



NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2011

Dear Colleagues,

we hope you had a good start into the year 2011 and would like to inform you about the latest developments and activities within the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring.

TOPIC 1: ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN NETWORK ON REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET MONITORING 2010

The **annual meeting 2010** was hosted by CEREQ in Marseille. It covered the topic of “REGIONAL MONITORING APPROACHES FOR THE REDUCTION AND THE PREVENTION OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE”. Also covering this topic a group of network members published an anthology which provides an overview on the state of the art related to regional youth monitoring. The annual meeting was very successful and the discussion with about 50 network members and external experts was very helpful and innovative. The topic of youth (un)employment is also of high relevance for the DG Employment. Hence the network discussion is also oriented to the strategy 2020. In reconciliation with representatives of the DG-Employment the topic of youth (un)employment will be pursued also in 2011.

We summarised the contents and results of the annual meeting. You can find the document on the following website <http://www.regionallabourmarketmonitoring.net/>.

TOPIC 2: EUROPEAN DAY – AN INITIATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN NETWORK ON REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET MONITORING

The Initiative “**European Day - Networking Regional Labour Market Observatories in Europe**” is a project located within the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring. Preceding the annual meeting of the network in 2010, there was the first so-called European Day to provide an opportunity for Regional Labour Market Observatories to meet and have a European wide exchange. In the focus were best practice examples and mutual learning as well as analysis of the challenges for Regional Labour Market Observatories and strategies to solve them. The title of the first European day was “CONFRONTING EXPERIENCES & BUILDING BRIDGES IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF A COMMON LABOUR MARKET IN EUROPE”. About 150 representatives of Labour Market Observatories from across Europe participated during the two days conference in Marseille. The interesting results of the discussions including the presentations you can find on the website <http://www.regionallabourmarketmonitoring.net/>.

PERSPECTIVES:

1. Representatives of the Regional Labour Market Observatories requested a close cooperation with the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring. This will be realized in focusing on a common topic for the duration of one year. The first topic will be on regional youth monitoring as there are considerable challenges to bring or to keep



youth in labour in most European regions. The **Second European Day** (workshop with regional labour market observatories and network members) will take place on **October 6, 2011 in Luxembourg** preceding the annual meeting 2011 of the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring. The title of the workshop will be **“PRACTICAL APPROACHES OF YOUTH MONITORS IN REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET OBSERVATORIES IN EUROPE”**.

2. Furthermore a **Scientific Committee** was founded in October 2010 to provide the “Initiative European Day – Networking Regional Labour Market Observatories in Europe” with a sound scientific basis. Prof. Ron McQuaid from the Employment Research Institute of the Napier University in Edinburgh is the elected chair of the Scientific Committee for one year. The other members are from Universities and research institutes in Italy, Germany, Denmark, Great Britain, France and Poland. A further task of the committee is to represent the initiative towards third parties. Further information about the scientific committee, its members and functions are to find on the website <http://www.regionallabourmarketmonitoring.net/>.
3. Moreover a secretary to support the initiative operatively was established. As the initiative does not have any funding for a secretary, this function will temporarily be taken over by the coordinator of the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring. There will be strong efforts made in the coming month to find funding for the secretary.
4. As the exchange between Regional Labour Market Observatories all over Europe is the main aim of the initiative a **databank** was build up. Currently it contains already some Observatories from all over Europe and is open for new entries. This databank can be used by the representatives of the observatories to find other actors with comparable profiles for exchange on certain topics to generate synergies in developing and exploring new areas. The databank is as soon as possible accessible for all interested parties via the website of the European Network <http://www.regionallabourmarketmonitoring.net/>. As this is the starting point, there should be brought more entries into the databank. You could support this in promoting the databank to observatories you are familiar or in exchange with.

TOPIC 3: ANNUAL TOPIC 2010/11 FOR THE EUROPEAN NETWORK ON REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET MONITORING

The topic of the **network activities for 2010/11** is “MEASURING GEOGRAPHICAL MOBILITY IN REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET MONITORING APPROACHES”. It is about how labour mobility, especially Cross Border Mobility can be measured and implemented in Regional Labour Market Monitoring. This topic was considered to be of high relevance as there are still major challenges for most of the network members concerning the conceptualisation and generation of data on labour mobility on small scale level. This approach can be explored on the issues of transregional, transnational or cross border mobility or applied on different target groups like the skilled, the unskilled or even young job seeker or employees. This topic will be covered by an anthology of the network as well as by the annual meeting 2011 in Luxembourg.



It is planned to prepare an anthology which provides a state of the art overview on strategies, tools and data which are implemented or discussed in different European regions. This will provide the network members and other interested parties with a sound basis for further steps to measure labour mobility within the framework of regional labour market monitoring. Therefore a call for articles will be send to all network members. Also covering this topic there will be the **Annual Meeting 2011**. It will be hosted by CEPS/INSTEAD on October 7 at the University of Luxembourg in cooperation with EURES representatives. Further information about the upcoming anthology, the new topic and the annual meeting are available soon on <http://www.regionallabourmarketmonitoring.net>.

TOPIC 4: NEW COORDINATOR OF THE EUROPEAN NETWORK ON REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET MONITORING

In October 2010 the coordinating office of the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring was confirmed again to IWAK (Institute for Economics, Labour and Culture) in Frankfurt, Germany. There a personnel change comes to a novelty in the coordination. The new network coordinator at IWAK is Ruth Hasberg. She is writing her doctoral thesis in Sociology at Goethe-University in Frankfurt about the topic "Perception of income inequality in Germany and the United States". Therefore she did her research in Frankfurt and New York and is thus used to international work and tasks. She is responsible for the coordination in the European Network of Regional Labour Market Monitoring and if you need any help, information or if you have any questions you can contact her:

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TOPIC 5: WEB-COMMUNICATION

On the website of the European Network on Regional Labour Market Monitoring we like to inform you regularly about news and facts to support the exchange between the Network members and to submit a better communication and information. Furthermore we try to update the Facebook Group of the network.

TOPIC 6: MISCELLANEOUS

This year we plan to intensify the communication between the network members about corporations and common proposals for EU calls. This is relevant as there are regional and local cross-cutting issues in the EU-Strategy 2020 with high relevance. The network coordinator



will do a research on relevant calls on a regularly basis and will provide this information to all network members. If you need any help or more information or if you search for a partner to propose for a call don't hesitate to contact us. And if you know about calls which could be useful and interesting for other members please let us know we can help to inform the network members about this news.

We wish you a Happy New Year and look forward to a pleasant and successful cooperation in 2011.

Kind regards

Christa Larsen, Alfons Schmid and Ruth Hasberg

If you have any comments on this newsletter or if you do not want to receive the newsletter anymore please let us know. Contact: Ruth Hasberg (Hasberg@em.uni-frankfurt.de)