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Development of a methodology for a long term strategy on the Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS) - CVTS3M

Projektbeschreibung

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Forschungsbegründende Angaben

Problemdarstellung

The European surveys of continuing vocational training (CVTS) seek to deliver comparative data about enterprise-provided training in Europe. After two subsequent European surveys of continuing vocational training in enterprises in Europe (CVTS1 in 1993 and CVTS2 in 1999) the European Commission is planning the third survey (CVTS3) to be carried out in European countries in 2006, and according to the proposal of the Commission of the European Communities it is intended to carry out the data collection regularly every five years. The objective of this project is not only the methodological preparation and implementation of CVTS3; its objective is also the further development of a coherent system of quantitative and qualitative statistics and indicators on lifelong learning in Europe.

Forschungsstand

Since the end of the 1980s there is growing interest in information on continuing vocational training in the European Community. Since more than ten years BIBB is involved in the development and implementation of survey instruments in the context of European comparative statistics and research. BIBB was involved in the preparation of the first European continuing vocational training survey (CVTS1) of 1993 (carried out in 1995/1996). BIBB took part in the elaboration of the methodology, the development of the survey-instruments and the selection of indicators. BIBB and the German Federal Statistical Office implemented CVTS1 and evaluated its results in Germany.

The methods-group "Developing the Methodology of a Second Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS2)" was installed in 1999 to prepare the methodology of the Second Vocational Training Survey (CVTS2). The group was co-ordinated by the University of Sheffield (United Kingdom); BIBB was a partner in this group, together with CÉREQ (Centre d'études et de recherches sur les qualifications, France), the University of Twente (the Netherlands) and Statistics Sweden. BIBB was fully involved in the elaboration of the concept of the survey, including definitions and considerations on the scope of coverage, development of the questionnaire and the survey-guidelines, and recommendations on indicators. Based on previous work and expertise BIBB concentrated on the following topics:

- Cost and financing of continuing vocational training;
- Learning processes in enterprises beyond the "classical" form of internal and external training courses;
- The possibilities to separate initial and continuing vocational training;
- The relation between participants and participant-events as well as possible procedures for estimation;
- Training measures for special groups of employees.

(See Eurostat (Ed.): Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS2) – European Manual (Eurostat Working Papers: Population and social conditions 3/2000/E/N°17))

In the years 2001-2003 an international team led by BIBB worked on the Leonardo-II project "Assessment of the Second Vocational Training Survey (CVTS2) – Comparative Analysis of Continuing Vocational Training on the Basis of CVTS2-results". Together with research institutes from five European countries we focussed on two main fields of work:

- Evaluation of the methodological concept of the CVTS2-survey,
- Assessment and comparative analysis of CVTS2 data.

Results of the project are documented in EUROSTAT: Methods report (final) of the project: "Assessment of the Second Vocational Training Survey. Comparative Analysis of Continuing Vocational Training on the Basis of CVTS2 Results" (Eurostat Working Papers: Population and social condition 3/2004/D/N°28).

Forschungsziele

The objective of this project is not only the revision of CVTS2 and the methodological preparation and implementation of CVTS3; its objective is to design a long-term approach for future data collections of vocational training in enterprises including the development of the statistical methodology and the organisation of the data collection. This has to be based on the CVTS2 approach, taking into account the forthcoming European Parliament and Council Regulation on the statistics relating to vocational training in enterprises.

The main goals of the project CVTS3M are:

- to improve the questionnaire used in CVTS2;
- to include new questions, because of new demands (e.g. inclusion of initial vocational training in the survey);
- to define the procedures for the usage of the questionnaire (staging, codebook, manual with glossary, etc.);
- to co-operate with EUROSTAT and the national statistical offices which will implement the questionnaire;
- to seek coherence with other European questionnaires (e.g. Adult Education Survey) in order to promote a coherent system of statistics and indicators concerning lifelong learning in Europe.

Zentrale Forschungshypothesen

The project CVTS3M is a methods project which aims at further methodological development, based on material already developed for CVTS1 and CVTS2. Central hypotheses are

- Improvement of the methodological concepts will lead to enhanced rates of response and better data quality.
- Identification of information gaps and inconsistencies within the current system of statistics and indicators and development of a coherent system of quantitative and qualitative statistics and indicators will make it possible to arrive at a complete picture of lifelong learning in Europe.

Begründete Zuordnung zu den Forschungskorridoren

This project is in accordance with the „Forschungskorridor 6“, which defines the tasks of BIBB relating to the internationalisation of vocational training. The international research work of BIBB aims to promote the internationalisation of the German vocational training system as well as to encourage the international research on VET systems. Moreover, international comparative research is also important for structural reforms of the German VET system. International research often implies the cooperation with partners and/or organisations of other countries. The international consortium CVTS3M, lead by BIBB, prepares in close cooperation with EUROSTAT and the European Commission the third continuing vocational training survey and also has the task to design a long term approach for future data collections of vocational education and training (VET) in European enterprises. Hence it contributes to the collection of data that are indispensable for comparative research.

In Aussicht genommene Methoden, vorgesehene Fachausschüsse/-beiräte, etwaige Fremdforschungsaufträge

For the further development of the methodology of CVTS available material on implementation and realisation of CVTS2 (quality reports of the 25 countries involved in CVTS2) will be analysed. Based on the CVTS2 data available at Eurostat the structure of non response of the variables and the impact of different methods for collecting the data (written question-

naire, face to face interviews, use of CAPI and CATI) will be analysed. The following list provides an overview of the work packages to be delivered and the division of work between the partners in this project. It describes briefly the steps to be taken:

Work package 1 (BIBB/3s):

Further development of a coherent system of quantitative and qualitative statistics and indicators on vocational training in enterprises (survey output)

Work package 2 (BIBB/Statistics Finland)

Definition and description of the variables with respect to the survey output

Work package 3 (BIBB/FAS/Statistics Austria)

Modular European outline questionnaire including the description of the different modules.

Work package 4 (BIBB/3s/Statistics Finland)

Improvement of the operational concepts and definitions for the implementation of the survey

Work package 5 (BIBB/Statistics Finland/infas)

Survey guidelines

Work package 6 (Statistics Sweden/Statistics Netherlands)

Conceptual informatics framework

Work package 7 (BIBB/Statistics Finland/Statistics Bulgaria)

Needs and consequences of the extension of coverage with respect to NACE and the size of the enterprises

Work package 8 (BIBB)

European Manual CVTS3

A supporting group of national experts will be (re-)established; this proved to be advantageous in the previous work with CVTS. BIBB will invite experts, e.g. of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Federal Statistical Office of Germany, the German Institute for Adult Education (DIE), the Federal Institute for Employment Research of the Federal Employment Services (IAB) and the social partners. Furthermore an international counselling group of organisations and experts in the field of vocational education and training and its measurement will be established.

Beabsichtigte interne und externe Kooperation

BIBB is project coordinator in close co-operation with the partners

- *3s research laboratory (Austria)*
- *Statistics Finland*
- *Statistics Sweden*
- *FÁS – Training and Employment Authority Ireland.*

This team will jointly work on the work packages. The work will be supported by special expertise delivered by *infas (Germany)*, by the *National Statistical Institute of the Republic of Bulgaria*, *Statistics Austria* and *Statistics Netherlands*.

A wide range of experts across BIBB's departments will provide expertise and advice (BIBB experts).