



Bundesministerium
des Innern



The negotiations of Germany's Federalism Reform II will enter a decisive stage in 2008. In addition to financial issues, modernizing the administration will also be on the agenda. Synergy potentials are intended to open up through increases in effectiveness.

An important way to increase effectiveness is benchmarking of public administrations. The structure of a federal state offers the possibility of competition; however, competition needs comparisons, otherwise it would be meaningless. The importance of benchmarking at various state levels was underlined by past PISA surveys conducted by the OECD. One of the objectives of the Federalism Reform II is to establish benchmarking as a general tool also in other areas.

Many federal states have had experience with benchmarking. In October 2007 the Federal Republic of Germany joined the Forum of Federations, an international non-governmental organization headquartered in Ottawa, Canada. The Forum offers a unique opportunity to introduce international experience into the reform debate.

On 15 February 2007 the Federal Ministry of the Interior and the Forum of Federations will host a workshop on benchmarking in public administrations of federal states at the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Berlin, Alt-Moabit 101D, room 1.071. Speakers from Australia, Switzerland, Canada, the United States and Germany will inform about their countries' experience.

Agenda:

930 hrs.	Opening by Parliamentary State Secretary Peter Altmaier
945 hrs.	Opening by the President of the Forum of Federations, George Anderson
1000 hrs.	Introduction to the debate among German experts accompanying the second stage of the Federalism Reform by Director-General Dr Reinhard Timmer
1030 hrs.	Experience of Australia, presented by Roger Wilkins, Head of Government & Public Sector Group Citigroup (Australia and New Zealand)
1100 hrs.	Experience of Switzerland, presented by Dr. Reto Steiner, University of Bern, Kompetenzzentrum für Public Management
1130 hrs.	Discussion
1230 hrs.	Lunch break
1400 hrs.	Experience of Canada, presented by John Wright, former Deputy Minister, Saskatchewan (to be confirmed)
1430 hrs.	Experience of Oregon (USA), presented by Jeff Tryens, Consultant, former Executive Director of the Oregon Progress Board
1500 hrs.	Discussion
1600 hrs.	Summary of results by Director-General Cornelia Rogall-Grothe
1620 hrs.	End of workshop

The workshop will be held in German and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

If you wish to participate in the workshop, please send an e-mail to:

VVWS@bmi.bund.de. Should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to call: +49-(0)30-3981-45526.