



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT



OECD reviews of higher education in regional and city development Next steps and closing remarks

Roundtable for HEIs and regions
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Self-evaluation

- Different ways to organise project management and SER drafting
 - Regional co-ordinator supported by a project group (graduate students/researchers)
 - Good practice example: Rotterdam
- SER is
 - a coherent, self-contained analytical document
 - not a descriptive list of responses to the list of questions in the guidelines (not a questionnaire to HEIs)
 - provides OECD with a single, integrated response; but also articulates different views of stakeholders
- SER includes
 - Hard data and trends over time
 - Good practice examples
 - Visions and challenges highlighted through SWOT
- *SER will be published on the OECD website: final version no later than three weeks after the OECD review visit*



Building a Learning Region

- OECD review is designed to be a learning and capacity building project
- The focus is on collaborative working btw HEIs and their regional partners
- OECD review can act as a change agent: the process will mobilise partners
 - identify and document the situation before, during and after the project
 - documentation will help continuing the process after the review



Cross-cutting themes

- Diversity (ethnic, religious, immigrant populations)
- Equity and widening access
- Sustainability
- Contribution to cultural development; creative industries
- HEIs as place makers
- Aspirations for world class status: world class university or world class HE system which drives the regional growth
- Transition to service/knowledge-based economy
- SMEs

Challenges

- Leadership and motivation issues
 - Multiple agendas within HEIs and stakeholders
 - Engaging HEIs: evaluation/reform fatigue, top down approach
 - Engaging stakeholders: changes of key people and difficulties to motivate them, politics
- Geographical boundaries
 - cross-border matters
- Fragmentation of regional and local governments
- Centralisation/decentralisation issues
- Boundaries btw HEIs and HEIs and other tiers of education
 - long established HEIs and the new ones
 - Pathways (horizontal and vertical)

Ideas for the forthcoming 3rd round of reviews

- 1st and 2nd round veterans as consultants / advisors / mentors
- Twinning of new and old regions
- Follow-up of regions that have been reviewed
- Promotion of best practices
- Mechanism to share success stories (web, LinkedIn); (stimulating and moderating the community)
- OECD resource person who reaches out monthly and serves as an information bridge
- Initial OECD meeting in the region / country meetings
- Simplified guidelines; longer timelines
- Request HEIs to set up 5 year goals



Overall timeline 2008-2010

- Self-evaluation phase
 - August 2008 to Jan 2010
- Visits by OECD review teams
 - August 2009 to April 2010
- Peer Review Report tailored for the region
 - Jan 2010 to September 2010
- Dissemination meetings (regional, national, international)
 - January 2010 – October 2010 (Sep 2010 Barcelona)
- Analysis and synthesis by OECD and final conference
 - 13-15 September IMHE General conference
 - End 2010 (or early 2011) - Andalusia