



## NETWORK ANTHOLOGY 2012

### **“SKILLS MONITORING IN EUROPEAN REGIONS AND LOCALITIES. STATE OF THE ART AND PERSPECTIVES”**

#### ***Call for Articles***

In 2012 the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring will focus on several aspects of monitoring skills in European regions and localities. The annual anthology of the European Network will present the state of the art in the field of skills monitoring approaches and practices applied in regions and localities.

#### **Rationale for the Selection of the Topic**

Despite the recent developments and changes on European labour markets and the challenges resulting from the current crisis there remains an increasing demand for new skills, lifelong learning, reforms in educational and training systems as well as the transferability of skills across sectors and professions. There is a great need for knowledge about the current situation in regional labour markets, in order to better use existing resources and to build a sound base for the future. Currently there is a deficit of skilled labour in most European states and regions and it is expected that it will increase further in the future. Moreover, future developments will demand more skills, specialisation, improved education and training. The current crisis has uncovered the existing gaps and the importance of tailored education and training, partly as new jobs require innovative forms for training and improvement in transitions between formal and informal skills.

There are different challenges for all actors on labour markets. For the prosperity and social development of regions and localities it is necessary to take advantage of the available human resources, competences and skills. Regional or local labour market monitoring can help to make needs and demands visible and to show the initial situation, the existing capabilities and hidden or unused skills. Only adequate knowledge about the current situation and the future demands and necessities can help to improve the regional and local labour markets and to make the right matches of employees and jobs.



### Articles for the Anthology

Considering these developments and needs, the topic of “Skills Monitoring in European Regions and Localities” should be, in general, explored in the articles. The anthology will provide an overview of concepts, data and experiences with its applications in approaches to regional and local skills monitoring. Guiding questions for articles could be: (1.) how can regional skills monitoring be conceptualised; (2.) how can skills be measured; and (3.) how can we better identify employer skills demands and include this information in regional labour market information systems?

This might include: information about available or needed data; questions of how to standardise non formal skills and competencies (certificates); what data is available or should be generated; and who could be the potential users of such information? It could also be interesting to differentiate these questions by looking at various target groups, existing transitions from school to work in the framework of needs for reforms of the educational and training systems, prospective skills requirements/forecasts and of course different socio-economic settings and their meaning for approaches of lifelong learning. Another interesting focus could be related on what we learned from the crisis in terms of skills acquisition.

This call for articles is addressed to all network members and interested parties in the field of regional and local skills monitoring. Everybody who would like to contribute an article to the anthology is invited to contact the network coordinator, Ruth Hasberg, until **15 March 2012**. Until 31 March 2012 all authors will be provided with further information about structure and formatting of the articles, deadlines for delivering and content. In case of further questions please get in touch with Ruth Hasberg, IWAK (Institute for Economics, Labour and Culture, Centre of Goethe University Frankfurt/Main) [Hasberg@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:Hasberg@em.uni-frankfurt.de).