



## Announcement:

# European workshop on local employment indicators and benchmarking local employment policies

### Workshop theme:

Local and regional employment policies are expected to play an increasingly important role in the European Union. Based on the respective chapter of the Treaty, incorporated with the Amsterdam Treaty and the decisions of the Luxembourg Summit in 1997, the European Employment Strategy (EES) considers the strengthening of the local dimension to be an important aspect. Local and regional authorities in Europe committed themselves at an early stage to actively participate in the implementation of the European employment objectives. "Acting locally for employment" was the title of the "Bonn Charter" of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) in 1999, which demonstrated local and regional authorities' responsibilities and their potential to act in this policy area. The European Commission picked up on these impulses in several of its Communications and other publications and proposed specific programmes to strengthen the local and regional dimension of the European Employment Strategy. A number of local and regional authorities in Europe have developed ambitious objectives to promote employment at the local and regional levels and are implementing these. They cover a broad range of initiatives and projects such as promoting economic development, the setting up of businesses and the putting into place of measures against social exclusion.

Many cities and regions have integrated their activities into a strategic framework, which is implemented in a long-term action plan in partnership with other key stakeholders.

Many EU member states have linked employment service reforms to an upgrading of local and regional bodies. In Germany, labour market policy reform will lead to new roles for the federal state agency for employment and the agency for the promotion of local employment.

A more systematic approach to local and regional measures requires consistent strategies to monitor the development of local employment and the evaluation of



such local strategies and measures. Furthermore, such a systematic approach demands clear indicators and the possibility of inter-local and inter-regional benchmarking. Much remains to be done in this area. Within EU member states there is a lack of application of their respective - and indeed European - indicators on how to measure the development of employment and the performance of local and regional employment policies. There is also very little experience in how to apply such indicators in practice. Furthermore, the benchmarking of local employment policy raises many questions as far as the organisation of monitoring and reporting systems are concerned, as well as the interaction between local and regional authorities and the possibility of systematic reciprocal learning.

With this background information we would like to invite you to the first

## **European workshop on local employment indicators and benchmarking local employment policies**

**on 7 and 8 June 2004**

**in Offenbach am Main**

In this workshop we want to present and discuss the respective approaches of the European Union and those of local and regional authorities. Current research will also be presented as will case studies demonstrating examples of best practice.

Venue: Townhall, Offenbach am Main



## Preliminary Programme:

Start of the workshops: 07.06.04 at 2 p.m.; end of the workshops: 08.06.04 at 1.30 p.m.

### **07. Juni 2004**

13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-14.15	Gerhard Grandke (Lord-Mayor of Offenbach am Main)	Welcome
14.15-14.30	Walter Leitermann (Deputy Secretary General of the CEMR German section ) and Angelika Poth-Mögele (CEMR, Head of Policy)	Local and regional authorities as actors in the employment policy
14.30-14.45	Volker Grünewald (Hans-Böckler Foundation)	Local employment policy – the current state of play in research and practice
14.45-15.15	Christa Kammerhofer (European Commission, GD Employment and Social Affairs)	The local dimension of the European Employment Strategy – local employment strategies and benchmarking
15.15-16.00	Jacques Dahan (Groupe Bernhard Brunhes, Paris), Nicola Duell (Economix, Munich)	Strengthening the local dimension of the European Employment Strategy – findings and recommendations of a research study on indicators of local employment (commissioned by the European Commission)
16.00-16.30	Discussion	
16.30-17.00	Coffee Break	
17.00-17.45	Benno Wiendels, Bert Harmesen, SGBO, Research and Consultancy Agency of the VNG (Dutch Association of municipalities)	Benchmarking local employment policies and the (re)integration of unemployed in the Netherlands: an example of a bottom-up approach and its usefulness for European, national, regional and local policies
17.45-18.30	Håkan Hellstrand (Swedish Association of Local Authorities / Swedish Federation of County Councils, Stockholm)	The use of indicators assessing regional and local employment policies. Swedish examples.
18.30-19.00	Discussion	
19.00	End of day 1	



## 08. Juni 2004

09.00-09.45	Simon Röthlisberger Staatsekretariat für Wirtschaft – Direktion für Arbeit der Schweiz (Swiss Ministry of Labour, Berne)	Managing regional employment policy in Switzerland – indicators, monitoring procedures, and performance-incentives
09.45-10.30	Helmut Hartmann (con_sens, Hamburg), Matthias Schulze-Böing (Offenbach)	Benchmarking the promotion of local employment – an experience of a German pilot project of Bertelsmann-Foundation and Local Authorities in Germany
10.30-10.45	Discussion	
10.45-11.00	Coffee break	
11.00-11.30	Erja Lindberg (Central Uusimaa Partnership, Järvenpää, Finland)	Finnish perspectives on local and regional employment strategy
11.30-12.00	Rudolf Knorr (Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung IAB, Nuremberg)	The European Employment Strategy and the labour market reform in Germany – challenges for indicators and reporting systems
12.00-12.30	Hugh Mosley (Science Center Berlin)	Benchmarking job centres: lessons for local employment policy
12.30-13.00	Discussion	
13.00-13.30	Matthias Schulze-Böing, Helmut Hartmann, Christa Kammerhofer, N. N.	Lessons learnt – state of the art and further development of indicators and benchmarking practices in the field of local employment policies in Europe
13.30	End of conference	

**Languages:** German, English (translation will be provided)



No Participation fee.

Participants or their associations will have to pay for their travel and hotel costs. The organisation can provide support to make hotel reservations.

Registration is **compulsory** (by letter or fax). **Deadline 21 Mai 2004**. 70-80 participants are expected (limited seating capacities)

**Venue:** Offenbach City Hall, Berliner Str. 100, D-63065 Offenbach am Main

**How to get there:**

On the motorway: Motorways A 3 and A 661 – exit Offenbach-Kaiserlei, follow Berliner Straße direction „Stadtmitte“ (centre). There is a public parking in the townhall grounds.

By train: ICE via Frankfurt main station or Hanau main station, S-Bahn lines 1,2,8 und 9 direction Offenbach, stop Offenbach Marktplatz, exit West (Herrnstraße). Travel time: about 15 minutes

By plane: Airport Frankfurt International. Take S-Bahn line 8 or 9 direction Offenbach / Hanau. stop: Offenbach-Marktplatz. Travel time: about 25 minutes

**The conference is supported by:**

- **Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)**
- **Rat der Gemeinden und Regionen Europas (RGRE) – deutsche Sektion**
- **Verein Beschäftigungspolitik: Kommunal e. V.**
- **Hans-Böckler-Stiftung**
- **Bertelsmann Stiftung**
- **Stadt Offenbach am Main**
- **Europäischer Sozialfonds**
- **Con\_sens GmbH, Hamburg**

**Information and registration:**

<p>Stadt Offenbach am Main          Dr. Matthias Schulze-Böing          Rathaus, Berliner Str. 100          D-63065 Offenbach am Main          Tel.: 0049 – (0) 69 – 8065-2866  <a href="mailto:schulze-boeing@offenbach.de">schulze-boeing@offenbach.de</a></p>	<p>Secretariat:          Maria Velasco-Zeller          Rathaus, Berliner Str. 100          D-63065 Offenbach am Main          Tel.: 0049 – (0) 69 – 8065-2663  <a href="mailto:maria.velasco-zeller@offenbach.de">maria.velasco-zeller@offenbach.de</a></p>
--	---