



► Dear Readers,

The Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) is a federal government institution for policy, research and practice in the field of vocational education and training in Germany, a role it has fulfilled for over 30 years. BIBB's research and development work and consultative activities contribute to tackling the challenges of the future in vocational education and training; as well as promoting innovative training practices, they support knowledge transfer and the marketing of new forms of training provision and future-oriented concepts for reform.

Knowledge transfer and the dissemination of results are vital, both as integral elements of BIBB's consultative and research work and as a key instrument for promoting broader dialogue in the field of vocational education and training. But it no longer makes sense to limit this dialogue to the national context alone. Given today's global networks of business partners and competitors, the time has come to cooperate transnationally on vocational education and training. Stimulating international dialogue on education and training creates opportunities to learn from one another and to pass on the benefits of past experience.

Intensifying this exchange of experience is one of the aims of this brochure. The articles it contains are selected not only to provide information on current research and development work at BIBB, but also to give key insights into the ongoing development of structures and

programmes within the German system of vocational education and training. The brochure sets out to encourage people to learn from one another, to pass on their experience, and to strike up international dialogue with a view to communicating national approaches to shared challenges in the field of vocational education and training. This is a compilation of articles which have appeared in BIBB's German-language journal "Berufsbildung in Wissenschaft und Praxis (BWP)" in recent months, and are now published in English to bring them to the attention of a wider international readership. ■

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