



OECD LEED Fourth Forum Meeting

Partnerships for Skills and Competitiveness

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Some opening remarks....

Robert Strauss

European Employment Strategy, CSR, Local Development



Why consider partnerships for skills and competitiveness?

Within a locality

- Partners have diversity and thus different forms of leverage to confront issues and act.



Between localities

- Partners can bring experience of thriving and declining places: different aspects of similar issues.
- Partners can make each other aware that today's shrinking cities can be tomorrow's boom town (and vice versa).



Partnerships: flexible chains connecting localities to the world of growing internationalisation, technological and demographic change – the local response.

Partnerships: key connection between the local and the European concept of flexicurity – increasing labour market flexibility and security – the policy response to globalisation and ageing.



Skills: central to lifelong learning - a vital component of flexicurity. Local level implementation.

Partnerships: required to successfully increase flexibility and security of both workers and enterprises – social partners and others.



- Measuring skills needs
- Upgrading labour force skills
- Loss of skills in rural areas
- Skills strategies for cities
- Local management of skilled migration

address vital aspects of labour market adaptability through partnership.



How can partnerships, through boosting skills and competitiveness ensure - locally, regionally, nationally and beyond - that people adapt to change and the benefits are spread most widely?