



Germany

Local Pacts for Business and Employment in Berlin

Framework and setting

Geographic scale In Berlin, twelve Local Pacts for Business and Employment (BBWA) are in operation.

Policy framework The implementation of Local Pacts for Business and Employment is made possible through the programme to support economic initiatives within the framework of the “Pacts for Business and Employment” and the programme to support “Local Social Capital”.

Partnerships at work

Rationale Strategies for improving local areas can be maximised through the participation of various local partners. Local strategies are crucial to making optimal decisions about actions to be taken forward in order to increase employment prospects and to strengthen the local economy.

Objectives The BBWA’s goal is to create employment and training opportunities and to support local businesses by establishing networks at the local level. By involving individuals, the BBWAs are tailored towards local needs.

Functions Determined by local action strategies, each area takes an individual approach and develops its own action plan based on the results of economic and social analyses. Local bodies, so-called “Co-ordinating Groups” assemble for the purpose of the selection and co-ordination of local coalitions. The Co-ordinating Groups are made up of members of the City of Berlin, the administration level, the business community, professional bodies, the employment agency and unions as well as representatives of the third sector. The partnerships are co-ordinated by the “Berlin Senate Administration for Economy, Labour and Women’s Affairs” and are carried out by labour market service companies in Berlin.

Policy areas Labour market policy and economic policy

Policy tools/ Instruments Tools used include the creation of networks, co-ordination and assistance for implementing initiatives and technical support in seeking funding.

Timeframe Since 2001, BBWAs have been set up in Berlin.

Partners The partners are local / district administrations, business support structures, business associations, employment agencies, workers organisations, welfare charities, citizens groups, representatives of the third sector, housing associations, professional bodies, universities and institutions for further education.

Contracts Co-operation between local partners

Legal status None

Sources of Financing All types of financial means fund projects that are a part of the BBWA programmes (e.g. the City of Berlin, the German Federal Government, European Structural Funds).

Results Since 2002, coalitions of this nature have been established in all twelve districts of Berlin. They have successfully been initiated and have intensified the co-operation between various organisations. As a result, priorities have been defined in common, new projects have been carried out and diverse activities have been initiated. New vertical and horizontal contacts have been made for future co-operation.

Partnerships' highlight

- Programme/Project** Economic Initiatives within the Framework of the Pacts for Business and Employment
- Timeframe** September 2002 – December 2006
- Objectives** Support local businesses
- Activities** Activities include initiating and implementing projects aimed at the development of local economies, supporting local organisations, taking combined efforts to establish and maintain local business networks and enabling small businesses to co-operate with each other, thereby making them more competitive in the long run.
- Results** The main results include the initiation and implementation of 34 projects between September 2002 and January 2005, activating local businesses to share their experiences for the benefit of others and regular presentation of BBWA projects in the magazine “punkt” (the Berlin-based publication for European Employment policy supported by the ESF - see www.berlin.de/punkt).

Contacts

Partnership co-ordination on national / sub-regional level

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Partnership co-ordinators on regional / local level

Each of the twelve local BBWAs can be contacted through the
Senatsverwaltung für Wirtschaft, Arbeit & Frauen