



Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



Local Economic and Employment Development Programme

OECD

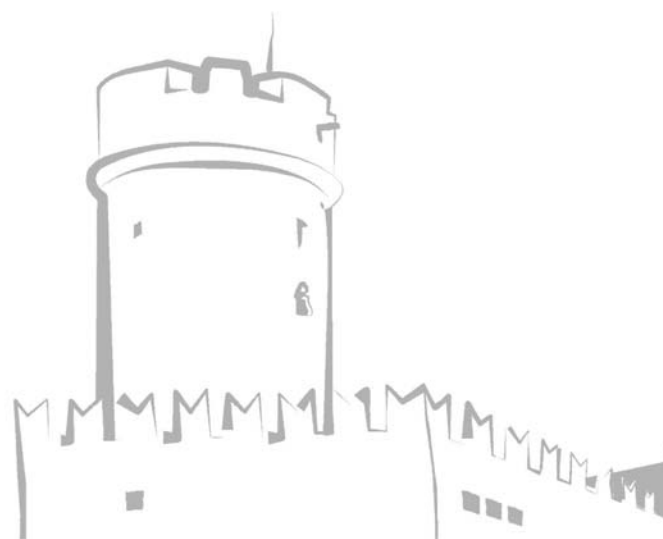
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LOCAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION TOOLS Workshop

Trento, Italy 18 April 2007

Programme and Background Information



Rationale

The information base on local development suffers from insufficient depth, detail, continuity and methodological rigour. None of these issues are trivial. For illustration, the economics of scale often does not allow central statistical offices to collect information at detail corresponding to the needs of local actors. Resources available at local level to collect information are limited, the capacity of local level to work with information is often perceived by the local level itself as insufficient. However, successful local communities often build their own information systems by collecting the information they need in addition to that available from professional statistics providers. This happens in an uncoordinated manner and usually, the information collected in this manner is not suitable for more general use. As a result, a broader picture on the local development policies and tools is hard to be drawn.

The OECD LEED Programme is seeking to address this gap in information collection on local development trends. There are two dimensions to this activity. One part of the initiative seeks to address the information collection needs that could lead to an inventory of local development trends and actors. The inventory approach could potentially lead to an information base including examples of recent local development approaches and their outcomes, typology of actors exercising development functions at local level, formal versus revealed local development frameworks both at national and local level. This type of information is systematically of vital interest to both national and local policy makers and practitioners because of the potential of the inventory information to clarify the context of local area performances. Complementary to the inventory approach, another work stream of the OECD focuses on local development indicators. The emphasis will be put here on how to enhance capacity of local actors to work with already available statistical information and to support the local level in undertaking a self-collection of information that is of interest but is not available.

The OECD LEED Programme suggests that one way of providing an effective support in this area is to develop an information collection and analysis framework. Such a framework would enable economic development professionals active at sub-national level to undertake collection, comparison and usage of information on local area trends and performance in

economic and employment development. The local actors targeted for use of the framework include regional governments, municipalities, regional development agencies and other professional organisations actively involved in local development processes in Central, East and South East European countries.

Objectives of the workshop

The expert workshop on Local Development Policy and Performance Information Tools aims at discussing the options for developing a framework for information collection, analysis and comparison for use by local development actors in Central and Eastern Europe. There are two parts foreseen for the information tool: 'The Inventory' – to allow local actors to identify policy practices and innovations from other areas that may be useful for their own policy development. 'The Indicators' – to allow local development actors to understand the strengths and weaknesses of their area's performance compared with other areas as an input to the design of their policy strategies. A well functioning information tool on local development needs to be practically feasible, efficient and accessible to wide audience of actors involved in local development. This is an ambitious endeavour. As a way to identify the best ways forward with this project, the workshop participants will:

1. Exchange views on the optimal content of the local development inventory and indicators information tools.
2. Recognise the critical factors that lead to a lack of comparable data on local development data.
3. Discuss how to best support enhanced use of available information on local development.
4. Assess how the OECD can support the development of a tool based on self-collection of information by the local level.

The workshop's main objective will be to conclude by suggesting feasible solutions to the issues discussed. As a follow-up to the workshop, the OECD information collection methodology document will be finalised. The OECD will seek to identify local organisations that would be interested in testing the approach within pilot project implementations of the OECD information collection methodology.

- 9.00 – 9.30 Welcome coffee**
- 9.30 – 9.40 Opening remarks**
Peter Tatarko, Co-ordinator of the OECD Trento Centre, Trento
- Objectives of the workshop**
Jon Potter, Senior economist, OECD LEED, Paris
- 9.40 – 9.50 “The OECD Project on Local Development Inventory and Indicators”**
Background and objectives
Ivana Studena, Senior analyst, OECD Trento Centre
- 9.50 – 10.00 Short self-presentation of the participants**
- 10.00 – 10.20 Inventory of local development policy instruments and actors in Central, East and South East Europe (Local Development Inventory)**
Presentation of the scoping report for an OECD information collection and dissemination tool for local development policies and instruments.
Prof. Peter Lloyd, Director, ECOTEC Research & Consulting
- 10.20 – 10.45 Comments to the scoping paper on Local Development Inventory**
Synthesis of the expert assessment papers - presentation by the OECD, individual inputs from the present experts
- 10.40 – 11.00 Local Development Inventory Discussion moderated by Jon Potter, OECD**
- 11.00 – 11.15 Coffee break**
- 11.15 – 12.00 Local Development Inventory Discussion continued**
- 12.00 – 12.15 Local Development Indicators**
Presentation of the scoping report for an OECD information collection and analysis framework for local development indicators.
Petr Adamek, Berman Group
- 12.15 – 12.40 Comments to the scoping paper on Local Development Indicators**
Synthesis of the expert assessment papers - presentation by the OECD, individual inputs from the present experts
- 12.40 – 13.45 Lunch at La Grotta Restaurant**
- 13.45 – 14.45 Local Development Indicators Discussion moderated by Ivana Studena, OECD**
- 14.45 – 15.00 Coffee break**
- 15.00 – 16.15 Local Development Information Tools - The ways forward with the project**
Discussion moderated by Prof. Peter Lloyd (TBC)
- 16.15 – 16.30 Conclusions** *Jon Potter, Senior economist, OECD LEED, Paris*

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<i>Mr. Petr ADAMEK</i>	Senior Consultant Berman Group Czech Republic
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