

This newsletter is aimed at Regional Co-ordinators and others interested in the OECD work on higher education in regions. The main purpose is to keep you informed about progress made in the reviews of higher education in regional and city development. You are welcome to contribute to the contents for example, by informing the OECD Higher Education and Regions Team about related events and meetings; email: HRegions@oecd.org

OECD REVIEWS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN REGIONAL AND CITY DEVELOPMENT

Fifteen regions and city-regions that participate in the second round of OECD Reviews of Higher Education in Regional Development in 2009-2010 have now nominated regional co-ordinators. They are driving the review and partnership building process in their regions.

Region

Australia: State of Victoria

Brazil: State of Paraná

Chile: Bío Bío Region

Germany: City of Berlin

Israel: the Galilee

Italy: Region of Lombardy

Mexico: State of Sonora

Mexico: State of Veracruz

Malaysia: Penang

Netherlands: City-Region of Amsterdam

Netherlands: City-Region of Rotterdam

Spain: Autonomous Region of Andalusia

Spain: Autonomous Region of Catalonia

US-Mexico: Paso del Norte Region

United States: Southern Arizona

Regional Co-ordinator

Faye BURTON fburton@vtown.com.au

Cassio ROLIM, Cassio.Rolim@pobox.com

Martin ZILIC, mzilic@udec.cl or monicapoblete@udec.cl

Lena ULBRICHT, Ulbricht@wzb.eu

John E. GOLUB, john.golub@che.org.il

Galit EIZMAN, Galit@che.org.il

Alberto BRUGNOLI, direzione.generale@irer.it or

sabrina.bandera@irer.it

José Manuel OCHOA, jmochoa@itson.edu.mx

Jose RANGEL DIAZ, jorangel@uv.mx

Morshidi SIRAT, morshidi@usm.my

Peter NIJKAMP, m.draisma@dienst.vu.nl

Monique DE KNEGT, m.deknegt@edbr.rotterdam.nl

Eulalia W. PETIT DE GABRIEL, eulalia.petit.ext@juntadeandalucia.es

Marti PARELLADA, marti.parellada@fundacioncyd.org

Josep VILALTA, jmvilalta@acup.cat

Lisa COLQUITT-MUÑOZ, lmunoz@pasodelnortegroup.org

Francisco MARMOLEJO, fmarmole@email.arizona.edu

OECD ROUNDTABLE MEETING FOR REGIONS IN PARIS ON 10-11 SEPTEMBER 2009: REGISTER NOW!

OECD is organizing a meeting to take stock of progress made in cities and regions involved in the OECD Reviews in 2008-2010. The meeting will highlight the experiences of the Bío Bío region (Chile) which will be the first region that has undergone the OECD review visit during the second round. In addition, the meeting aims to:

- provide opportunities for shared learning between the regions and their HEIs and for networking between the regional co-ordinators
- discuss how to make the review process more meaningful for regions and their HEIs
- discuss issues linked to human capital development, regional innovation and capacity and partnership building
- identify ways to maintain the growing international network of HEIs and regions
- share ideas for the forthcoming third round of reviews
- introduce new regions that have joined to process or are planning to do so

Regions involved in the reviews are welcome to bring up to 5 delegates. The meeting is open also to other regions interested in the OECD reviews as well as experts involved in the review teams. Please note that the place is limited and priority is given to regions already involved in the reviews. More information, including the draft agenda, registration form and practical information, is now available on our [website](#).

Registration deadline: 4 August.

NEW REGIONS JOINING

- ROLLING PROGRAMME OF REVIEWS OF HE IN REGIONAL AND CITY DEVELOPMENT

The OECD reviews continue to attract keen interest among cities and regions and their HEIs. The OECD HE & Regions Team is currently negotiating with regions in Africa, Europe, North and South America and South East Asia. Interested regions are invited to sign up for the Rolling Programme of Reviews which have the same overall goals, methodology and funding implications as the reviews in the second round (2008-2010). The first review visits will take place in the second part of 2010. The programme is open mainly to cities and regions that have IMHE member institutions. Those regions that sign up now can begin their self-evaluation process and benefit from the knowledge sharing and benchmarking opportunities (see Forthcoming events: Roundtable meeting for regions in September in Paris.)

Read more about the [Rolling Programme](#) and [how to join IMHE](#).

WEBSITE FOR THE OECD WORK ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN REGIONAL AND CITY DEVELOPMENT

To learn more about the cities and regions involved in the review in 2008-2010, please visit our dedicated website at www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regionaldevelopment. Twelve out of the fifteen regions are featured through their own region-specific webpages. Part of our website is available also in French.

[Visit our website.](#)

WEB 2.0 COMMUNITY FOR HE IN REGIONAL AND CITY DEVELOPMENT NOW LIVE

The interactive web2.0 community went live on 20 May. Invitations to join the community were sent to regional co-ordinators, members of the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) and other key partners that are collaborating in the OECD reviews. To take full advantage of knowledge sharing, we would like to encourage you to enter the community and register. The platform is easy to access and allows you to submit short articles and blog entries. To join the community, please visit <http://community.oecd.org> or contact **Ernesto FLORES** (ernesto.flores@oecd.org)

OECD REVIEW VISITS

The latter half of the year 2009 will be busy for both regions and the HE & Regions Team. For the time being we are not considering changes to the review timetable.

Guidelines for regions on how to organise OECD review visits are available on the [web2.0 community](#).

Region	Review visit date	Region	Review visit date
BioBio, Chile	16-22 Aug 2009	Paraná, Brazil	6-12 Dec 2009
Berlin, Germany	13-18 Sep 2009	Victoria, Australia	6-12 Dec 2009
Amsterdam, Netherlands	13-18 Sep 2009	Andalusia, Spain	24-31 Jan 2010
Southern Arizona, US	4-10 Oct 2009	Catalonia, Spain	28-6 March 2010
Veracruz, Mexico	11-17 Oct 2009	Penang, Malaysia	Mar/Apr 2010
Paso del Norte, US-Mexico	25-31 Oct 2009	Sonora, Mexico	Mar/Apr-2010
Rotterdam, Netherlands	8-13 Nov 2009	Lombardy, Italy	TBD
Galilee, Israel	21-27 Nov 2009		

12-14 July 2009 The Bío Bío Region Pre-visit

Jaana PUUKKA (OECD) and **Ernesto FLORES** (OECD) travelled to Concepcion, Chile in mid-July. **Martin ZILIC**, the regional co-ordinator and the chair of the regional steering committee, had organised – with the help of **Andrés VIVEROS**, Executive Director of the Regional Agency for Innovation and Productive Development, and **Monica POBLETE** – a full programme including meetings with the Regional President, HEI leaders, mayors, regional steering committee, Regional Council of Science and Technology and other local agencies. The visit was well featured in the local and national media.

Jorge DRESDNER and his group of researchers were complimented for the quality of the draft regional self-evaluation report (SER), but were requested to provide more robust data on out-migration, unemployment, poverty rates and business ownership. The report would also benefit from good practice examples of initiatives and projects carried out in human capital development, innovation, social and environmental development and capacity building.

The review visit in August will include visits to the leading public and private HEIs in region, including the University of Concepcion, University of Bío Bío, Universidad Catolica de la Santisima Concepcion, INACAP and the University of San Sebastian. There will also be a set of thematic meetings focusing around pathways from research to commercialisation, student entrepreneurship and SMEs as well as collaborative work in the leading clusters in forestry, fishery and agriculture. In addition to Concepcion, the review team will also visit Talcahuano and Chillán.

25-26 June 2009 The Berlin Pre-visit

This pre-visit was conducted by **Jaana PUUKKA** (OECD) and **Philip WADE** to give feedback on the first draft of the Berlin self-evaluation report (SER) and to discuss the arrangements linked to the forthcoming review visit. The co-ordinating team **Lena ULBRICHT** and **Ulrich SCHREITERER** (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung WZB) had arranged meetings with the Senate of Berlin, three HEIs and stakeholders. The feedback on the SER centred around the need for more robust evidence base (data, charts, trends over years). It was agreed that the review visit in September should be organised around thematic meetings on issues important to Berlin's future such as culture, diversity, environment, and health. It was also agreed that review visit would conclude with a feedback session with the **Berlin Board** who originally made the decision to join the review. The Berlin Board was set up by the Mayor of Berlin in August 2007 to foster dialogue between high level representatives from politics, economy, science and research, urban development, culture and social affairs in Berlin.

[Read more about the Berlin Board.](#)

EXPERT TEAMS TAKING PART IN THE OECD REVIEW VISITS

Nine review teams out of the 15 have now been designated with experts with different backgrounds and expertise areas. A Google site has been created to provide experts with practical tools to facilitate collaboration in the OECD-led review visits. The aim is to help the review team members to access guidelines and background material relevant to their specific reviews and to share documents and work on the review reports. Invitations to access the Google documents will be sent to the experts in July when the region-specific sites go live. Guidelines for experts on preparing the review reports are also available on [web2.0 community](#). They describe the structure and contents of the review report as well as the tasks of the experts and the timeline for publishing the report.

Find out [here](#) who will be involved in the review teams.

EVENTS LINKED TO THE REVIEWS

28 May 2009 – Joint meeting for the Regions of Andalusia and Catalonia, OECD, Paris

This meeting was organised to explore common areas for the reviews of the Andalusia and Catalonia regions, to discuss the review process, to clarify issues and procedures; to discuss the profile of the experts and to agree and/or confirm dates for the OECD pre-visits and review visits. **Eulalia W. PETIT DE GABRIEL** and **Inmaculada PERÍÑEZ** from Andalusia and **Josep VILALTA** and **Martí PARELLADA** from Catalonia travelled to the OECD headquarters in Paris. The Spanish representatives also included **Isabel ALBERDI** from the OECD Permanent Delegation of Spain. **Karen MAGUIRE**, from the OECD Regional Competitiveness and Governance Division and **Philip WADE**, recently retired from the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, were also present. Maguire and Wade will take part in the reviews.

The OECD review has coincided with the government change in Spain. Since April 2009, HE issues are under the authority of the Ministry of Education, while research policy and funding remains with the Ministry of Science and Innovation. In Andalusia, however, HE remains to be the responsibility of the Regional Ministry of Innovation, Science and Enterprise and the OECD review is used to evaluate the outcomes of the initiatives and actions since 2004 when the responsibility for HE was transferred to this Ministry. One of the key issues in Andalusia is partnership building i.e. how to forge stronger links between universities and regional stakeholders. The Regional Steering Committee (RSC) has 30 members from the regional government, the National Ministry of Education, ten Andalusian universities, Students Council of Andalusia,

Joint meeting for the Regions of Andalusia and Catalonia (cont'd)

the Forum of the Social Councils of Andalusian Public Universities and nine other regional stakeholders from public, private and mixed bodies. The review working group has produced two questionnaires to collect information which will shortly be posted on the web2.0 community.

In Catalonia, the OECD Review is hosted by four institutions, each with representation also in the RSC which has also been strengthened with members from the universities and representatives from business and industry. It is envisaged that also the national and regional ministries of education will join the RSC. The process is led by two Regional Co-ordinators from the ACUP (Catalan Association of Public Universities) and Fundacion CYD. ACUP's ongoing research on the contribution of the public universities to the social and economic progress of Catalonia will serve as a basis of the Regional Self-evaluation Report required by the OECD. Additional work is required to identify and evaluate the role of the Catalan private universities in regional and local development and to explore the aspects linked to capacity building for regional co-operation in HEIs and their regional partners. The main motivation to engage in the OECD review is to compare the interaction between HEIs and Catalonia in the international context.

29-30 June 2009 – Conference on Higher Education at a Time of Crisis: Challenges and Opportunities, Copenhagen, Denmark

120 delegates representing HEIs and governments at different levels came together in the sunny Copenhagen to discuss the impacts of the economic crisis in HEIs and HE policy.

The meeting featured a dedicated workshop on HEIs' role in local and regional development in a time of crisis ("Local Responses to the Global Crisis") which highlighted the tangible advantages for HEIs and their local and regional communities through stronger interaction and engagement. Governments are looking to invest in innovation, human capital development and infrastructure as part of their policy response to mitigate the effects of the economic downturn. The workshop was aimed at looking how cities and regions and their HEIs can seize this opportunity. The workshop showcased the challenges and opportunities linked to the economic downturn for the HEIs collectively and individually in the State of Sonora (Mexico), the State of Parana (Brazil), the Autonomous Region of Andalusia (Spain) and the Dublin City Region (Ireland).

Speakers included Zaki AKEL SOBRINHO, Rector of the Federal University of Parana UFP (Brazil), Eulalia PETIT, Coordinator of HE and Regions, Government of Andalusia (Spain) and Ellen HAZELKORN, Dublin University of Technology (IRELAND). Ernesto FLORES stepped in for Gonzalo RODRIGUEZ, the rector of ITSON – Sonora Institute of Technology who was delayed. The meeting was facilitated by Jaana PUUKKA.

[Read more about the conference and view the presentations.](#)

Videos and presentations are also available in [EducationToday](#).

3 July 2009 – Ad hoc meeting with the region of Paraná (Brazil)

Zaki AKEL SOBRINHO, Rector of the UFP from Paraná, visited the OECD early July to discuss the reviews and to learn more about the OECD activities. New stakeholders are getting involved in the regional steering committee ranging from the Federation of Industries of the State of Paraná (FIEP) and an association for small and medium sized enterprises (SEBRAE). Akel also informed the team about the plans to create four new federal universities in Brazil including UNILA – Latin America Integration University – that will have students and staff from Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay. Rector Akel came to Paris from Denmark where he and Cassio ROLIM, the regional co-ordinator for the review of the State of Paraná, had visited Oresund university and Aalborg university. Oresund and Aalborg were both involved in the first round of reviews and provided interesting benchmarks in cross border collaboration and problem-based learning. The meetings were facilitated by the OECD HE & Regions Team.

5-8 July 2009 – HE & Regions Team in the UNESCO World Conference for Higher Education

The **World Conference on Higher Education**, gathering close to 1000 participants from 148 countries, opened on 5 July at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris with a call for higher education to address global development challenges. The OECD HE & Regions team attended this conference and met a number of stakeholders involved in the reviews. Jaana PUUKKA spoke in a workshop session “The contribution of HE, Research and Innovation Systems to Sustainable Future” drawing from the outcomes and experiences of the OECD reviews. The presentation stressed the need for HEIs’ engagement with the society.

[Read more about the UNESCO WCHE 2009.](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND WEBLINKS

EducationToday - OECD’s Education Lighthouse for the way out of the crisis

This collaborative space will help chart the way for the education sector to navigate through the current crisis and shape the post-crisis economy and society offers:

- Up-to-the-minute information, evidence and analysis on the impact of the crisis on education, with concrete examples of how governments and institutions in different countries are coping with the crisis.
- Information on high priority issues such as education budgets, education in stimulus packages, how unemployment affects motivation and learning attitudes.
- An opportunity to contribute to this information sharing platform with other members of the fast-growing OECD social network.

To register, go to <https://community.oecd.org/community/educationtoday> and login.

You will need to have a MyOECD account. If you do not already have one, please go to [MyOECD](#).

[Read more about the OECD’s Education Lighthouse](#)

IMHE brochure in Spanish: *Educación Superior en el desarrollo regional y de ciudades*

The second round of the OECD reviews has a strong focus in Latin America and Spain, where altogether seven regions will undergo a review process under the OECD lead in 2009-2010. To better serve the regions and their higher education institutions in the Spanish language area, a Spanish version of the brochure ‘Higher education in cities and regions’ has been published. Regional co-ordinators in the Spanish language area have received hard copies of the brochure to be distributed to the stakeholders involved in the review. If you want to print extra copies of the brochure, please request a high resolution PDF file, by contacting Rachel.Linden@oecd.org. [Download the brochure in Spanish.](#)

The OECD report: *How Regions Grow: Trends and Analysis*

Regional differences within OECD countries are often greater than those between countries and much inequality remains. This report explores what generates growth at the regional level. Based on in-depth econometric modelling and analyses, this report reframes the debate on regional policy and development, emphasising that opportunities for growth exist in all regions.

[Purchase this report.](#)

OECD Reviews of Regional Innovation: 15 Mexican States 2009

This report reviews how both national and state policies in Mexico can better support regional innovation systems which, in turn, can help grow the national economy and boost productivity. The report includes profiles of 15 states and will be of interest to policy makers, firms and others active in promoting innovation and regional economic development. The report is now available in Spanish.

[Read more about this report.](#)

OECD Reviews of Regional Innovation: Piedmont, Italy 2009

Piedmont is one of the top ten manufacturing regions in Europe and enjoys the highest levels of business investment in R&D in Italy. Birthplace of the most famous Italian automotive company – Fiat – and home to many heavy engineering and manufacturing firms, the region has long been a central part of the national industrial core. Yet since the early 1970s, the fragility of Piedmont's production system has slowly become evident. This report reviews how Piedmont's new regional strategy supports innovation and how its efforts can be improved.

[Read more about this report.](#)

OECD Factbook 2009: Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics

OECD Factbook 2009 is the fifth edition of a comprehensive and dynamic statistical annual from the OECD. More than 100 indicators cover a wide range of areas: economy, agriculture, education, energy, environment, foreign aid, health and quality of life, industry, information and communications, population/labour force, trade and investment, taxation, public expenditure and R&D. This year, the OECD Factbook features a focus chapter on inequality. Data are provided for all OECD member countries with area totals, and in some cases, for selected non-member economies. OECD Factbook 2009 is a key reference tool for everyone working on economic and policy issues.

[Read more about this report.](#)

OECD HE & REGIONS TEAM: STAFF

Jaana PUUKKA, Leader of the OECD work on Higher Education and Regional and City Development, jaana.puukka@oecd.org, Tel + 33 1 45 2 16 61; Blackberry + 33 6 27 95 47 23

Ernesto FLORES, Consultant, ernesto.flores@oecd.org, Tel +33 1 45 24 87 73; Blackberry + 33 6 09 55 00 44

Rachel LINDEN, Project Assistant, rachel.linden@oecd.org, Tel + 33 1 45 24 97 55

Caroline VOISINE, Trainee, caroline.voisine@oecd.org, Tel. +33 1 45 24 95 51