



Republic of Serbia  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION  
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SOCIAL INCLUSION  
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REDUCTION UNIT



Task Force Fostering &  
Building Human Capital  
of the Regional Cooperation Council



ERI SEE  
EDUCATION REFORM INITIATIVE  
OF SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE



## *Cluster of Knowledge - Evidence Based Policy Making*

Joint Cluster of Knowledge of  
the Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital (TFBHC)  
and  
the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe– ERI SEE

<b>Name of the cluster:</b> Evidence Based Policy Making in Education
<b>Lead country:</b> SERBIA
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<b>Composition</b>  The Evidence-based Policy Making Cluster is open for cooperation to all countries in the region and partner organizations.
<b>Purpose and/or outcome</b>  The Cluster aims, in cooperation with the countries in the region and partner organizations, to advance the mechanisms of regional cooperation in the fields conducive to the achievement of the following objectives: enhanced communication and cooperation between the research community and policy-makers; the identification of mechanisms for a better utilization of research findings by

decision-makers; advanced research practice in education policy creation; mapping and launch of analyses relevant for education policy development; a more efficient utilization of EU mechanisms and funds for enhancing evidence-based policy making in education. Clusters should play an important role in harmonizing regional initiatives with the new frameworks set by the ET 2020, EU 2020 and VET initiatives (Youth on the Move and the Agenda for New Skills and Jobs) and more effective planning of IPA funds for achieving the objectives set in the EU 2020 strategy. The Evidence-based Policy Making Cluster is open for cooperation to all countries in the region and partner organizations.

#### **Reference to Task Force Action Plan (2009-2010) and Task Force related documents:**

The launch of this Cluster was initiated at the TFBHC Regional Workshop for Senior Officials and Experts on Cooperation around Clusters of Knowledge held in Sarajevo in December 2010, as well as the 14th Meeting of ERI SEE Governing Board and Consultative body held in Belgrade in March 2011.

As a strategic priority, Evidence Based Policy Making is included in following documents:

**1. ERI SEE 2010 Work Programme 2010: Establishment of Clusters of Knowledge in two thematic areas relevant for SEE cooperation in education and training** - “ERI SEE developed activities under the three action lines: sustained the networking of the SEE VET agencies and institutions (Action line 1); in cooperation with KulturKontakt Austria and the OECD co-organised the regional workshop **”Evidence Based Policy Making”** (Action line 2); organised cooperation, peer-learning and exchange of good practice under the four ERI SEE thematic areas for regional cooperation, and was involved in the initiation of CKs for enabling sustained cooperation based on shared common topics of interest (Action line 3). “ (page 18)

Source: [http://www.erisee.org/node/downloads/ERI\\_SEE\\_Work\\_Programme\\_2010\\_zs\\_web.pdf](http://www.erisee.org/node/downloads/ERI_SEE_Work_Programme_2010_zs_web.pdf)

**2. ERI SEE WORK PROGRAMME 2011 – The knowledge triangle: education, research and innovation**, with the following topics: change management; higher education development, the Bologna process and the role of the universities in the process of forward thinking; learning regions and **evidence-based policy making**. (page 5)

**3. RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011-2013: Building Human Capital – ERI SEE**

“There is an obvious need to modernize education systems in the region, with an emphasis on further involvement of democratization and reconciliation elements in teaching methodologies. Areas that are insufficiently developed and need to be approached in a coherent manner include life-long learning, **evidence-based policy making**, societal debate on education policy, stakeholder participation in decision-making, education institutions’ autonomy as well as professional administration.” (page 15)

Source: [http://www.taskforcehumancapital.info/fileadmin/documents/RCCStrategyandWorkProgramme2011-13-finalwith\\_annexes.pdf](http://www.taskforcehumancapital.info/fileadmin/documents/RCCStrategyandWorkProgramme2011-13-finalwith_annexes.pdf)

**Specific tasks**

- Promote evidence-based policy making in education within the region
- Identify priorities for further development of evidence based policy making in the region, adapted to national needs
- Develop regional projects/initiatives with the purpose to foster evidence-based policy making at regional level (develop mechanisms for regional cooperation in better use of evidence in policy and practice, build capacity for implementation of different techniques and tools for progressive policy-making among policy makers, public servants and researchers in WBC, strengthening of the institutional capacities for monitoring of educational policies and other priorities)
- Use EU mechanisms and funds for enhancement of evidence based policy making

**Reporting**

Minutes of cluster activities shall be made available by the lead country and forwarded to the ERI SEE and Task Force Secretariat and disseminate to the regional partner countries.

**Meeting schedule – 2011**

To be provided at a later stage, after consultation with interested countries/organizations. Draft proposal of content/dates:

First event: 15 – 17 June 2011 Belgrade

- Turning research into practice – learning from PISA (regional meeting)
  - Evidence as a policy tool
  - Identification of priorities for regional cooperation in the area evidence based policy making

Second event/meeting: November/December 2011 tbd

- Monitoring education – data, indicators and challenges in education statistics – meeting with bodies responsible for data collection and monitoring of education systems (check possibility for regional TAEIX event)
  - Data, indicators and challenges in education statistics
  - Eurydice
  - Weaknesses and difficulties in applying research and evidence-based knowledge in education within the region

Third Meeting: tbd

**Liaison with other action lines****Additional remarks**