

Peer Learning Initiative for the Social Dimension

PL4SD

Learning about policies and practices to improve the Social Dimension in the EHEA

PRETEST

of the

Questionnaire to Ministries for Higher Education of all
Bologna Countries about their interventions
on the Social Dimension

Contact for filing the filled-in grid and for further information

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Policy interventions on the Social Dimension

PL4SD will collate and catalogue policy interventions which have the objective of reducing barriers to higher education entry and of providing a conducive study environment for all students, which can lead to their successful graduation. These range from information campaigns to regulations and incentives, see table below. There is a significant data gap concerning such measures and interventions and we rely on country experts at ministerial and institutional level to provide this information by filling out this short survey for each individual intervention they know of.

Types of interventions for the social dimension in higher education

| Type of intervention | Examples |
|---|--|
| Information campaigns | Campaign targeting parents, who did not attend university themselves, explaining the benefits for their children. |
| Regulations | Law on HE reserves places for non-traditional students (e.g. first generation students). |
| Incentives to HEIs | Formula-funding used to allocate state grant to HEIs includes indicator on number of non-traditional students. |
| | Special funding available to HEIs, which offer special support to certain student groups. |
| Support to individual students | Students from certain backgrounds are provided with scholarships to encourage them to enter HE. |
| | Grants or loans to alleviate financing of study (general or targeted to lower income groups), advising and support services for students. |
| Data for evidence based policy and practice | Annual reports on access strategy and implementation required of all HEIs. |
| Research and regular evaluations | Quality assurance procedures pay special attention to inclusion strategies and include in the assessment performance benchmarks on access and success of certain student groups. |
| Partnerships between stakeholders within and outside of institutions of higher education | Employer organization cooperates with HEIs to provide internship opportunities to students from special groups during studies. |
| Student buddy system | To help students from non-traditional backgrounds in higher education (e.g. run by the student union) |

Please support **PL4SD** and fill-in the following pre-test questionnaire carefully.

Please choose one or two interventions for testing this questionnaire.

For each intervention, a separate questionnaire should be filled-in.

Questionnaire on interventions in the field of social dimension policy

Respondent information

Your contact details are needed to be able to contact you in case there is need for clarification of the information reported. The data is for internal purpose only and will not be published.

First name

Last name

Name of institution

Your position

Email address

Phone number

Country:

What?

Please name the intervention.

In national language:

In English:

Please provide a brief summary of what the intervention concerning the social dimension is about. What is the scope of the intervention/ what initiatives or practices does it contain?

What are the objectives of the intervention? What change is it expected to bring about?

Link to homepage of the intervention or to a further description of it:

Please provide 5 keywords describing the intervention, its aim and targeted population(s)

How would you categorize the intervention? (multiple answers possible)

- ☐ Regulations
- ☐ Incentives to HEIs
- ☐ Support to individual students
- ☐ Partnerships between stakeholders within and outside of institutions of higher education
- ☐ Student buddy system
- ☐ Data for evidence based policy and practice
- ☐ Research and regular evaluations

Why and how?

Please describe the rationale of the intervention and why it has been created. What is/ was the challenge it is/ was meant to meet? Please describe how the objective(s) of the intervention should be reached.

Scope of intervention

An action or intervention is targeted at specific beneficiaries. Please indicate which ones are targeted for this intervention. (multiple answers possible)

- ☐ Institutional level/ HEI
- ☐ Individual student
- ☐ Potential students
- ☐ Other, please specify _____

Please indicate the geographic reach of the intervention.

- ☐ National
- ☐ Regional (e.g. province, Land, administrative district)
- ☐ Local
- ☐ Individual HEI

For whom?

Please name the target group(s) of the intervention and describe it as exhaustively as possible. If possible, please estimate the size and the proportion of the target group(s).

By whom?

Please indicate who initiated the intervention.

Please name who is in charge of financing it.

Please describe who the implementing bodies are and whether the implementation is mandatory or voluntary.

When?

Please describe for how long the intervention has been active and to what extent the intervention is already “common/ widespread practice”, i.e. what is the degree of institutionalisation (widespread/ high diffusion vs. only a few institutions)? Have there been any modifications to it over time? What is the period in which the beneficiary can benefit from the intervention?

Follow-up?

Please describe whether the intervention has already shown effect. Please provide some recent numbers on the intervention, like number of participants/ beneficiaries (preferably as proportion of target group) and amount of money invested in the intervention last year (or last year available).

Please indicate whether the intervention has been/ is evaluated (externally or internally) and what the main results are. Is there any scientific analysis/ debate about the intervention and its results? If no evaluation exists, is one planned and when? Please specify.

Lessons learned?

What did your organisation learn from that intervention? What can an international public learn from the described intervention? What worked well, what could be improved? Would you recommend the intervention for other countries? Why/ why not?

More details?

Please provide any further information about the intervention you want an international public to know about it.

Contact for further information about the intervention

(to be published on PL4SD website)

The Project Consortium

The project consortium consists of the following partners:



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General Project Information

Please visit www.pl4sd.eu for further information and regular updates on the project.

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