

Workshop 3: Policies and Strategies for Dealing with Shrinkage

Day 1: Wednesday 16th February 15h30 – 17h30

Chair: OECD, Cristina Martinez-Fernandez

15.30–15.50

SETTING UP THE DISCUSSION

The workshop is organised by the OECD LEED Programme as part of its project on Demographic Change. The workshop aims to discuss the complexity of elements impacting policy development for national and local governments and other actors in dealing with demographic change, particularly with regards to the labour market.

[Introduction to the workshop and to the OECD project on 'Local scenarios of demographic change: policies and strategies for sustainable development, skills and employment'](#), *Dr. Cristina Martinez-Fernandez*, Policy Analyst, OECD LEED Programme

[Why skills are important for shrinking cities? Implications of new skills for new jobs in the European context](#), *Mr. Robert Strauss*, Head of Unit, Employment Analysis, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

15.50–17.30

THEME 1

DO WE NEED POLICIES FOR SHRINKING CITIES? AND IF SO WHICH ONES?

15.50-17.00

This session will discuss the challenges of shrinking cities; if specific policies should be designed or if traditional planning instruments and investment strategies can provide a response to this type of cities/towns.

Paper presentations:

- ✓ 'Shrinking cities - a challenge for planning cultures', *Pallagst, K.*
- ✓ 'The paradox in planning for shrinkage', *Sousa, S. & P. Pinho*
- ✓ '[A place to be proud of: history and its role in shrinking cities](#)', *Mulder, A.*
- ✓ 'Population decline in 3 European regions: causes, consequences, policies', *L. van Wissen*

Discussants Prof Sylvie Fol (France) and Prof Sergio Moraes (Brazil)

17.00-17.30

Panel discussion

Experts: Presenters (K. Pallagst, S. Sousa, A. Mulder, L. van Wissen), Hendrik Theunissen (EU Committee of the Regions) and Aldert de Vries (Ministry of Internal Affairs, Department of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Integration, The Netherlands)

Day 2: Thursday 17th February 9h00 – 12h00

Chair: EC, Robert Strauss

9.00-10.30

THEME 2

INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES OF POLICIES FOR SHRINKING CITIES – IS THERE AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO FOSTER SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT?

This session will discuss examples of strategies and policies for shrinking cities in different OECD countries. Experts will reflect on the target goals of policies and programmes in their case studies/countries. In particular experts will discuss if there is an integrated approach of local economic development, skills development, and job creation strategies and programs in areas of shrinkage.

Paper presentations:

- ✓ '[Urban shrinkage and post-socialist transformation: the case of Poland](#)', *Strykiewicz, T., P. Ciesiolka & E. Jaroszewska*
- ✓ '[Selicato Strategies for dealing with urban shrinkage. Issues and scenarios in Taranto](#)', *Camarda, D. F. Rotondo & F.*
- ✓ '[Urban shrinkage in Parkstad Limburg](#)', *Elzerman, K. & M. Bontje*
- ✓ '[Determinants and shrink smart strategies for the municipalities of Portugal](#)', *Panagopoulos, T. & A. P. Barreira*
- ✓ 'Policy strategies for dealing with shrinkage in Slovene cities', *Sasek Divjak, M.*
- ✓ 'Residential attractiveness as a public policy goal for declining industrial cities - the case of Mulhouse, Roubaix and Saint Etienne', *Miot, Y.*

10.30-11.00

Coffee Break

11.00-12.00

THEME 3

ARE POLICIES FOR SHRINKING CITIES EFFECTIVELY ADDRESSING SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT MARKET ISSUES?

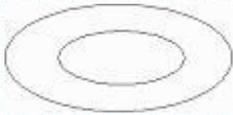
Floor discussion, fishbowl methodology

- Lead discussant 1 (inner circle): *Mr. Robert Strauss, EC*
- Lead discussant 2 (inner circle): *Ms Naoko Kubo, OECD*
- Lead discussant 3 (inner circle): *Mr Manuel Wolf, Germany*

Facilitator: *Dr. Cristina Martinez-Fernandez*

What is a “fishbowl” discussion – how will it work?

The method we are using for the workshops is called a ‘Fish Bowl’. It is an innovative format which ensures that participants will step in and “take over the agenda” of the discussion through their questions and comments, making the workshop more relevant and interesting for people. For the fishbowl two circles of chairs will be made, with an inner and an outside circle as follows:



Four to five chairs are arranged in an inner circle. This is the fishbowl. The remaining chairs are arranged in concentric circles outside the fishbowl. A few led-off discussants are selected to fill the fishbowl inner circle, while the rest of the group sits on the chairs in the outside circle. In the inner circle, one or two chairs are left empty.

The facilitator will introduce the topic. A led-off discussant will start off in the inner circle and begin to discuss the topic. The rest of the participants (probably around 25-30) will stand in the outside circle and listen to the discussion.

At any point during the discussion any member of the audience can move into the empty chair and join the fishbowl. You may wish to tap one of the existing fishbowl members on the shoulder to encourage them to move. When this happens, an existing member of the fishbowl must voluntarily leave the fishbowl and free a chair. The discussion continues with participants frequently entering and leaving the fishbowl. The idea is that during the session everyone will have an opportunity to sit in the fishbowl. This relies on all participants, and chiefly the paper presenters playing an active role. There will be no opportunity to show any PowerPoint slides unfortunately.

When time runs out, the fishbowl will end and the facilitator will endeavour to summarize the discussion.

What will we focus on / discuss in the fishbowl session?

Building on the full workshop presentations and discussions and using the experts from the formal papers and experts in the audience, we will use the fishbowl discussion to jointly tackle the topic of the effectiveness of policies and programs for shrinking cities and the extent of integrative local economic development approaches and skills and employment strategies.

For more information contact Dr Cristina Martinez-Fernandez cristina.martinez@oecd.org

For information on the OECD project on Demographic Change see http://www.oecd.org/document/52/0,3746,en_2649_34417_46828916_1_1_1_1,00.html