



Local Partnerships for Employment (LPE), Croatia

The project Local Partnerships for Employment in Croatia was started on 27 October 2004. Within project's inception phase a project Head Office in the Croatian Employment Service (CES) in Zagreb, as well four local Project Offices in the regional CES offices in four respective counties (Vukovar-Srijem, Sisak-Moslavina, Šibenik-Knin and Zadar) have been established.

In the project Head Office a local Project Assistant, Ms. Irena Petričević, has been hired. The Team established all office facilities and has started its work. We are especially grateful to the CES in Zagreb and local CES offices in Vukovar, Sisak, Zadar and Šibenik for the warm welcome and for the active support and good working conditions they offered. That affects a home feeling to the team members as a good base for the coming 18 project months.

The project team has already met several relevant partners in order to ensure their awareness of the project, and to agree their active support for and participation in the project on the implementation level. In Zagreb and in each project county a project introduction meeting has been organised to get to know each other, to provide information and to promote the awareness of the project.

The team of 4 key experts has elaborated a topical general overview over the labour market situation within the project regions to fine tune the future project activities. The outcome of the activities within the first 6 weeks has been summarized in the Project Inception Report provided at the middle of January 2005. The first meeting of the project's Steering Committee has approved the Inception Report which included also a specified work implementation and work plan.

On the February 4th 2005 the official project "Kick off meeting" took place in Zagreb with 45 guests.

Currently the project team prepares the first training component, dedicated to the preparation of a high quality labour market survey in the project regions. Therefore a task group will be established and prepared in each project region.

We are optimistic to be able to continue our effective and successful work with the support of our local partners.