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## CoDe – Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development



**Newsletter on and for Local Development**  
Issue No. 04/2008 – 15 December 2008

A master programme sponsored by



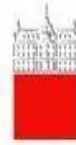
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## Latest News concerning the CoDe Master

### Joint European Master in Comparative Local Development

Edition 2009/2010

### An Erasmus Mundus Programme

#### HOW TO APPLY:

1. Expression of interest to be completed on-line at [www.unitn.it/mastercode](http://www.unitn.it/mastercode).

**Deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

2. The complete Application, which has to be submitted through the forms available on the master website ([www.unitn.it/mastercode](http://www.unitn.it/mastercode)). The Application includes: Application Form, Curriculum Vitae and Project Work Proposal, which must be submitted to the Master's office both:

\* in electronic form (email)

\* in hard copy with original signature.

**Deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

[www.unitn.it/mastercode](http://www.unitn.it/mastercode)

### 7<sup>th</sup> Edition Master in Comparative Local Development

The Graduation Ceremony for the 7th Edition of the Master in Comparative Local Development (Academic Year 2007/2008) will take place in Trento on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

The Project Work defence will take place the previous day, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

## International Doctoral School on Local Development and Global Dynamics

Eight students from eight different countries have been selected to attend the First Edition of the doctoral course offered by the International Doctoral School on Local Development and Global Dynamics.

Lectures start in Trento on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 with a course given by Prof. G. Kolodko.

The Call for Application for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Doctorate will be published early 2009.

## Alumni News

### **Alumni Association of the CoDe Master**

The Alumni Association met in Trento on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

Various points were discussed, such as: how to create networking opportunities; the possibility of joint comparative research on local development-related topics; and the legal status of the Alumni Association.

The minutes of the meeting will be sent to all alumni in the next few days. You will also be kept informed of the progress made on the items discussed at the meeting.

The next Alumni meeting will probably take place in Ljubljana in spring 2009.

### **Alumni Watch! Where are our Alumni and what are they doing?**

#### **Nikica Kusinikova (CoDe Master 2004/05)**

[nikicak@konekt.org.mk](mailto:nikicak@konekt.org.mk)

I received my Master's in Comparative Local Development in March 2006 and following-up on my Project work on Diaspora Philanthropy, I continued my professional work in the broader field of philanthropy. In June this year I established a new non-governmental organization Konekt dedicated to encourage and promote private donations for the long-term development of Macedonia. Local philanthropy can be a powerful tool for development because it relies on local resources to support local development and at the same time increases social capital and public participation in the communities.

More specifically, Konekt educates and provides services to individuals and companies in making strategic and effective social investments, conducts relevant research, promotes positive examples etc. I am also actively involved in various initiatives promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and have been a member of the working group that prepared the recently adopted National Agenda on CSR in Macedonia.

#### **Neels Kilian (CoDe Master 2004/05)**

[corneliuskilian@hotmail.com](mailto:corneliuskilian@hotmail.com)

Last year I was appointed program director to regulate the undergraduate degree B.luris at the University of the Free State (South Africa).

This year I have published an academic book called "Financial Planning Law, the ABC of Financial Planning". The other authors are David Levey, Alida de Bruyn, Shirly Hyland and Rika Snyman.

This is all my work for 2008, under the name of the University of the Free State:

#### **United Kingdom publications:**

- 2008, "Some Notes on the Proper purpose Doctrine" The Company Lawyer (UK) 2008 64

- 2008, "Some Notes on the Interpretation of Commercial Recklessness" Journal for International Comparative Corporate Law 2008 59
- 2008, "Insider Trading and Promissory Notes .....A Complex Perspective in Australia or A Lesson for South Africa?" The Company Lawyer (UK) 374.
- 2009, "Derivative Information and Insider Trading; An Evaluative Remark" The Company Lawyer, Forthcoming

#### South Africa

- 2008, "What is Wrong with Standard Form Contracts? Too many Wrongs are Behaviour Science?" De Jure Law Journal, Under review.
- 2008, "The Object of the Doctrine of Proper Purpose in the Anticipated Companies Act for South Africa" South African Law Journal, Under review.

#### International Conference paper:

2008 - Spain, Madrid conducted by GBATA, Prof. Delener from St. Johns University as conference chair of the USA.

#### Araksya Margaryan (CoDe Master 2006/07) [araksymarg@yahoo.com](mailto:araksymarg@yahoo.com)

I am involved in the PhD program doing research on environmental management by local governmental bodies.

This is a comparative research for Western European and SEE countries.

I am now at the University of Viterbo, in Italy.

#### Krishanu Bhattacharya (CoDe Master 2006/07) [krisanub11@yahoo.com](mailto:krisanub11@yahoo.com)

I received my Masters in Comparative Local Development in March 2008.

I am now working in the Rural Decentralisation Cell of 'Panchayats (rural local Government in India) & Rural Development Department, Government of West Bengal (in India) in a rural decentralisation programme. It is a Government of West Bengal programme and supported by Department for International Development (DFID, UK). The programme focuses on poverty reduction through institutional strengthening of the local governments and participatory pro-poor planning at the local level.

My primary responsibility is to look after the Programme Management related issues along with providing support in coordinating a separate statewide programme to ensure food security and basic minimum support to the destitute in rural West Bengal.

## Latest News concerning JAMP (Joint African Master Programme)

### JAMP

The Jamp programme has officially started.

#### The timetable is the following:

Deadline for the expression of interest: **15 December 2008**;

Deadline for sending in the full application form: **16 February 2009**.

The lectures shall start in **July 2009** in Pretoria, South Africa.

Further information and application forms are available at:

<http://www.tut.ac.za/Students/jamp/>

## News and Initiatives

### **School on Local Development, University of Trento**

Within the sphere of the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Programme - *scholars incoming mobility* - the School on Local Development will be hosting:

#### **PROF. GULSHAN SACHDEVA**, PhD

Associate Professor  
Centre for European Studies  
School of International Studies  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
New Delhi-110067  
INDIA

#### **PROF. GRZEGORZ KOLODKO**

Director, TIGER – Transformation, Integration and Globalization Economic Research,  
Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management (WSPiZ),  
Warsaw,  
Poland.

**Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva** is visiting professor at the University of Trento for one month: from 10th December 2008 to 8th January 2009. He will then spend one month at the University of Ljubljana and another at the Corvinus University of Budapest.

Prof. Sachdeva has already given three guest lectures at the University of Trento. The titles of these lectures were: 1) Rising India: Major Internal and External Developments; 2) Regional Development Strategy for the Indian Northeast; and 3) Economic Development in a Conflict Zone: The Case of Afghanistan.

**Prof. Grzegorz Kolodko** will be visiting professor during the months of January and February 2009.

### **8<sup>th</sup> International Entrepreneurship Forum (IEF) 18-20 December 2008, Ahmadabad (India)**

The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the IEF has been organised jointly by LEED Partner the School of Entrepreneurship and Business (SEB) of the University of Essex and the Mudra Institute of Communications, Ahmadabad (MICA) Ahmadabad, India, that is hosting the conference.

OECD-LEED will again be a collaborating partner.

The theme of this year's conference is: "Creativity and Entrepreneurship: Imperatives for a Sustainable Global-Based Knowledge Economy."

For more information, please consult [www.mica-india.net](http://www.mica-india.net).

### **Advanced Academic Update:**

#### **Governance Indicators and Assessments: Impact and Future Trends 21 and 22 January 2009**

The Maastricht Graduate School of Governance in cooperation with the European Centre for Development Policy Management offers with this Advanced Academic Update state-of-the-art knowledge for academics and professionals working in the area of governance research.

The supply and use of governance assessments and indicators are booming. The aim of this Advanced Academic Update (AAU) is to discuss (1) purpose, assumptions and impact of the proliferation of governance assessments and indicators on developing countries, (2) the

"benchmark model" behind the mainstream governance assessments as well as missing elements, and (3) the new trend towards "actionable indicators". Participants will learn about the latest developments in governance research and their applicability for work in the field and constructive suggestions for future work will be provided.

The sessions on the first day give an overview of governance indicators and assessments; discuss the underlying assumptions, the purposes they serve and their impact on developing countries. The second day discusses experiences from developed countries with managing indicators and assessments and analyses the trend towards "actionable" indicators for developing countries. The AAU concludes with a stocktaking of emerging experiences, lessons learned and suggestions for future research and standards to improve the quality and relevance of governance indicators and assessments.

**Speakers include:**

- Christiane Arndt, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
- Nils Boesen, Process & Change Consultancy
- Miguel de Brito, Electoral Institute of Southern Africa, Maputo
- Kevin Brown, Consultant to UNDP
- Raymond June, Global Integrity
- Nicolas Meisel, French Agency for Development
- Jacques Ould-Aoudia, French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry
- Paolo de Renzio, Oxford University
- Jeff Rinne, World Bank
- Alasdair Roberts, Suffolk University Law School
- Laura Torvinen, MGSOG and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland
- Steven van de Walle, Rotterdam University
- Clay Wescott, Asia Pacific Governance Institute

**Registration and Enquiries:** For a detailed programme overview and registration, please consult our website: [http://www.governance.unimaas.nl/training\\_activities/aau.html](http://www.governance.unimaas.nl/training_activities/aau.html)

Ms. Marjolein Koeman (Project Manager)

Tel: 0031 (0)43 388 4658 Fax: 0031 (0)43 388 4864

E-mail: [Marjolein.koeman@governance.unimaas.nl](mailto:Marjolein.koeman@governance.unimaas.nl)

(Submitted by Dragisa Mijacic, CoDe Master 2003/2004)

**Erasmus Mundus Conference on Climate Change:**

**Higher Education and Climate Change**

The first "Erasmus Mundus Conference on Climate Change – Higher Education and Climate Change" will take place on 26-27 February 2009 (Thursday and Friday), at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.

During the plenary session and the workshops the participants and speakers would discuss the role of higher education institutions in addressing climate change questions, as well as the potential of multidisciplinary solutions. The conference also offers a great platform for the students and alumni and the course faculty members to broaden their knowledge, and insight, on climate change issues beyond their own fields of study.

Further details available on [www.em-a.eu](http://www.em-a.eu).

**EURAM2009 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009, Liverpool, U.K.**

Economies, cities and organizations rise and fall. The successful enjoy processes of renewal and renaissance. The EURAM 2009 annual conference, with its focus on how such processes occur, will take place in Liverpool, a city enjoying its own renewal and renaissance.

(...) for EURAM 2009 we want to debate how ideas about renewal and renaissance are grounded in local contexts; how they stimulate and are stimulated by management; and how we learn to translate them to new environments.

Further information on:

<http://www.euram2009.org/r/Renaissance-and-Renewal-in-Management-studies>

**UACES: Exchanging Ideas on Europe 2009:  
Angers, Loire Valley, France 3-5 September 2009**

Do you have an interest in Europe? The 39th UACES Annual Conference is an opportunity to interact with delegates from a broad range of European-related disciplines. The previous conference in Edinburgh was the biggest European studies conference in the UK ever and we hope to match that performance in France.

The 2009 event will be a three-day conference hosted by the Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Commerciales d'Angers (ESSCA), Loire Valley, France.

The conference will be one of the largest events of its kind in Europe during 2009 and will bring together European Union practitioners, politicians and academics in disciplines such as politics, economics and law from across Europe and beyond.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Friday, 23 January 2009.**

<http://www.uaces.org/events/conferences/angers/introduction/index.php>

**DEVELOPMENT-AFRICA: Governance Still Failing**

JOHANNESBURG - How can governance be improved to give development a chance in Africa? Political theorist Patrick Chabal believes a role has to be found for traditional methods of accountability to be used alongside formal systems recognised in the West.

Chabal, a professor of Lusophone African Studies at King's College London, says Africa needs to develop its own criteria of assessment.

Chabal was speaking at a three-day discussion on governance hosted by the South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA). Various scholars, lawmakers and analysts from across the African continent are taking a critical look at how the state and governance can be used to effectively bring about political harmony and economic prosperity in Africa.

Read further: <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=44753>

## Local development news

### Global Entrepreneurship Monitor

The Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) is a non-profit academic research consortium that has as its goal making readily available high quality international research data on entrepreneurial activity to as wide an audience as possible. GEM is the largest single study of entrepreneurial activity in the world. Starting as a partnership between London Business School and Babson College, it was initiated in 1999 with 10 countries, expanded to 21 in the year 2000, with 29 countries in 2001, and 37 countries in 2002. GEM 2007 conducted research in 42 countries. In 2005 the National Teams, London Business School and Babson College as a consortium, established an independent, not-for-profit company called the Global Entrepreneurship Research Association (GERA) to oversee the operations of GEM. GERA now owns the GEM brand.

GEM focuses on three main objectives:

- to measure differences in the level of entrepreneurial activity between countries,
- to uncover factors determining national levels of entrepreneurial activity,
- to identify policies that may enhance the national level of entrepreneurial activity.

National teams are responsible for conducting the GEM research. National teams are self-funded through public and private sector sources. Money must be raised annually to support each national project.

### GEM methodology

GEM research is conducted on the yearly basis and estimates the national level of entrepreneurial activity. It is based on harmonized approach used by all participating countries to overview the role of entrepreneurship in national growth. GEM uses data from the following sources:

- Adult Population Survey (at least 2000 persons)
- National Expert Survey (36 national experts)
- Standardized National Data – various sources (OECD, World Bank, UN, EU, ILO etc.)

### GEM in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina has been a member of Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) since January 2008. The research using the GEM methodology was done in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the first time in 2008, and first results were published at the national conference on Innovation that took place on 4<sup>th</sup> December in the city of Brcko. The Conference was organised by the Independent Office for Development ([www.nbrudruzenje.org](http://www.nbrudruzenje.org)).

The official representative of the GEM project in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Center for Entrepreneurship Development in Tuzla (<http://www.cerpod-tuzla.org>) that works in partnership with Tuzla University ([www.untz.ba](http://www.untz.ba)). The possibility of the GEM project to provide information on entrepreneurial overview of the countries globally makes its data a necessary resource for any serious attempt of studying entrepreneurship behavior worldwide. The main activity of GEM project is monitoring and development of indicators for measuring entrepreneurial activity.

The complete GEM 2008 report for Bosnia and Herzegovina will be published at the beginning of 2009 and it will be available at the web page of the Centre. GEM World report for 2008 will be published on January 15<sup>th</sup> 2009 and it will be available at <http://www.gemconsortium.org>

### CONTACT

Rasim Tulumovic, Member of BH National GEM Team  
Entrepreneurship Development Centre  
Trg slobode bb, 75000 Tuzla  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Tel: +387 (61) 894 916  
[rasimtulum@yahoo.com](mailto:rasimtulum@yahoo.com)

(submitted by Rasim Tulumovic, CoDe Master 2002/2003)

## **UPDATE ON:**

### **Ghana - Center for Sustainable Local Development (CENSLOD/CSLD)**

#### **New Developments**

- ✓ CENSLOD opens its Second Regional Office in the Northern Regional Capital of Tamale. The office is located at the Tamale Workers College of the Institute of Adult Education of the University of Ghana. CENSLOD now has two Regional Offices, the first in Upper West Region and now in the Northern Region.
- ✓ CENSLOD has deployed a team of twelve (12) trainers, two (2) logisticians and four (4) Young Ambassadors to the Karaga District to train eleven (11) Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs). In all, CENSLOD is training a total of five hundred fifty (550) farmers in Commercial Agriculture. This follows an agreement with the Millennium Development Authority Ghana, the body that administers the Millennium Challenge Account on behalf of the American and Ghanaian Governments.
- ✓ CENSLOD is proud of its partnership with MIDA. The broad goal of the MIDA project is to alleviate rural poverty through agricultural transformation and Environmental Management. This in line with our core mandate of furthering local development in a sustainable way.
- ✓ CENSLOD has started its Young Ambassador Project. Currently, four College/University graduates are in the field with senior staff and trainers who act as mentors. The young ambassadors are acquiring practical field experience in facilitation skills and adult learning strategies, project planning, management and coordination. CENSLOD supports its young ambassadors financially as well as equipping them with requisite skills to meet the demands of the competitive job market.

#### **Apology and Contact**

- ✓ CENSLOD apologizes to those who may have tried to contact us by email. There was a problem with the email address provided in the last edition of the Newsletter. Our contact details are:

Center for Sustainable Local Development

P. O. Box TL 2183

Tamale, Ghana

Email; [alexbokuma@yahoo.com](mailto:alexbokuma@yahoo.com) / [csld.programs@gmail.com](mailto:csld.programs@gmail.com)

Cell: + 233-245-380808

**(submitted by Alex Bokuma, CoDe Master 2006/2007)**

## Opportunities

### Human Resource Management at the OECD

Here you will find information concerning human resource policies and recruitment at the OECD including job vacancies, types of jobs available, salaries and benefits, who can apply and how to apply.

[http://www.oecd.org/document/8/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_34481\\_20008648\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/8/0,3343,en_2649_34481_20008648_1_1_1_1,00.html)

## Papers, Publications, Research

### Call for Papers: Fourth IZA/World Bank Conference on Employment and Development

We would like to remind you that the submission deadline for the Fourth IZA/World Bank Conference on Employment and Development will expire next week.

Organizers: Markus Frölich (University of Mannheim and IZA), Randall Akee (IZA), Jean Fares (World Bank) and Stefano Scarpetta (OECD and IZA)

Place: Deutsche Post Headquarters, Bonn

Date: May 4-5, 2009

Submission Deadline: **December 15, 2008**

Notification of Acceptance: January 30, 2009

#### About the Conference:

Recent economic and social transformations have put developing countries on higher and more sustainable growth paths. In too many cases, however, poor labor market conditions still lead to high unemployment, poor working conditions, low wages and increased inequality and exclusion. Labor is often the only asset of the poor and a growth process that is not associated with job creation may therefore fail to reduce poverty. A well functioning labor market can be key for an environment where new firms are created and private agents find the proper incentives to invest and innovate. Sound labor policies that promote the creation of more and better jobs are needed to guarantee the success of structural reforms, to maintain the social support for those reforms, and to ensure that the benefits are widely distributed. Achieving these targets is crucial to an effective implementation of poverty-reduction strategies and, hence, progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

Parallel sessions will be organized and we invite you to submit your contribution by December 15, 2008. Decisions will be made by the end of January 2009. We invite submission of papers on labor markets, job creation and labor market policies in developing countries. We will consider detailed abstracts, but will favor full papers – particularly empirical ones – that focus on one of the 7 topics of research listed at: <http://www.iza.org/en/webcontent/research/ra7/index#topics>

Papers dealing with developed countries and transitions economies are welcome if they prove to be relevant for the purpose of the conference and our understanding of labor market mechanism for the developing world.

The keynote speakers and panel sessions will focus on the topic of "Causes and Consequences of Formality and Informality".

#### Keynote Speakers:

Gary Fields, Professor of Labor Economics, Cornell University  
Santiago Levy, Vice President for Sector and Knowledge at the Inter-American Development Bank

For more information on this event, please refer to the conference website at:

[http://www.iza.org/conference\\_files/worldb2009](http://www.iza.org/conference_files/worldb2009)

The online application form is available at:

[http://www.iza.org/conference\\_files/formApplication?conf\\_id=1642](http://www.iza.org/conference_files/formApplication?conf_id=1642)

### **Call for Papers: 2nd IZA Workshop on Child Labor in Developing Countries**

We would like to remind you that the submission deadline for the 2nd IZA Workshop on Child Labor in Developing Countries, organized by Randall Akee (IZA), Markus Frölich (University of Mannheim and IZA) and Eric Edmonds (Dartmouth College and IZA), will expire next week.

Date: May 6, 2009

Place: IZA, Bonn

Submission Deadline: **December 15, 2008**

Notification of Acceptance: January 30, 2009

Complete Papers Due: April 1, 2009

This workshop will focus on child labor broadly defined, but will emphasize applied work in developing countries.

Those who wish to participate in the Child Labor Workshop are invited to submit abstracts or full papers online. **The deadline for submission is December 15, 2008.**

Decisions of acceptance or rejection by the program committee will be announced no later than January 30, 2009. Complete papers will be due by April 1, 2009.

Economy class air travel costs for presenters of papers that have been accepted will be reimbursed. IZA will also provide accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and dinners at the workshop venue.

For more information, please refer to the conference website at:

[http://www.iza.org/conference\\_files/child2009](http://www.iza.org/conference_files/child2009)

The online application form is available at:

[http://www.iza.org/conference\\_files/formApplication?conf\\_id=1641](http://www.iza.org/conference_files/formApplication?conf_id=1641)

Please do not hesitate to contact the organizers at [development@iza.org](mailto:development@iza.org) for any questions regarding these events.

### **Development and Transition Newsletter**

This issue of the newsletter explores the links between **food prices** and **global economic trends** on the one hand, and **poverty reduction** and **sustainable rural development** on the other.

<http://www.developmentandtransition.net/index.cfm?module=ActiveWeb&page=WebPage&DocumentID=691>

### **EDUCATION AT A GLANCE: OECD Indicators**

Across OECD countries, governments are seeking policies to make education more effective while searching for additional resources to meet the increasing demand for education.

The 2008 edition of Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators enables countries to see themselves in the light of other countries' performance. It provides a rich, comparable and up-to-date array of indicators on the performance of education systems and represents the consensus of professional thinking on how to measure the current state of education internationally.

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?SF1=identifiers&ST1=5KZPK205L8KB&CID=&LANG=EN>

### **The World Health Report 2008**

#### **Primary Health Care – Now More Than Ever**

Why a renewal of primary health care (PHC), and why now, more than ever? Globalization is putting the social cohesion of many countries under stress, and health systems are clearly not performing as well as they could and should. People are increasingly impatient with the inability of health services to deliver. Few would disagree that health systems need to respond better – and faster – to the challenges of a changing world. PHC can do that.

<http://www.who.int/whr/2008/en/index.html>

### **India's hunger levels alarming, says report**

<http://southasia.oneworld.net/todaysheadlines/india2019s-hunger-levels-alarming-says-report>

India is home to the world's largest food insecure population according to the **Global Hunger Index 2008** released by Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute in New Delhi (Oct 2008). The study notes high levels of hunger even in economically well-off states of the country attributed to acute child malnutrition.

New Delhi: India appears to have made some progress in tackling the grave issues of hunger and malnutrition, but the situation remains "alarming" in the country on this front, according to a latest report released by the Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).  
See: <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/cp/GHI08.asp>

#### **OECD PUBLICATIONS:**

##### **Entrepreneurship and Higher Education**

(October 2008)

Universities and other higher education institutions are involved in an important process of adaptation to the requirements of the knowledge economy (...).

This book explores the strategies and activities that have been adopted to entrepreneurship teaching and knowledge transfer to business by the most entrepreneurial universities.

It will provide a strong source of inspiration for all those seeking to increase the contribution of higher education to entrepreneurship promotion.

See: [www.oecdbookshop.org](http://www.oecdbookshop.org)

##### ***West African Studies***

##### **West African Mobility and Migration Policies of OECD Countries**

Most of West African migration is intra-regional (86% *i.e.* 7.5 million people). The remaining 1.2 million are dispersed between North America and Europe. Heated political debates and media reports distort statistical realities. While humanitarian and security aspects should not be overlooked, the focus is on human mobility in terms of development and dialogue concerning host, transit and departure countries. To address the challenges of globalisation, policies should seek a co-ordinated response to the demands of the Economic Partnership Agreement and the European and African demographic dynamics.

This publication contributes to the Euro-African dialogue initiated at the Rabat Conference in July 2006: it reviews migration policies in the main OECD countries receiving West African migrants and analyses the recent discussions within Europe. This report lists common approaches undertaken in Europe, Africa and West Africa and aims to shed light on decision makers' strategic thinking. It provides the greater public with an objective understanding of this recent dynamic.

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?K=5KZFZCGCF8HD&CID=&LANG=EN>

# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND THE WORK MARKET IN GHANA

## By Alex Bokuma, Master CoDe 2006/2007

### Introduction

International migration is one of the major issues in the global agenda. This is because the phenomenon offers opportunities as well as presents serious challenges for both sending and receiving countries. Though it in part solves the problem of labor shortage in most destination countries caused by demographic factors such as dwindling birth rate and aging population, they still have to devise strategies to integrate and mainstream migrants if they are to reap the full benefits of migration. Sending countries reap the benefits of migration through remittances, circular migration and diasporas engagement but at the same time have to cope with the challenge of filling the void created by the loss of most of their best and brightest talents.

The intensified out migration of Ghana's skilled professionals keeps disrupting and reconfiguring the work market causing serious imbalances between labor supply and demand. Currently, Ghana is seen as one of the top ten countries involved in producing 'a new diaspora' (Van Hear 1998). It is estimated that the country has lost about 50 percent of all its graduates over time (World Bank 2005). The main destinations of Ghanaian migrants are the UK, the USA, Germany, Italy, Canada and the Netherlands. By the mid 1990s, an estimated two to four million Ghanaians making up between 10 to 20 percent of the population of 20 million were living abroad (Bump 2006). 32,754 lived in Italy, almost three times the 1990 population of 11,443 while the 2001 census of England and Wales recorded 55,537 Ghanaian born immigrants, an increase of 72 percent from 32,277 in 1991 (ibid). Official statistics show that the Netherlands was home to 18,000 Ghanaians in 2001 (Jones-Boss 2005) but researchers put the figure around 40,000 based on the number of Ghanaians in that country who registered to vote in the 2000 presidential elections (Bump 2006). By 2001, 104,000 and 114,335 Ghanaians were living in the USA and Canada respectively (Anarfi et al 2003).

Most recently, the Ghanaian media has reported that the brain drain has taken a new dimension as it hit new sectors of the economy such as the Tema Oil Refinery (TOR)<sup>1</sup>, the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)<sup>2</sup> and the Ghana military<sup>3</sup> affecting all its branches especially the air force where 20 percent to 30 percent of pilots desert the force after government spends between \$40,000 and \$ 70,000 to train each of them<sup>4</sup>.

Brain drain of health professionals appears to be the single most important thread to health care delivery in the foreseeable future. In 2002, 94.4% of medical officers trained left the country as against 89.6% the previous year. 64.2% and 19.9% of pharmacists and nurses left respectively in 2002 (ISSER 2003). By 2002, it was estimated that as many as 1,200 Ghanaian doctors were practicing in the United States alone leaving behind 1,650 to care for the 20 million people<sup>5</sup>. The effect is that Ghana currently has 2,000 doctors, one for every 11,000 Ghanaians<sup>6</sup>. There are,

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<sup>1</sup> See "More to quit TOR?", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=93575>. (Consulted 16/11/07).

<sup>2</sup> See "Statistical Service Suffers from brain drain", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=115213>. (Consulted 13/11/07).

<sup>3</sup> See "Brain drain hits Ghana military", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=100940>. (Consulted 6/10/07).

<sup>4</sup> See "Brain drain threatens air force", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=100941>. (Consulted 9/10/07).

<sup>5</sup> See "12,365 Health Officers Joined Exodus", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=97174>. (Consulted 17/10/07).

<sup>6</sup> See "Brain Drain Killing Health Care Sector", <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=121028>. (Consulted 15/10/07).

however, marked regional disparities with the Upper West and Northern regions for example having an astonishing doctor-population ratio of 1:66,000 (Nyonator et al 2005). "I have at least 9 hospitals that have no doctor at all, and 20 hospitals with only one doctor looking after a whole district of 80,000 to 120,000 people", laments Prof Akosah, immediate past Director General of the Ghana Health Service.

The increased labor mobility both within and outside the country have had an uneven effect on the regions and sectors of the economy, causing skills shortages with negative consequences for poverty reduction and local development. The demand for skills in these critical sectors, which drive the economy, far outstrips supply, thus threatening to paralyse productivity and invariably national development. The skills lost to migration comes with a huge cost for the country as it is saddled with the burden of training and retraining of labor force, and expanding skills upgrading and retention strategies, a real burden for an already impoverished economy.

But in the global rights based society, international migration appears to be an inevitable reality that all countries must cope with. But do poor countries like Ghana have the capacity to retain their skills? International cooperation between sending and receiving countries appears to be the best option if migration is to be mutually beneficial. This remains a big challenge though.

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## **Launching of 2008 EC Progress Report on Albania** **by Sonila Pema (Master CoDe 2007/2008)**

The 2008 Progress Report on Albania prepared by the European Commission was launched on 5 November 2008. The Head of the European Commission Delegation in Albania said that the report highlights the stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy and the rule of law and this based on consensus between the parties. The report also writes that Albania has continued to play a constructive role in keeping regional stability and has developed good relations with the neighbours.

“Further efforts have been undertaken in fight against corruption. Perception of corruption has improved. Finally, it should be emphasized that the Parliamentary elections 2009 should be prepared properly and should be staged in that form and in accordance with the international standards. With regard to economic criteria, Albania 2008 Progress Report points to the fast economic growth of Albania that has managed to keep inflation under control. Also there is a noticeable progress in the field of privatization and other improvements related to the business climate. The Progress Report also highlights the need of considerable reforms that should be implemented as the Albanian economy faces pressures of competition or the EU market forces,” Lohan said. Answering to journalists’ questions, Lohan said that there is hope that Albania benefits from visa liberalization in 2009, but it should still fulfil certain standards. With regard to the new Electoral Code, Lohan stressed that it should undergo a wide consultation process with the political stakeholders, also emphasizing the importance of incontestable 2009 elections.

The following are some of the main findings of the report especially related to Democracy and the Rule of Law, as well as Economic and Local Development:

### **Democracy and the Rule of Law:**

*Parliament* – Overall, a more constructive dialogue between the major political parties has allowed for progress in addressing key European Partnership priorities. Amendments to the Electoral Code remain to be adopted well ahead of the next parliamentary elections.

*Government* - Overall, Albania has continued to make some progress in strengthening its government structures with a view to addressing its SAA commitments, a key European Partnership priority. However, further strengthening of capacity, coordination, and strategic planning for EU integration remains necessary.

*Public administration* - Overall, the public administration is continuing to stabilize, but the lack of transparency and accountability in appointments is endangering its independence. What is now needed is to further strengthen public sector governance by enhancing the impartiality of public administration, a key European Partnership priority. Further progress is needed to establish an independent, merit-based, professional civil service.

*Judicial system* - Overall, there has been limited progress in judicial reform, mainly on the legal framework. However, the justice system continues to function poorly due to shortcomings in independence, accountability and transparency.

*Anti-corruption policy* - Overall, Albania has continued to address corruption, a key European Partnership priority. However, the declared commitment of the authorities to fight corruption needs to be backed up by rigorous implementation, as corruption remains widespread.

*Gerdec* - To ensure credibility on the fight against corruption, the allegations around this case need to be tackled with resolve as part of the ongoing investigation.

*Minority rights, cultural rights and protection of minorities* - Albania is continuing to make efforts to fulfill its commitments under the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities particularly regarding the use of minority language and education. However,

more efforts are needed on defusing recent intra-ethnic tensions in areas with a heavy concentration of minorities. Albania has not signed the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages, due to budgetary constraints.

Overall, there has been further progress on cultural rights but further improvements are needed, particularly regarding collection of sound data on all minorities, a key European Partnership priority.

### **Economic and Local Development**

*Industry and SMEs* - There has been progress in the field of industry and SMEs. Progress has been made in implementing the European Charter for Small Enterprises.

A new law on companies was adopted in April 2008 following the approval of the new SME strategy in 2007.

The government approved the establishment of six industrial parks. In addition, the Competitiveness fund and the export credit guarantee fund are being implemented. However, further efforts are required in order to improve the competitiveness of the SME sector.

Overall, Albania has taken steps to significantly improve the business environment. However, further efforts are needed on contract enforcement and property rights, as well as on the effectiveness and transparency of conflict resolution mechanisms. Preparations in the field of industry and SME are advancing.

*Agriculture* - Some progress has been made in the area of **agriculture and rural development**. The Law on Agriculture and Rural Development was adopted, thereby providing the legal basis for agricultural and rural development policy. Direct support to farmers continued and was further extended with the aim of encouraging the production and consolidation of commercial farms.

However, structural weaknesses such as land fragmentation, poor marketing systems and the low level of technical education of farm operators still affect the competitiveness of the sector and its capacity for meeting the demand for food products.

*Competition* - The Albanian Competition Authority (ACA) is contributing to the promotion of a competition culture. The code of ethics of the Competition Authority was approved and parliament approved the authority's structure and organization chart in May 2008. The Law on competition is to a large extent in line with the *acquis*. However, further efforts are needed on adopting implementing legislation in the field of competition. Overall, preparations in the area of competition are well on track.

*Employment and social policies* - There has been some progress in the area of **employment policy**. The Employment and Vocational Training Strategy for 2008-2013 was adopted, providing subsidies to employers for training and/or hiring jobless persons. One of the programmes specifically targets jobless women. Measures to promote employment of young graduates have been stepped up. However, monitoring and assessment of the impact of such programmes are still lacking.

The *social protection and social inclusion* strategy for 2008-2013 was adopted. However, analyses of poverty and social exclusion are not sufficiently developed, including enhanced poverty monitoring. Overall, preparations in the areas of employment and social policies are advancing moderately.

*Education and research* - Some progress can be reported in the area of **education**. A master plan has been prepared for implementation of an e-school programme to enhance use of information technologies in schools. However, enrolment in secondary education in rural areas is still lagging behind.

There has been some progress in the area of **research**. Albania's participation in the Seventh EC Framework Programme on research and technological development (FP7) as an associated country will imply enhancing both administrative capacity and national research capacity, including investment in research infrastructure and incentives to attract students to science.

Albania has started to redesign its research policy. Improvement of the links between research institutes and universities is being addressed. The Fundex and Brain Gain programmes were launched with the aim of encouraging young Albanian researchers working abroad to return. Overall, preparations in the area of research are advancing moderately.

[Note: Full report can be found at:

[http://www.delalb.ec.europa.eu/files/albania\\_progress\\_report\\_2008.pdf](http://www.delalb.ec.europa.eu/files/albania_progress_report_2008.pdf)]

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