plan-dube-trade-port-20-mar-2019-0000>.

³²⁶⁸ President Cyril Ramaphosa launches business development platform, 28 Mar, South African Government (Cape Town) 27 March 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-launches-business-development-platform-28-mar-27-mar-2019-0000>.

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 12 February 2019, Istanbul Technical University opened a new technology park ITU Magnet Fab I Tridi, or Turkey's comprehensive digital production center, as a new important element of Turkey's innovation and entrepreneurship support ecosystem.³²⁶⁹

On 18-19 February 2019, World Business Angels Investment Forum was held in Istanbul, having hosted policymakers, entrepreneurs, representatives of financial institutions and companies, and hundreds of angel investors from all around the world, with the goal to collaborate globally to empower world economic development by creating innovative financial instruments for innovators, startups, and SMEs; during the forum a number of agreements were signed to support entrepreneurship and innovation in the developing countries, namely, in Kosovo, Ghana and on the African continent more broadly.³²⁷⁰

On 26 February 2019, an agreement between Turkey's education ministry and defense body was announced, aimed to build their cooperation on vocational and technical training to raise future experts and enhancing current capacities and facilities in various technology fields, including information technology, electric and electronic technology, industrial automation technology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and others.³²⁷¹

Turkey has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

United Kingdom: +1

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 17 December 2018, a "Good work plan" was issued by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. The Good Work Plan sets out the vision for the future of the UK labour market and ways the government will implement the recommendations arising from the Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices.³²⁷²

On 19 March 2019, the Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW) programme was launched by UK's Department for International Development. The objective of WOW is that women have access to improved economic opportunities through business interventions in supply chains and economic development programmes.³²⁷³ After the selection process it was decided that special fund of the programme will allocate financing to following international projects: Innovations in informal land

³²⁶⁹ Technoparks at Turkish universities contribute \$4 billion to exports, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/02/13/technoparks-at-turkish-universities-contribute-4-billion-to-exports>.

³²⁷⁰ Istanbul hosts international angel investment forum, Hurriyett Daily News (Istanbul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/istanbul-hosts-international-angel-investment-forum-141316>.

³²⁷¹ Turkey's education ministry, defense body to train future tech experts, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/education/2019/02/26/turkeys-education-ministry-defense-body-to-train-future-tech-experts>

³²⁷² Good work plan, UK Government (London) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/good-work-plan>

³²⁷³ Work and Opportunities for Women, UK Government (London) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/work-and-opportunities-for-women>

tenure awareness, rights and security for the economic empowerment of informal women workers in Delhi and Patna, Accelerating national progress toward achieving equality in unpaid care and domestic work and promoting women's economic empowerment in Rwanda, Home-based Workers Organizing for Economic Empowerment in South Asia.³²⁷⁴

On 22 March 2019, Women's Progression in the Workplace: actions for employers guidance was issued by Government Equalities Office. Guidance for employers on the evidence based actions they can take to support women to progress, to help to close the gender pay gap and increase gender equality in the workplace.³²⁷⁵

United Kingdom has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United States: 0

United States has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 16 April 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration has announced the availability of up to USD400,000 in funding through its Brookwood-Sago grant program to support education and training to help identify, avoid, and prevent unsafe working conditions in and around the nation's mines.³²⁷⁶

On 22 April 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor today announced the availability of approximately USD2 million in funds for the first year of a cooperative agreement for an employer-focused disability policy development and technical assistance center. The solicitation is a re-competition of an existing cooperative agreement.³²⁷⁷

United States has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

European Union: +1

European Union has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission announced that companies in the European Union had increased their investment in research and development (R&D) for the eighth consecutive

³²⁷⁴ Work and Opportunities for Women, UK Government (London) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/work-and-opportunities-for-women>

³²⁷⁵ Women's Progression in the Workplace: actions for employers, UK Government (London) 22 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/womens-progression-in-the-workplace-actions-for-employers>.

³²⁷⁶ U.S. Department Of Labor Announces Availability Of Up To \$400,000 In Brookwood-Sago Grants For Mine Safety Education And Training, US Department of Labor (Washington) 16 April 2019. Access date: 13 May 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/msha/msha20190416>.

³²⁷⁷ U.S. Department Of Labor Announces Funding Opportunity For New Center For Employer-Focused Disability Policy And Technical Assistance, US Department of Labor (Washington) 22 April 2019. Access date: 13 May 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190422>.

year.³²⁷⁸ In 2017, they invested 5.5 per cent more in R&D activities than the year before. This growth is driven by the automobile, health and ICT sectors. In a telling sign of an ever more dynamic global technological race, the top 2500 industrial players worldwide increased their R&D investment by 8.3 per cent last year. The EU stated to be committed to continue investing into R&D, because research and innovation are the key drivers of productivity and hence prosperity growth.³²⁷⁹

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission announced that the European Investment Fund (EIF) would provide a guarantee to Privredna Banka Zagreb (PBZ) for a EUR 25 million portfolio of new loans to innovative small and medium-sized and small mid-cap businesses.³²⁸⁰ The EIF guarantee was made possible by the Investment Plan for Europe (the Juncker Plan), under the InnovFin SME Guarantee Facility, set up between the European Investment Fund (EIF), part of the European Investment Bank (EIB) group, and the European Commission. The InnovFin guarantee enabled innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and small mid-cap companies to benefit from more favourable financing terms than those currently available on the banking market in Croatia. Thus, loans included under the InnovFin portfolio would enable SME businesses to expand, innovate and create new jobs.³²⁸¹

On 7 February 2019, the European Commission sponsored a day-long study visit under the Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion Technical Assistance programme to Qredits in Almelo, the Netherlands, which is one of the more mature and sustainable organisations in the European microfinance sector and its business model attracts a lot of interest due to its dynamism and embrace of new technologies to increase efficiency and productivity. The event organizers welcomed participants from 10 MFIs, interested in improving their business model and reaching sustainability by further embracing technology.³²⁸²

On 22 February 2019, the European Commission announced that on 8-9 April 2019 the Conference on the 15th Anniversary of the 2004 EU Enlargement would be held. One of the events of the conference would be dedicated to increasing investment into physical and human capital in the enlargement countries in order to strengthen economic growth and labour productivity. This was meant to bridge the gap between the developed countries of the European Union and its emerging markets.³²⁸³

³²⁷⁸ 2018 Industrial R&D Scoreboard: EU companies increase research investment amidst a global technological race, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17_en.

³²⁷⁹ 2018 Industrial R&D Scoreboard: EU companies increase research investment amidst a global technological race, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17_en.

³²⁸⁰ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR 25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en.

³²⁸¹ Investment Plan for Europe: EUR 25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en.

³²⁸² EaSI Technical Assistance study visit to Qredits – exploring an IT-driven microfinance business model, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1081&eventsId=1377&furtherEvents=yes>.

³²⁸³ Conference on the 15th Anniversary of the 2004 EU Enlargement: Looking back, looking forward, European Commission (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/conference-15th-anniversary-2004-eu-enlargement-looking-back-looking-forward_en.

On 18 December 2018, the European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force was launched. The European Commission set out its ambitions for a comprehensive and innovative partnership between Africa and the EU called the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investments and Jobs.³²⁸⁴ This included a renewed determination to boost investment for job creation and to strengthen the role of the private sector. The EU-AU Digital Economy Task Force would work on four complementary areas: 1) to provide recommendations on policies and measures that can support pan-African digital integration, ensuring the overcoming of the fragmentation of existing markets; 2) to identify ways to boost both public and private investment in the African digital economy, ensuring growth, effectiveness and productivity; 3) to provide recommendations on development of digital sphere of the economy and digital skill of human capital; and 4) to identify structural reforms to improve the business environment and investment climate, which will also boost growth and productivity.³²⁸⁵

On 2-3 April 2019, the European Union together with South and East Mediterranean countries held the 4th Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour.³²⁸⁶ The ministers agreed to focus actions on four regional priorities: supporting decent job creation and entrepreneurship, mobilizing public and private stakeholders to create partnerships and synergies, building inclusive labour markets to integrate potentially vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and investing in quality education systems and training, skills and employability in a changing world.³²⁸⁷

On 4 April 2019, the European Commission adopted five new programmes and three top-ups of current programmes worth EUR115.5 million under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to complement ongoing efforts in the Sahel and Lake Chad region.³²⁸⁸ Two measures introduced by the Commission aimed specifically at developing economic and development opportunities. In Ghana, new activities worth EUR20 million would improve job prospects and encourage the transition to green and climate resilient economies. In Mali, an additional EUR13 million would support job creation and the provision of public services in fragile security areas around Gao and Timbuktu.³²⁸⁹

European Union has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Karina Khasanova

³²⁸⁴ The European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en.

³²⁸⁵ The European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en.

³²⁸⁶ 4th Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=1382&furtherEvents=yes>.

³²⁸⁷ 4th Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=1382&furtherEvents=yes>.

³²⁸⁸ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job_en.

³²⁸⁹ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job_en.