

SOCIAL EXPERIMENTATION IN ACTION

Brussels, May 18, 2011

The European Union's platform against poverty and social exclusion proposes encouraging innovation in social policy, in order to develop successful solutions for post-crisis Europe. To this end, the initiative will rely on social experimentation to test and empirically evaluate the programs financed within the framework of the platform. This conference will present general principles and practicalities of running this kind of evaluation, as well as discussing various challenges with the participants. This kind of experimental evaluations relies upon random assignment of a program or policy between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries to ensure rigorous estimations of program impact.

PROGRAM

9:30 Coffee and registration

10:00 **WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Evelyne Pichenot, EESC member, and H  l  ne Giacobino, J-PAL Europe Director

10:30 **THE FRENCH EXPERIMENTATION FUND**

Marc Gurgand, J-PAL Europe Scientific Director, Associate Professor at Paris School of Economics

10:45 **GETTING PARENTS INVOLVED, IN FRANCE**

Marc Gurgand, J-PAL Europe Scientific Director, Associate Professor, Paris School of Economics
B  n  dicte Robert, Head of the Research and Development Dept., French Ministry of Education

11:45 **INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL DECISIONS, IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Sandra McNally, Research Fellow, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics
Sarah Westcott, Teacher at Queen Elizabeth's School, London

12:45 Lunch

13:45 **COUNSELING AND MONITORING OF UNEMPLOYED WORKERS, IN THE NETHERLANDS**

Gerard van den Berg, Professor at the University of Mannheim
Ger Homburg, Director, Regioplan Beleidsonderzoek, Amsterdam

14:30 **EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE ON THE NATURE OF THE DANISH EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS**

Michael Rosholm, Professor, University of Aarhus
Simon Lamech, Head of Section, National Labor Market Board

15:30 Tea and coffee break

16:00 **COUNSELING AND JOB PLACEMENT FOR YOUNG GRADUATE JOB SEEKERS, IN FRANCE**

Bruno Cr  pon, Professor,   cole Polytechnique
B  atrice S  dillot, Deputy Head, Dept. of Research Animation, Studies and Statistics, French Ministry of Labor, Employment and Health

17:00 - 17:15 Closing remarks