

1st Dissemination Report SMART

On June 25th 2013, the National Agency for Lifelong Learning organized a conference in Vienna, Austria on the topic “**Europe 2020: New Skills for New Jobs**” at the Chamber of Commerce. The aim was to discuss the role of competences in the educational sector in order to improve the overall situation in Austria’s educational institutions (schools, universities etc.). The event was attended by approximately 180 people from many different occupational fields such as universities, ministries, schools, chambers, NGOs and industry.

The topics discussed during statement rounds, workshops and plenary sessions included entrepreneurial competences, the promotion of entrepreneurship and the development of an Austrian competence strategy. One of the key note speeches was given by Dr. Barbara Ischinger, Director for Education and Skills at the OECD, on the skills strategy of the OECD. Most notably she mentioned that the OECD will publish a *Skills Outlook Study* on October 8th 2013, which encompasses all OECD countries and gives a detailed insight into the situation of competences and skills as well as matches or mismatches in each country. The study is based on household findings from people between the ages of 16 to 64.

Furthermore, it can be mentioned that based on the OECD Skills Strategy, which was published in May 2012, Austria decided to work on a national strategy, which will be developed with the help of the OECD. The roundtables and workshop sessions were started in March 2013 and the findings will be accumulated in a diagnostic report in a few months’ time.

SMART has been disseminated through talks with the other conference attendants, as no printed materials had been available at that time. The responses were throughout positive, as conversation partners agreed on the necessity to further such skills matching tools and the relevance for the market.

The conference materials will be made available online after two or three weeks and shall be used further in the project to develop a sustainable product that reflects the needs of the market.

Pictures:



The venue in Vienna



Statement Discussion Round



Dr. Barbara Ischinger, OECD, talking about the OECD Skills Strategy