



EN RLMM Anthology 2015

BIG DATA AND THE COMPLEXITY OF LABOUR MARKET POLICIES:

New Approaches in Regional and Local Labour Market Monitoring for Reducing Skills Mismatches

CALL FOR PAPERS

In the era of Society 2.0, ICT related innovations do not only facilitate the connectivity of individuals, businesses and governments as well as collaboration between them, but also create new forms and types of data that can be exploited to increase the efficiency in several areas of economic activity. As the available technology provides cost-effective solutions, it is possible to provide services that have formerly been too expensive.

The labour market is a domain where the drivers outlined above are clearly at work. Technology and the diffusion of new forms of communication allow for example job-seekers to explore new and innovative information channels, such as social networks and web advertisements. This results in a more efficient and cost effective job search process, as more opportunities can be assessed with less effort by means of less time-consuming operations. As information on some aspects of the labour market – such as the demand for skilled labour in certain sectors or spatial units– is difficult to obtain, studying this process can provide new and interesting forms of information. The results can be used to improve the efficiency of the labour market at large and the provision of services by the government and private enterprises.

The World Wide Web contains an unimaginable amount of data that is largely unexploited and can provide useful information for designing and implementing new models and tools for innovative labour market services. However, the attempts to use Big Data in the context of the labour market are still rare. The information available on the Web is not collected, analysed or disseminated in such a way that it would help to improve the labour market information as a whole or the intelligence needed by the stakeholders (including the public and private labour market actors) as well as the general public. Against this background, the issues of creation, elaboration and analysis of the information available on the Web urgently need to be addressed. In order to facilitate and propagate the use of Big Data in the context of labour market analysis, more information is needed on the different opportunities and challenges associated with its utilisation.



Considering that Big Data is a new field of study and practice, in 2015 the EN RLMM will explore the problems associated with the use of Big Data and the possible solutions to them in different European countries. The planned overview of the possible application of Big Data in the field of labour market monitoring seeks to bundle existing experiences with the use of Big Data in the form of good practice examples, but also ideas for developing this area of expertise further.

Therefore, the Annual Anthology of the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring expects contributions which cover one of the following issues:

- **Social changes and context framework:** How are Big Data and social networks changing the society, the modes of job-seeking and the recruitment process?
- **Technical solutions and methods for using Big Data:** Which methods are used for data collection, extraction of structured Information, text classification and ontology creation? Which are the pressing issues associated with data quality and accessibility? How can the data be presented?
- **Solutions and service models:** How can labour market information coming from the analysis of Big Data be made available for users and policy makers?
- **Legal and ethical framework:** Which legal and ethical issues need to be taken into account regarding the web-crawling technology and access to sources?

The contributions to the EN RLMM Anthology can concentrate on one of these issues, but can also be submitted in the form of case study descriptions or review of practices using Big Data for reducing skills mismatches in the labour market. Explorative contributions on the topic are welcome.

If you would like to submit an article to this year's EN RLMM anthology, please send the Network Manager Sigrid Rand the preliminary title of the contribution and a short abstract by **15 March 2015**. All authors will receive further information concerning the formatting in due course. The articles should be submitted latest by **10 May 2015**. If you have any further questions, please contact Sigrid Rand: s.rand@em.uni-frankfurt.de.