

HIGHER EDUCATION IN REGIONS: NEWSLETTER N° 1: 19 DECEMBER 2008

The purpose of this monthly Newsletter is to inform about the OECD work on higher education in regions and the progress made in the reviews of higher education in regional development. You are welcome to contribute to the contents, e.g. by informing the projet team about related events and meetings.

Regions participating in the reviews in 2009-2010

The following nine regions or city-regions have made a full commitment to join the OECD Reviews of Higher Education in Regional Development in 2009-2010 (Phase 2). The lead agency/organisation is indicated in brackets:

BRAZIL: State of Parana (Universidade Federal do Paraná and the Federation of Industries of the State of Paraná, FIEP)

CHILE: Bío Bío Region (Region del Bío Bío, Agencia Regional de Innovacion y Desarrolla Productivo)

GERMANY: City of Berlin (Senat, Senatsverwaltung für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung)

ISRAEL: Galilee (Council for Higher Education)

MEXICO: State of Veracruz (Universidad Veracruzana)

NETHERLANDS: Amsterdam Region (VU University Amsterdam)

NETHERLANDS: City of Rotterdam (Economic Development Board Rotterdam)

SPAIN: Andalucía Region (Regional Ministry for Innovation, Science and Enterprise, General Secretariat for Science, Universities and Technology)

US-MEXICO: Paso del Norte Region (the Paso del Norte Group)

Campinas in Brazil (Unicamp), the Region of Lombardy in Italy, Penang in Malaysia (Universiti Sains Malaysia) and Southern Arizona in the US (University of Arizona) have also confirmed their participation in the second round of the reviews. In addition, negotiations continue with regions in Australia, China, Hungary, Japan, Russia and Spain. The final number of regions participating in the Phase 2 will range from 12 to 15. Latecomers may take advantage of the rolling review programme.

Website www.oecd.org/edu/higher/regionaldevelopment

The dedicated website includes useful information for the regions participating in the reviews, such as the regional self-evaluation reports and peer review reports of the 14 regions reviewed in 2005-2007,

instructions for the review process (see Aide Memoire and Guidelines for Regional Self-Evaluation Reports) and further reading and links.

As a new feature each region that participates in the Phase 2 reviews will be highlighted on the website. Currently, the following pages are available: Bío Bío Region, The Galilee, Paso del Norte Region, Rotterdam, Southern Arizona and Veracruz. *Regional co-ordinators are invited to contribute to these pages. Please provide us equivalent information on your own region if you have not yet done it.*

Review Process: Early Steps

The early steps of the review process include nominating the Regional Co-Ordinator, establishing the Steering Committee and agreeing on the timeline of the review with the OECD Secretariat.

The first regional self-evaluation reports are expected to be ready by March 2009. All reports will be published and posted on the OECD website.

OECD Review Visits and the Pool of Experts

The review visits will take place in 2009 and early 2010 to ensure that the experiences of each participating region will feed to the final report. The OECD Secretariat has created a pool of experts to participate in the review visits. Each review team will have four to five experts, including analyst from the OECD and, when appropriate and approved by the region, from the World Bank.

Final Report

The OECD Higher Education in Regions team will prepare a final report that will draw from the reviews, other OECD work and experts' contributions. These contributions will address cross-cutting themes including: HEIs constructing regional advantage in institutionally thin regions and fragmented metropolitan regions; Equity and widening access to HE in cities and regions; HEIs as space and place makers; HE and environmental sustainability: local responses to global challenges; and World Class University or World Class HE system driving the regional growth.

Upcoming events

Please let us know about any national or regional events on higher education and regional and city development that could be of interest to the regions participating in the reviews.

February/March 2009, Guiding a World Class Higher Education System

This colloquium will take place in Dublin, Ireland, hosted by the Dublin Institute of Technology in co-operation with the OECD Programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education (IMHE) and the Irish Higher Education Authority.

As economic activity has gone global, city and mega-regions compete on global terrain. Successful regions depend on specialized clusters of HEIs and research institutes that interact with creative enterprise, exchanging ideas and personnel. These regions are magnets for international students, researchers and inward investment. The purpose of this colloquium is to explore the way in which a diverse and coherent portfolio of vertically differentiated high-performing, globally focused institutions and student experiences can successfully maximize their collective capability beyond their individual capacity.

Speakers include **Josep Vilalta**, University of Catalonia ACUP (Spain), Professor emeritus **John Goddard**, University of Newcastle (UK) and **Jaana Puukka**, the Project Manager of the OECD work on HE and regions. Regions participating in the review are welcome to join this meeting.

More information will be available shortly.

November 2009, Global Roundtable on Higher Education and Regions

This meeting – which is by invitation only – will take place in Kansas City, Missouri, United States. It will be hosted by the University of Missouri in co-operation with the OECD Programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education (IMHE) and the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Directorate.

The purpose is to convene a roundtable discussion on higher education institutions and their contribution to regional economic development. The workshop will be informal, based on roundtable sessions addressing cross-cutting concerns for higher education and regional policies, such as innovation, regional development capacity, and the public policies that shape university budgets and design.

Formal invitations will be sent out in due course.

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