



educationtoday

OECD's education *lighthouse* for the way out of the crisis

RATIONALE

With the economic and social crisis having an increasing impact on education, member countries call for a new initiative for information exchange, dissemination of good practice, research and 'intelligence' on various ways to combat the crisis. The best way to meet this urgent demand is to establish a collaborative resource facility, adapted to the speed and unpredictability of the crisis. The *lighthouse* would also serve as guidance to countries on how education can help to create the post-crisis economy and society.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide information, evidence and analysis on the impact of the crisis on education;
- Detect and disseminate practices in the education domain developed by countries and educational institutions to overcome the crisis, in particular innovative practices.

TOPICS

Priority issues include: education budgets; the role of education in stimulus packages; financial resources of institutions (both public and private); educational demand and participation patterns; the impact of unemployment on motivation and learning attitudes of students; the work force in education and teacher training programmes; school building and didactic infrastructure; curricular changes aimed at improving skills for innovation; learning outcomes and assessment.

The geographical scope will include OECD member countries, as well as accession countries, enhanced engagement countries and selected non-member economies.

INFORMATION SOURCES

The *lighthouse* will draw on carefully selected and validated information sources, such as questionnaires and surveys of member countries; information provided by national experts, delegations and correspondents in governmental agencies; and national and international media.

The *lighthouse* will also liaise with other international research centres and organisations (UNESCO, ILO).

OUTPUTS

Through a collaborative Web 2.0 site (<https://community.oecd.org/educationtoday>; available late June 2009), countries will be able to share intelligence and their experience in addressing the financial crisis, allowing each country to learn from the approaches pursued by others. The site's design will distinguish between information that governments wish to share with one another in a restricted access section and information that is made available publicly. The OECD will add value to this by analysing the information provided by countries as well as other intelligence, both thematically and on a country-specific basis, and will share the results with countries through brief thematic and country studies. The OECD will also provide for a forum for countries to discuss the evidence and analysis through thematic seminars with national experts.

WHO TO CONTACT

For further information, contact cassandra.davis@oecd.org.