



Denis LEAMY is the Irish delegate on the OECD Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) directing committee and is also Chair of the OECD Forum for Local Development Practitioners, Entrepreneurs and Social Innovators Board. Denis is Chief Executive of Pobal since 2008. Pobal was established as an intermediary in 1992 by the Irish Government in agreement with the European Commission. Today it delivers 25 programmes to the value of €450 million per annum on behalf of the Irish Government and the EU. The programmes relate to early years and education, inclusive activation, social inclusion and local development. The main objective of Pobal is the delivery of programmes which promote social inclusion, reconciliation and equality through integrated social and economic development within communities. The Department of housing, planning, community and local government is Pobal's parent department. In his role as CEO of Pobal, Denis has overseen an extensive change and strategic management programme. This process has reshaped the company to align with the changing needs of funders and beneficiaries. It has allowed the company offer flexible responses both to the economic crisis and now to resumed growth. Denis is a graduate of Maynooth University and University College Dublin. He began his career in 1989 as a youth worker in Tallaght, West Dublin and has a wide portfolio of experience managing youth and family support projects in Dublin and Kilkenny.