

WORKS Scientific Board Portugal, 27 January 2009

Minutes

Present were:

Monique Ramioul, Sandra Volders (HIVA - Belgium), Jörg Flecker (FORBA – Austria), Gérard Valenduc (FTU – Belgium), Pamela Meil (ISF München – Germany)

Ursula Huws begged to be excused.

Final project reporting

At the end of the project, the consortium has to submit the periodic reports for the last reporting period/Y4. In addition there are final reports to be provided covering the whole duration of the project. In practice the latter consist of the integration of all four yearly reports.

HIVA will consolidate the costs and will send these reports to all the partners for final check. HIVA will also consolidate the management and activity reports over the full duration and send these to the SB members/pillar leaders for a final check.

The final reporting also consists of the completion of online questionnaires (e.g. on the activities undertaken and the progress made in implementing the project's Gender Action Plan). It needs to be completed on-line by the co-ordinator and by each contractor.

Instructions on how to complete the questionnaires will be communicated to the partners in due time.

Each contractor is requested to submit an audit certificate for the last reporting period. This certificate can not be dated before the end of the project duration. In this respect the guidelines include the following sentence: *“Costs of the certification related to the last reporting period should be included in the financial statement of the last period. If due to the accountancy system the costs related to the audit certificate are not recorded in the accounts of the contractor within the 45 days (or eventually an extended period) after the final reporting period, the amount as indicated by the auditor in the final audit certificate (excl. VAT) should be included in the statement.”*

Third project reviews

The WORKS project hasn't been reviewed yet.

Theory pillar

Partners have had the time to make further revisions to the reports, taking account of the comments of the reviewers/partners/SB and peer reviewers at our conference in October. We are not sure that everybody has taken into account the feedback of the reviewers/SB/partners, but nevertheless, the overall quality of the reports is already very well. Partners are encouraged to read all these reports.

FZK is finalising its check on consistency of the use of the occupational data for some reports.

HIVA will remind again the partners to deliver the reports in time (before the end of February 2009), since a first reminder of LMU in December had not much effect.

The reports will be published in the same format as the other WORKS publications, except for the printing procedures which will be changed. HIVA has decided to work with 'Print on demand'. Further information will be communicated to the partners soon. They will also be reminded to order the necessary copies within the reporting period in order to be able to claim these costs on the project. The report on Future and Scenarios has a slightly different timing in order to allow some additional check on the use of the empirical data and a discussion with the SB on the final scenarios (see also overall policy recommendations in the following point).

Policy pillar

The policy papers to be written by the different authors in the frame of WP13 have to be regarded as 'conclusions' rather than as 'policy recommendations', because they are based on their partial analysis of the project findings. These conclusions can be used as input to the overall policy recommendations of the project which are the final responsibility of the Scientific Board. The Scientific Board will discuss the different policy papers and formulate global recommendations. The best format of publishing these will be discussed.

Qualitative pillar

WP17 training workshop

Was very nice with participants from different countries all over Europe and from outside the WORKS project.

WP18 training trade unions

ATK has made the invitation for the WORKS training seminar/workshop for trade unionist and stakeholders.

The workshop will be held at Runöskolan just outside of Stockholm on the 27th and 28th of April. Per will be responsible for inviting European trade unionists; all partners can invite national trade unionists. FTU will forward the invitation to the TURI network.

Following the original plans, the goal/purpose of this workshop is to create an opportunity to disseminate/test the training material that has been developed on the basis of the project findings. FTU will ask ATK to revise the proposed programme accordingly and to follow the structure of the training (cf. workplan). (*Note by the coordinator: meanwhile, FTU has sent some detailed input to ATK*).

After this workshop, partners can organise additional national training seminars in their own country and use the training material.

The training material/handbook/manual needs to be ready in February and has still to be delivered to the EC. FTU (Gérard) will contact Per (ATK) to ask for a state of affairs.

Dissemination

EZA conference

HIVA has been contacted by EZA (network for Christian labour movements) for organising a workshop on 'What should the labour movements do within the financial/economic crises?', a topic in which the WORKS results could be of use. However, this workshop needs to be organised before the end of March. Because this is not a realistic timing the SB decided to reject this offer.

Other planned dissemination activities

- International workshop 'Changes of work in knowledge-based societies', organised by FZK, May 28-29, 2009, Karlsruhe. A preliminary agenda is already finished. The SB has a few suggestions of possible speakers. They will be communicated to FZK by Monique.
- Monique, Ursula and Pam, as well as several other WORKS partners, are invited for a Workshop of experts 'Checklists on restructuring management' in Brussels, 11/02/2009.
- Monique is invited to present WORKS results in the conference on Employment guidelines under the framework of the renewed Lisbon Strategy for Growth and jobs, organised by ETUC in Brussels, 5-6/03/2009.
- Pam has submitted a proposal for a panel session on value chain restructuring for a yearly conference in Chicago (March 2009). This is a good opportunity for academic validation of the project. Because this conference will take place at the same date as Bettina's workshop, FTU and HIVA are not able to participate at this conference.
- Several WORKS partners are invited to speak at the Greek national WORKS conference (6-8 May 2009, Athens)
- Ursula Huws and Jorg Flecker are key note speakers at the NES2009 conference on Globalisation and Ergonomics (22-24 June, Denmark).

Print on demand

See above 'theory pillar'.

A WORKS book

The SB decides to make a book on the project findings on the basis of a selection of the thematic reports and to publish it with an international publisher (e.g. McMillan, Routledge, Ashgate).

Topic: Value chain restructuring and the quality of work.

Monique accepts to be the editor of the book as proposed by the SB members. She will make a proposal of the possible content/outline and circulate it to the SB members for revision. The main authors of the selected thematic reports will be contacted to ask if they are willing to contribute to a book beyond the project. If desired, also the co-authors can be involved. The proposal and preferably two chapters will then be proposed to publishers. It is not possible for Monique to work on this before June. However, it is suggested that the contributions should be expected before the end of the year (preferably Autumn).

