





International Conference on the Careers and Mobility of Doctorate Holders, Brussels, 1st December 2008

(followed by a technical meeting on the OECD/UIS/Eurostat project on Careers of Doctorate Holders,

Brussels, 2 December 2008)

This event is jointly organised by the OECD, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and Eurostat with the support of the European Commission DG RTD

Objective: Bring together policy makers and analysts interested in the monitoring of employment, career outcomes and mobility of scientists and engineers holding an advanced research degree to discuss the results of the first wave of pilot surveys on this subject at the international level.

Background: Human resources are recognised as being key to the creation, commercialisation and diffusion of innovation. Among them, doctorate holders are not only the most qualified in terms of educational attainment, but also those who are specifically trained to conduct research. Not much is known however about their career and mobility patterns on the labour market. This is why the OECD launched in 2004 a collaborative project with the UNESCO Institute for Statistics and Eurostat aimed at developing internationally comparable indicators on the careers and mobility of doctorate holders. An expert group with representatives from national statistical bodies was formed to develop the technical components of the project and start compiling data at national level. The results of the first wave of pilot surveys are becoming available for about 20 countries around the world in 2008. This conference will serve as a forum to diffuse and discuss these results with interested stakeholders, academics and policy makers.

Participants: Delegates to the OECD Committee for Science and Technology Policy and its Working Parties, their equivalent at the European Commission, members of the Expert Group on CDH and other interested experts.

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Technical meeting of the Expert Group on Careers of Doctorate Holders, Brussels, 2 December 2008

This meeting is open to the statistical experts directly involved in the project on Careers of Doctorate Holders (CDH)

Objective: Following the first wide exercise of data collection and compilation on CDH and building on the outcomes of the conference held on 1st December, this meeting will make an evaluation of the exercise and review the methodology and technical components of the project (guidelines, model questionnaire and output indicators) with a view to release an improved version.

Background: The technical components of the CDH project (methodological guidelines, model questionnaire and output indicators) were developed by the Expert Group on CDH through a series of meetings held since the beginning of the project. With its wide application during the 2007-2008 data collection and compilation exercise, it is the first time that a thorough evaluation of the methodology of the CDH project is made possible. The conference held on 1st December will also help assess how the statistics and indicators produced by the CDH project respond to the policy questions raised by the interested community of analysts, stakeholders and policy makers. Building on these outcomes, the Expert Group will review the technical components of the project again and prepare an improved version for further dissemination.

Participants: members of the Expert Group on CDH

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