



*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 OECD 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](mailto:HRegions@oecd.org)*

#### **NEW REGIONS INVITED TO THE OECD REVIEWS: FREE STATE PROVINCE THE FIRST TO JOIN!**

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 Europe, North and South America and South East Asia. The first new region to join the reviews is Free State Province in South Africa. The review is supported by the Flanders Government. Regional co-ordination is handled by **Lochner MARAIS** supported by a project team. The first contact to the OECD was made by **Kalie STRYDOM** who saw the OECD review as a good opportunity to improve partnership building in the region. The Regional Launch Workshop will be organised on 27-28 October in the University of Free State.

Interested regions are invited to contact the OECD. Review will 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 or early 2011 depending on the capacity in the regions. This opportunity is available mainly to cities and regions that have IMHE member institutions. The regions that sign up now can begin their self-evaluation process and benefit from the knowledge sharing and benchmarking opportunities of the second round.

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

#### **OECD REVIEW VISITS**

The second round of reviews is now in full swing with a number of OECD review visits taking place by the end of 2009. The following table gives a quick overview of the timetable.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Review visit date</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Review visit date</b>
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 Feb-6 March 2010
Veracruz, Mexico	11-17 Oct 2009	Lombardy, Italy	25-30 April 2010
Paso del Norte, US-Mexico	25-31 Oct 2009	Penang, Malaysia	Mar/Apr 2010
Rotterdam, Netherlands	8-13 Nov 2009	Sonora, Mexico	Mar/Apr-2010

***15-21 August 2009 The Bío Bío Region Review Visit***

The review of the Bío Bío Region was the first among the second round of OECD reviews of HE in Regional and City Development and the first one conducted in collaboration with the World Bank. It was led by the OECD (**Jaana PUUKKA** and **Ernesto FLORES**). Experts included **Michael CRAWFORD** (World Bank), **Philip WADE** (FR/US, former OECD/territorial development), **Dewayne MATTHEWS** (Lumina Foundation, US) and **Jorge YUTRONIC** (national expert).

Chile has made great progress in economic development, education and reduction in poverty, but challenges remain: The R&D intensity, tertiary education attainment rates and PISA results are low. There are high income inequalities; and a lack of productive diversification. All of these challenges have a regional dimension.

The decentralisation process has created a window of opportunity for the Bío Bío Region which is a pioneer in innovation and regional development. It has made good progress in widening access to HE and is active in university research and patents. At the same time, the region has higher than average unemployment rate and poverty levels, out-migration and urban-rural divide.

The Self-Evaluation Report of the Bío Bío Region is now available on our website. The extensive report reflects the joint efforts of HEIs and stakeholders. The report was drafted by a team of researchers from three universities in the region led by **Jorge DRESDNER** (Universidad de Concepción).

[Download this report](#)

***13-18 September 2009 The City of Berlin Review Visit***

The review of Berlin was led by **Jaana PUUKKA (OECD)** and supported by **John GODDARD** (University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK), **Philip WADE** (FR/US, former OECD/territorial development), **Bjorn ASHEIM** (CIRCLE, University of LUND, SE) and **Ulrich TEICHLER** (national expert, Kassel Universtat, DE).

After the reunification Berlin has regained its vibrant capital city status. It is a major knowledge and R&D centre in Germany, an ethnically diverse city of culture and tourism. It has unique amenities and strong assets including low cost of living, high quality of life, a lively cultural scene and extensive green spaces. Its image as an “unfinished project” gives it a special appeal for the creative class.

Berlin has a “human capital factory: with diverse set of HEIs and high density of research. At the same time, it has a high unemployment rate, limited growth and low absorptive capacity in the SME-based economy. There are also growing intra-regional disparities, out-migration of talent and a large migrant population with limited access to HE.

The Self-Evaluation Report of Berlin is now available on our website. The report was edited by **Lena ULBRICHT** and **Ulrich SCHREITERER** from the WZB

[Download this report](#)



*Photo: The OECD Berlin Review Team in the Street lab*

### ***13-18 September 2009 The City-Region of Amsterdam Review Visit***

**Richard YELLAND** (OECD) led the review of Amsterdam and was supported by Rector **Lauritz HOLM-NEILSEN** (Aarhus University, DK); **Kris OLDS** (University of Wisconsin-Madison, US); **Patrick DUBARLE** (former OECD staff, FR); and **Veronique TIMMERHUIS** (Social and Economic Council of the Netherlands).

Amsterdam is an international city which has a strong global brand image. It is the only Dutch city with two research universities and a dozen Hogeschools (universities of applied science). The population is relatively young and has a large migrant minority. The prevalence of the English language and the good transport infrastructure have attracted corporate headquarters or regional offices.

There is weakness of lifelong learning policy, the pervasive impact of early tracking and the need to make better use of the potential of the migrants.

### ***4-10 October 2009 Southern Arizona Review Visit***

The review of Southern Arizona was the first one of its kind conducted in the United States. **Jaana PUUKKA** and **Ernesto FLORES** (OECD/IMHE) led the review and were supported by **Jamil SALMI** (World Bank), **Salvador MALO** (Mexican Competitiveness Institute, MX), **Emiliano DUCH** (The Cluster Competitiveness Group, ES) and **Madeleine GREEN** (American Council on Education, US).

The OECD review is taking place in a time when there is a growing national recognition of the urgency of education for economic development, security and wellbeing. The US is falling behind in educational attainment and 39 million adults are without High School diploma. The Obama administration, Lumina Foundation and Gates Foundation have all declared their “Bold goals” to improve the situation.

Southern Arizona has a diversified higher education system with strong institutions. Arizona lags behind most US States in educational outcomes. There is a history of underfunding of K-12 and higher education, and the current economic downturn is deteriorating the situation. There are considerable achievement gaps among Hispanic and Native American students and a lack of vision and steering mechanisms for higher education as a State or regional system. Public good mission and academic quality of HEIs are under threat because of declining funding.

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## EVENTS LINKED TO THE REVIEWS

### 10-11 September 2009 – OECD ROUNDTABLE MEETING FOR REGIONS IN PARIS: DELEGATES FROM MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES JOINED THE DISCUSSIONS IN PARIS

OECD organized this meeting to take stock of progress made in cities and regions involved in the OECD Reviews in 2008-2010. Nearly 100 representatives from more than 20 regions shared their experiences. The meeting provided an opportunity to highlight the experiences of the Bio Bio Region (Chile) which was the first region to undergo the review. In addition, 5 new regions – Free State in South Africa, Valparaiso in Chile, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, New England in the US and Oulu in Finland – introduced themselves.

To learn more view the presentations and the agenda on the conference [webpage](#)  
Read the [summary record](#)



*Photo: Madame **Pilar ARMANET**, Ambassador of Chile to France, thanked the OECD and the Bio Bio Region for the review. She emphasised the importance of the various OECD reviews in the reforms in Chile and stressed that the government supports other regions who want to join the OECD review.*

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## PUBLICATIONS

### **OECD Territorial Reviews: Chile**

Chile has achieved strong economic growth during the last 20 years. Nevertheless, its economy depends on a few resource-based sectors located in a small number of regions. Chilean regions have so far not fully utilised their assets and reached their potential for growth. This report recommends moving towards a territorial approach to development in Chile in order to better adapt public management to the different opportunities and needs of the diverse territories of the country. Chilean regions would particularly benefit

from context-specific policies to boost productivity, such as those targeting innovation and entrepreneurship, and to improve education and training.

[Read more about this report](#)

#### **OECD Reviews of Innovation Policy: Mexico 2009**

Over the past decade, Mexico has made significant progress towards macroeconomic stability and has undertaken important structural reforms to further open the economy to trade and investment, and improve the functioning of markets for goods and services. However, potential gross domestic product (GDP) growth remains much too low to reduce widespread poverty and bridge the wide gap in living standards with wealthier OECD countries. One important reason for this is that Mexico has been slower than those in many competing newly industrialising economies to realise the importance of investment in innovation as a driver of growth and competitiveness. This book assesses the current status of Mexico's innovation system and policies, and identifies where and how the government should focus its efforts to improve the country's innovation capabilities.

[Read more about this report](#)

#### ***Clusters, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, OECD LEED, 2009***

This publication explores the success of major innovation and entrepreneurship clusters in OECD countries, the challenges they now face in sustaining their positions and the lessons for other places seeking to build successful clusters. What are the key factors for cluster success? What problems are emerging on the horizon? Which is the appropriate role of the public sector in supporting the expansion of clusters and overcoming the obstacles?

[Purchase this report](#)

#### ***OECD Regions at a Glance 2009***

Well over one-third of the total economic output of OECD countries was generated by just 10% of OECD regions in 2005. This means the performance of regional economies and the effectiveness of regional policy matter more than ever. *OECD Regions at a Glance* is the one-stop guide for understanding regional competitiveness and performance, providing comparative statistical information at the sub-national level, graphs and maps. It identifies new ways that regions can increase their capacity to exploit local factors, mobilise resources and link with other regions.

[Read more about this report](#)

#### ***Education at a Glance 2009: OECD Indicators***

The 2009 edition enables countries to see themselves in the light of other countries' performance. It provides a rich, comparable and up-to-date array of indicators on the performance of education systems and represents the consensus of professional thinking on how to measure the current state of education internationally. The indicators look at who participates in education, what is spent on it, how education systems operate and what are the results. The latter includes indicators on a wide range of outcomes, from comparisons of students' performance in key subject areas to the impact of education on earnings and on adults' chances of employment.

[Read more about this report](#)

## **Highlights from Education at a Glance 2009**

*Highlights from Education at a Glance 2009* presents key education indicators for 2009. Each indicator is presented on a two-page spread. This edition includes coverage of education attainment and student numbers; economic and social benefits of education; how education is financed, the school environment; and initial findings from the new Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS).

[Now available from the Online Bookshop](#)

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## **WEBLINKS**

### **Website for OECD work on higher education in cities and regions**

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](http://www.oecd.org/edu/imhe/regionaldevelopment). Fourteen regions are now featured through own region-specific webpages. Part of our website is available also in French.

### **Web 2.0 community for the OECD work on higher education in regional and city development**

This collaborative space has been designed to help regions to share their experiences of the review process. To register go to <http://community.oecd.org>.

### **Education today - 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. 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](#)

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## **REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS IN THE SECOND ROUND OF REVIEWS**

Fifteen regions and city-regions participate in the second round of OECD Reviews of Higher Education in Regional Development in 2009-2010. Regions and their regional co-ordinators are listed below.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Regional Co-ordinator</b>
Australia: State of Victoria	Faye BURTON <a href="mailto:fburton@vtown.com.au">fburton@vtown.com.au</a>
Brazil: State of Paraná	Cassio ROLIM, <a href="mailto:Cassio.Rolim@pobox.com">Cassio.Rolim@pobox.com</a>
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Germany: City of Berlin	Andrés VIVEROS, <a href="mailto:aviveros@innovabiobio.cl">aviveros@innovabiobio.cl</a> Lena ULBRICHT, <a href="mailto:Ulbricht@wzb.eu">Ulbricht@wzb.eu</a>
Israel: the Galilee	Ulrich SCHREITERER, <a href="mailto:uli.schreiteres@wzb.eu">uli.schreiteres@wzb.eu</a> John E. GOLUB, <a href="mailto:john.golub@che.org.il">john.golub@che.org.il</a>
Italy: Region of Lombardy	Galit EIZMAN, <a href="mailto:Galit@che.org.il">Galit@che.org.il</a> Alberto BRUGNOLI, <a href="mailto:direzione.generale@irer.it">direzione.generale@irer.it</a> <a href="mailto:sabrina.bandera@irer.it">sabrina.bandera@irer.it</a>
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Mexico: State of Veracruz	Jose RANGEL DIAZ, <a href="mailto:jorangel@uv.mx">jorangel@uv.mx</a>



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

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## OECD HE & REGIONS TEAM: STAFF

**Caroline VOISINE** has concluded her 5-month internship with the HE & Regions Team and will now focus on her Masters thesis while continuing to work for the Paris Centre of Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico). We wish her a successful academic and professional continuation and thank her for her support to the reviews.

We are pleased to introduce **Adrien BOUCHER** who joined the team in October 2009. Adrien is currently studying a MSc. in Education Sciences, with focus on International Co-operation in Education and Training, at the University Paris Descartes – Sorbonne. Adrien is a French national and has worked as a French language teacher in Nepal, Myanmar and Thailand. He has interned at the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)/UNESCO in Paris, and at UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Bangkok, Thailand.

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