

Foreword

This publication is the final report of the OECD Working Party on Research Institutions and Human Resources (RIHR) project on transferable skills training for researchers. Researchers are a key input into science and technology activity and their formation and careers are an important policy issue. The RIHR's project aimed at helping governments, as major actors in researcher training, to consider whether current national approaches provide appropriate support to researchers seeking to improve their transferable skill competencies. With a focus on countries' government- and institution-level policies on formal training in transferable skills for researchers, the project collected evidence on current arrangements and highlighted policy issues, challenges and possible future directions.

The report was prepared by Sarah Box of the Science and Technology Policy Division of the OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, with oversight from Ester Basri. It draws on responses to a RIHR policy questionnaire and on expert discussions at a project workshop held in Paris in November 2011, and has benefitted from comments from RIHR delegates. The Secretariat would particularly like to thank members of the project Steering Group, comprising representatives from Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as respondents to the policy questionnaire and participants at the project workshop. The OECD Secretariat would also like to thank delegations for their generous financial assistance for the report and workshop.



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