

## **Equity and the Future of the American Economy: A Policy Agenda to Build an Equitable Economy**

PolicyLink, [www.PolicyLink.org](http://www.PolicyLink.org)<sup>1</sup>

As America continues to become more diverse, the nation's ability to achieve sustained growth and prosperity hinges on how quickly we can erase lingering racial and class divides and fully apply everyone's talents and creativity to building the next economy. Equity, inclusion, and fairness are no longer only moral imperatives - they are economic ones.

The face of America is changing, and the fate of the nation hinges on how we react to this change. We need a new way forward to integrate everyone into the economy, including the communities of color who are driving our population growth yet have too often been left behind. By embracing these policy priorities, the federal government can begin to implement a new growth model - one that is driven by equity - and steer our country toward prosperity for all.

The following describes a national policy platform for building an equitable economy.

### **A Policy Agenda to Grow an Equitable Economy**

1. Grow Good Jobs
  - a. Maximize the equity and growth returns from public spending and investment.
  - b. Improve the pay and quality of low-wage jobs.
  - c. Expand entrepreneurship among people of color.
  
2. Build Capacities
  - a. Upgrade the education and skills of our diverse workplace
  - b. Ensure all children can realize their full potential in the global economy.
  
3. Erase Barriers and Expand Opportunities
  - a. Dismantle racial barriers to economic inclusion and civic participation
  - b. Create communities of opportunity through place-based strategies and investments.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a summary of a full agenda found here:  
<http://www.policylink.org/find-resources/library/policy-agenda-to-build-an-equitable-economy>