

EVENTS RELATED TO THE OECD NORWAY REVIEW

Within the framework of this project, the *OECD-Norway Steering Group on Quality in Lower Secondary in Norway* organised and led the following activities with Norwegian stakeholders:

OECD study visit to analyse the strengths and challenges of the Lower Secondary Education system in Norway (Oslo, 14-17 December 2011): During this visit, the OECD-Norway Steering Group analysed key issues to improve lower secondary education in Norway. There was an exchange with a wide array of Norwegian education actors, such as: the Minister of Education and members of the Ministry, regional authorities, union representatives (teachers and students), parents' representatives, researchers and school level actors (school principals, teachers, parents and students). Preliminary recommendations for Norway were formulated during the visit based on these exchanges and preparatory work.

OECD-Norway Workshop on Lower Secondary Education in Norway (Oslo, 8 February 2011): The OECD-Norway Steering Group presented its preliminary recommendations and received feedback on how to make these most suitable to the Norwegian context. The workshop had 65 participants from different education areas involved in lower secondary education in Norway. The main subjects discussed were: 1) a diagnosis of the main strengths and challenges of the Norwegian Lower Secondary education system and the recommendations; 2) the comparative analysis on lower secondary education policies and practices across OECD countries and; 3) international practices relevant to Norway.

Working session to refine the White Paper Motivasjon-Mestring-Muligheter (Oslo, 9 February 2011): A meeting of the OECD-Norway Steering Group took place with Norwegian education experts to discuss the OECD recommendations and how these converged with the White Paper in preparation. The meeting had about 30 participants.

OECD Seminar for Leaders in Education Improvement (Ontario, 6-10 June 2011): A delegation of 30 Norwegian seminar participants travelled to Ontario to analyse successful implementation and school improvement strategies that could be relevant to the Norwegian education context. The delegation was headed by Minister of Education, and composed by high level education policy making representatives from the Ministry, the Directorate for Education, Counties, Municipalities, Trade Union, Parliament and Academia. Participants met with Ontario Ministry officials and relevant stakeholders, visited selected school boards and schools and worked with Harvard GSE professors in facilitated teams to develop an improvement plan for Norway. The Seminar was organised by the OECD in collaboration with the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE).