
International workshop



GOVERNMENT APPROACHES TO SUPPORTING LOCAL ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT

11 October 2012, Riga, Latvia

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Peldu Street 25, room 409

Organised by the OECD LEED Programme and
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

Agenda

Today many local communities are confronted with the challenge of reducing high and persistent unemployment and defining new sources of economic growth, all in the context of shrinking public resources. Governments are re-thinking their approaches in supporting local development, seeking ways to achieve maximum local impact and ensure that implementation mechanisms are operating efficiently at a local level. Priority is being given to policy mechanisms and structures which ensure that best practice be embedded in approaches to tackle unemployment, support job creation and stimulate growth at the local level. The event will gather representatives of ministries responsible for regional development and employment from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia and selected OECD countries to exchange on approaches that work in addressing these challenges.

■ Tuesday, 11 October 2012

11.30 - 12.00 Arrival / Registration, lunch (served in the room)

12.00 - 12.30 OPENING SESSION

Welcome

Ilona Raugze, Deputy State Secretary for Regional Development at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (10 minutes)

Sylvain Giguère, Head of the OECD LEED Division (5 minutes)

Introduction

Jan Hendeliowitz, Chair of the OECD LEED Directing Committee & Senior Policy Advisor, Danish National Labour Market Authority, Denmark (15 minutes)

12.30 - 14.00 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY DELIVERY SYSTEMS

12.30 - 13.20 Session chaired by *Debra Mountford*, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD LEED Programme

This session will focus on how economic development is delivered and organised at the local level reviewing national versus local roles and challenges since the crisis. The OECD will present an overview of the issue and policy responses in selected OECD countries. This will be followed by presentations by three Baltic States on their current approaches to local development policy delivery, main challenges and issues.

Introduction by the OECD

Debra Mountford, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD LEED Programme (10 minutes)

Presentations:

- **Presentation by *Ilona Raugze***, Deputy State Secretary for Regional Development at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia (15-20 minutes)
- **Presentation by *Kaire Ööbik***, Head of Regional Policy Bureau of Regional Development Department at the Ministry of the Interior of Estonia (15-20 minutes)

13.20 - 14.00 **Comments and moderated discussion**

Comments by

Jerry Murphy, Pobal, Ireland (10 minutes)

Petter Knutzen, Special Adviser, Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, Norway (10 minutes)

Moderated discussion

14.00 - 14.30 Coffee break

14.30 - 16.00 THE ROLE OF LABOUR MARKET AND TRAINING POLICIES IN SUPPORTING LOCAL JOB CREATION

Session chaired by *Sylvain Giguère*, Head of the OECD LEED Division

In the recovery, local communities can boost economic growth and sustainability by investing in a skilled workforce which is less expendable, more adaptable to change and better able to contribute to productivity growth and the creation of new jobs. In order to contribute to this agenda, employment and training organisations need to align their services effectively with local conditions and with broader local economic development strategies, while preserving accountability and ensuring the achievement of national policy objectives. The OECD LEED Programme is currently reviewing how this is achieved through an international comparative review in 10 countries. The first results of this work will be introduced by the OECD, followed by presentations by labour market institutions of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia reflecting on the successes and challenges they face in supporting local job creation.

Introduction by the OECD

Ekaterina Travkina, Policy Analyst, OECD LEED Programme (15 minutes)

Presentations:

■ **Presentation by Ilze Zvīdriņa**, Deputy Director of Labour Market Policy Department of the Ministry of Welfare of Latvia (15 minutes)

■ **Presentation by Estonia**

Comments by *Jan Hendeliowitz*, Chair of the OECD LEED Directing Committee & Senior Policy Advisor, Danish National Labour Market Authority, Denmark

16.00 - 17.30

EMERGING POLICY CHALLENGES IN THE BALTIC REGION AND HOW LEED CAN HELP

Session chaired by *Sylvain Giguère*, Head of the OECD LEED Division

The above discussions will help to identify the policy challenges in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia with respect to local economic and employment development. The objective of this session is to review and discuss how the LEED Programme of work 2013-2014 can help to respond to these challenges and which activities are most pertinent to the Baltic context and needs, and, in the same time, suggest the areas where other OECD countries can best learn from the experience of the three Baltic countries.

Open discussion**Closing remarks**

Ilona Raugze, Deputy State Secretary for Regional Development at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

Sylvain Giguère, Head of the OECD LEED Division

17.30

End of the workshop

OECD LEED Forum on Partnerships and Local Governance

www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/forum/partnerships

FORUM TEAM

OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

Mailing address:

Rue André-Pascal 2
F-75775 Paris Cedex 16, France

Sylvain Giguère, Head of the LEED Division

Ekaterina Travkina, Forum Team Leader

Francesca Froy, Co-ordinator for activities on employment, skills and local governance

Cristina Martinez, Policy Analyst, Manager, ESSSA Initiative (Employment and Skills Strategies in Southeast Asia)

OECD LEED Trento Centre for Local Development, Trento, Italy

Mailing address:

Vicolo San Marco 1
I-38122 Trento, Italy

Andrea-Rosalinde Hofer, Policy Analyst (reviews, capacity building sessions) – on long-term training leave

Elisa Campestrin, Information and Communication Technology Manager

Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI), Vienna, Austria

Mailing address:

Linke Wienzeile 246
A-1150 Vienna, Austria

Michael Förschner, Team Leader at ZSI

Anette Scoppetta, Manager of the projects “Coordination Unit of Territorial Employment Pacts (TEPs) in Austria” at ZSI

FORUM BOARD

Chairman: Robert Strauss, Head of Unit, Employment Analysis, DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion, European Commission

Doris Ballwein, ESF Expert, Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection (BMAK), Austria

Hélène Deslauriers, Executive Director, Réseau des SADC du Québec, Canada

Randall Eberts, Executive Director, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, US

Denis Leamy, Chief Executive of Pobal, Ireland

Sally Sinclair, CEO of the National Employment Services Association, Australia

Louis Vervloet, Director of ESF Unit, Flemish Ministry of Employment, Belgium