OECD LEED report presentation
20 June 2013 / Utrecht - The Netherlands

Labour markets in times of ageing and shrinking

Towards a resilient labour market and a vital economy in shrinking regions

Shrinking regions are confronted with a decreasing labour force, particularly induced by ageing and outmigration of high educated young people. On the long term this can have profound consequences for the economical vitality of the regions. The Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Programme of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has been invited to recommend on how to make labour markets in shrinking regions more resilient.

The aim of the conference is to take note of the recommendations of the OECD, to be inspired by successful examples of strengthening regional labour markets and to provide a platform to start tangible initiatives in Dutch shrinking and anticipation regions on this issue.

The programme of the conference is as follows:

12.00-13.00 hrs Registration and lunch

13.00-13.10 hrs Opening by chairman Mark Frequin (director-general Housing and Construction at the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations)

13.10-13.25 hrs Presentation of the OECD LEED report by Cristina Martinez Fernandez (OECD LEED)

13.25-13.35 hrs Short comment by Stef Blok, minister for Housing and the Central Government Sector

13.35-13.55 hrs Keynote speech: "Resilient Labour Markets" by Prof Ed Blakely (University of Sydney)

14.00-15.00 hrs Workshop round 1: Regional responses for a resilient labour market

Different elements of resilient labour markets will be discussed in smaller groups. Each workshop will be introduced by an inspiring example.

1. Older workers on the labour market, Jaap Snip (IM-ACES)
2. Inclusive labour organisations: redistribution of tasks, Henny Mulders (UWV)
3. Connection between education and labour market: Technique Pact, Pieter Waasdorp (Ministry of EA)
4. Flexible and enterprising labour market, Wyannd Bodewes and Anita Van Gils (University of Maastricht)
5. Healthy communities, Diet Hensums (KAW architects and advisors)
6. Smart specialization, Jan Degenhart (Springboard)

15.05-16.40 hrs Panel discussion: Regional cooperation models for resilient labour markets. In this panel different cooperation models are being discussed according to goals, methods and finance.

- Territorial Employment Pacts (Berenike Ecker (Zentrum für Soziale Innovation, Austria)
- Regional Employment Pacts for older workers (Daniela Lüster-Hagedorn (Federal Employment Agency, Stuttgart, Germany)
- Labour mobility (Andreas van den Goorbergh (Transfercentrum West-Brabant, The Netherlands)
- Regional innovation networks (Joost Franssen (GreenTechAlliances powered by kEoMT, Arnhem, The Netherlands)

15.45-16.45 hrs Workshop round 2: Possible cooperation models and future actions in Dutch regions. Regional stakeholders reflect on insights from earlier sessions and explore possible actions in the own region.

1. Groningen/Drenthe
2. Zeeland
3. Limburg
4. Anticipation regions
5. International examples


- Marianne Besselink (deputy province of Groningen)
- Bert Karsten (deputy province of Limburg)
- Robert Strauss (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

17.10-17.15 hrs Closure by chairman Mark Frequin and Cristina Martinez (OECD LEED)

17.15-18.00 hrs Drinks

For registration please go to: www.congresarbeidsmarktkrimp.eventassist.nl
Please send an email to: congresarbeidsmarktkrimp@atpi.com

To download the full report please visit the OECD LEED project web page
http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/demographicchange.htm