

## **Local Development - News and Initiatives**

### **OECD LEED Trento Centre for Local Development**

The OECD LEED Trento Centre is an initiative supported by Mr. Lorenzo Dellai, President of the Autonomous Province of Trento, and lead by the LEED Programme. This decentralised body will be launched on December 2003 during an inauguration ceremony presided by the Presidency of the Trento Region and the OECD Secretary-General. The activities of this Centre aim at giving new impetus to local development capacity building in OECD member countries and transition economies by fostering entrepreneurship, job creation and sustaining social cohesion through locally-based initiatives. This objective will be achieved through co-operative projects and exchange of experience between Italy and other OECD and Central, Eastern and South-eastern European countries. .

For more information, please contact [Ekaterina.Travkina@oecd.org](mailto:Ekaterina.Travkina@oecd.org) or refer to the programme of activities attached.

### **CEI-LEED Local Development Network of Advisors**

On the occasion of the 2003 CEI Summit in Warsaw, Poland, the OECD LEED Programme proposes to officially launch the "CEI-LEED Local Development Network of Advisors" to be hosted by the Centre for Local Development in Trento, Italy. This network will aim at:

- Assisting local development practitioners in CEI countries;
- Allowing the exchange and transfer of experience with OECD countries;
- Assessing best practices in the design, implementation and evaluation of policy instruments employed by sub-national authorities to increase rates of new business formation and facilitate enterprise development;
- Fostering matchmaking of CEI projects;
- Working on entrepreneurship (women, youth, and minorities); self-employment; start-up financing; Micro-credit; micro-venture capital; financing local development; business incubation; clusters and enterprise networks.

For more information on this Network and the CEI Summit, please contact [Dina.Ionescu@oecd.org](mailto:Dina.Ionescu@oecd.org) or visit the official website of the [Central European Initiative](#)

### **New Chairman of the LEED Forum on Social Innovations**

Mr. Patrick McClure, CEO of Mission Australia, one the biggest non profit organisations in Australia, has been appointed president for the LEED Forum on Social Innovations (FSI). The FSI, created in 2000, deals with major social innovations at local level. Up to now, several initiatives have been organised, on the non profit sector, on social enterprises, on corporate social responsibility, on micro-credit and asset- building for low-income people, as well as on enterprise creation in distressed urban areas. A new programme of work, in connection with the LEED Programme work on social cohesion at local level, is being designed and will be released by the end of the year. For information, please contact Mrs. Antonella Noya, who is the administrator of the Forum on Social Innovations. ([Antonella.Noya@oecd.org](mailto:Antonella.Noya@oecd.org))

### **New Chairman of the LEED Forum on Entrepreneurship**

Mr. François Hurel, President of the French Association for Enterprise Creation (APCE), has been appointed president for the LEED Forum on Entrepreneurship. He has been the General Delegate of the APCE since 1996 and he is one of the main experts on the topics of entrepreneurship in both, France and Europe. Among others, Mr. Hurel is the author of the 2002 Report to the French Prime Minister (Jean-Pierre Raffarin) on enterprise creation and has significantly contributed to the OECD work on entrepreneurship since 1999. For more information, please contact Mr. Alistair Nolan, who is the administrator of the Forum on Entrepreneurship. ([Alistair.Nolan@oecd.org](mailto:Alistair.Nolan@oecd.org))

### **LEED Programme work in Kosovo and Albania**

In co-operation with the European Training Foundation and the Italian government, LEED contributes to the establishment of two pilot local partnerships in Kamenica (Kosovo) and Lezhe (Albania). Within this project LEED provides: i) an analytical framework and guidance on building partnerships; and ii) an interface with practitioners and local partnerships in OECD countries drawing on the experience of Ireland and Italy, which have both significant expertise for the development of partnerships in areas of high unemployment and poor economic development. This pilot project is expected to set up basis for wider municipal networking and exchange on local employment and economic development within OECD member and non-member countries. For more information, please contact [Ekaterina.Travkina@oecd.org](mailto:Ekaterina.Travkina@oecd.org) or refer to the Draft Concept Note attached.

### **Kosovo Peer Review: "Employability in Kosovo, Assessment and Options for Development"**

The review was undertaken in September 2002 and involved an assessment of all key materials and publications, interviews with policy makers and practitioners, site visits and discussions with stakeholders. It was commissioned by the Employment and Skills Observatory of Kosova (ESOK) and financially supported by the European Training Foundation (ETF). To access the full report, please visit the European Training Foundation Website: [www.etf.eu.int](http://www.etf.eu.int)

### **A LEED Centre for Local Development in Latin America**

During the LEED Programme event held in Cuernavaca, Mexico, June 2003, the President Vicente Fox proposed the creation of a Local Development Centre for Latin America. Being Mexico the only Latin American country member of the OECD and LEED Programme Network, President Fox announced his willing to host in Mexico a decentralised OECD-LEED body to promote the dissemination and implementation of OECD best practices in the fields of local development, entrepreneurship and capacity building. The LEED Programme expects to lead this event with the support of the Mexican authorities and the LEED Directing Committee delegates.

To read the speech given by President Fox, please visit the [LEED Programme's Website](#). For more information on LEED's activities in Latin America, please contact [Gabriela.Miranda-Gallardo@oecd.org](mailto:Gabriela.Miranda-Gallardo@oecd.org)

## **OECD LEED Publications on local development issues:**

### **Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development: Programmes and Policy Recommendations**



Fostering entrepreneurship is an almost universal concern for local and central governments seeking to combat localised economic distress. But few studies have systematically examined the relationship between the birth of new firms and local economic and employment development. This publication examines the available evidence. It is shown that entrepreneurship is a critical component of local development. However, there are a number of potential limits to entrepreneurship-oriented strategies. These limits, and how they might be countered, are carefully examined.

The book's main contribution is a set of detailed policy recommendations for local and national governments and economic development agencies. The recommendations cover the thematic areas of strategy formulation, finance and programme design. Best practice is considered in the entire range of programmes used to increase entrepreneurial activity in local economies. Using evidence from a number of countries, an assessment is made of what works and what doesn't in subjects as diverse as micro-credit, self-employment support schemes, venture capital, business incubation, management training, business information services, entrepreneurship education, e-government and other programme types. It is hoped that these guidelines will assist in designing and implementing cost-effective entrepreneurship strategies and programmes. Consideration is likewise given to evaluation techniques, and the design of entrepreneurship programmes for target groups such as youth, women, ethnic minorities and social enterprises. This publication also describes the types of research that should be undertaken to improve understanding of the key policy issues." You can contact the author at [Alistair.Nolan@oecd.org](mailto:Alistair.Nolan@oecd.org)

This publication can be found on the [OECD's Online Bookshop](#), where one can also browse the text.

### **Private Finance and Economic Development: City and Regional Investment**



Local governments and development agencies are being called upon to take an increasing role in securing economic competitiveness and social cohesion in their cities and regions. But public budgets for these activities are being squeezed. In order to plug the funding gap, local agencies are increasingly developing frameworks and instruments to lever private finance into activities that the public sector has traditionally funded alone. This book shows how city and region authorities can optimize private financing for economic development purposes. Practical examples from North America and Europe are examined and issues of transferability are discussed.

The main conclusion is that the private sector can act as a partner with the public sector over a range of activities, such as generating derelict land in inner cities, supporting the social and economic development of marginalized communities and participating in public efforts to overcome barriers to small firm development. However, appropriate instruments and structures must be put in place to remove some of the information gaps and risks that currently prevent private companies from making what could be profitable investments in these areas. A wide range of such instruments are examined, such as tax increment financing, community development financial institutions, public guarantees for private investment and removal of new investment from the liability chain for environmental contamination. It is shown that long-term structures are also to be preferred over one-off actions.

It is hoped that city region governments and development agencies will learn from the information in this book in order to develop their own toolbox of instruments and structures for leveraging private finance. You can contact the author at [Jonathan.Potter@oecd.org](mailto:Jonathan.Potter@oecd.org)

This book can be purchased from the [OECD's Online Bookshop](#)

### **The Non-profit Sector in a Changing Economy**



Recent socio-economic trends, such as mounting economic pressure, welfare state reform, the emergence of civil society and participative democracy, have highlighted the growing significance of the non-profit sector in OECD countries. This sector - often associated with concepts such as the "social economy", "third sector", "voluntary sector", "third system", "independent sector" and, more recently, "social entrepreneurship" - has been facing a number of crucial new challenges. Among these is the drive to introduce rigorous management criteria whilst both maintaining the sector's unique social dimension and fostering social innovation.

This publication offers a comprehensive and ground-breaking assessment of the new trends in the field of non-profit sector studies. Drawing on contributions from international leading experts and academics, it reviews the most significant non-profit sector developments in EU countries, the United States, Canada, Mexico and Australia. It also provides a comparative and detailed examination of the tools and methods used to finance, monitor and evaluate this sector of social and economic activity.

This book makes essential reading for policy-makers, practitioners and scholars interested in the latest theoretical and empirical developments in the expanding field of non-profit sector studies. You can contact the author at [Antonella.Noya@oecd.org](mailto:Antonella.Noya@oecd.org)

To purchase this book, please visit the [OECD's Online Bookshop](#).

## Managing Decentralisation: A New Role for Labour Market Policy



To ensure that people's needs are met, governments decentralise the way policies are designed and implemented. In the field of labour market policy, decentralisation is welcomed by a whole range of stakeholders, from business and local governments to community groups and NGOs. While each have their own ideas on how to make policy more effective, all agree that labour market policy has a crucial role to play in economic development and social inclusion.

Decentralising labour market policy is a delicate and challenging subject of political debate. How can greater flexibility be provided in managing policies while still guaranteeing efficiency and accountability? Does decentralisation really enable the co-ordination of policies? At the local level, how do we make the best use of decentralised powers? The OECD requested leading experts and experienced policy makers and practitioners to address these questions. This book summarises the lessons learnt from their experiences. You can contact the author at [Sylvain.Giguere@oecd.org](mailto:Sylvain.Giguere@oecd.org)

This publication can be purchased at the [OECD's Online Bookshop](#)

### Websites on Central and Eastern countries

#### Financial institutions

- The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: <http://www.ebrd.com/>
- The Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.cipe.org/> and <http://www.ciperomania.org> (for Romania)

#### Co-operation Bodies

- The Central European Initiative, sub-regional co-operation initiative: <http://www.ceinet.org>
- The CEI Working Group on Small and Medium Sized Enterprises: [http://www.ceinet.org/view/02/02\\_15\\_01.htm](http://www.ceinet.org/view/02/02_15_01.htm)

#### The official website of the CEI Summit Economic Forum, Warsaw, Poland, 19-21 November 2003

- The Central European Initiative: <http://www.ceinet.org>

### ***What's new in the Balkans?***

All the latest news on questions as above

### ***Opportunities***

#### **Job Vacancies at the OECD LEED Trento Centre**

The newly created Centre in Trento, Italy, is recruiting young professionals, interns and experts in the fields of local development, non-profit sector, local governance and entrepreneurship. Applicants should have a special interest in working and doing field research in Central and Eastern Europe. Foreign languages and previous relevant experiences in any of the aforementioned areas of study would be an advantage. People interested in applying should regularly visit the [OECD's Website](#) in order to get the updated job vacancies.

### ***Events in the Trentino***

#### **LEED Directing Committee Meeting & Launch of the OECD LEED Trento Centre**

*December 2003*

The OECD LEED Trento Centre for Local Development will be inaugurated on 6 December 2003. This decentralised body will work under the umbrella of the LEED Programme and will contribute to local development capacity building in OECD member countries and transition economies. In this occasion, the LEED Directing Committee will hold its 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting at the premises of the Presidency of the Trento Region. The Secretary-General of the OECD, the President of the Autonomous Province of Trento, high-level officials from OECD member and non-member countries as well as the Delegates of LEED member countries and organisations will take part in this event.

### ***Mail Box***

Readers' comments, ideas, contributions, correspondences, etc.