

Aims and Vision of *IZA World of Labor* (IZA WoL)

The governance of modern societies poses growing challenges to political leaders around the world. The complex interdependencies of an increasingly globalized world and the corresponding information overload require new forms of analysis and explanation in order to support and guide political leaders in their decision-making processes.

Political and economic stakeholders in labor markets are regularly faced with the challenge of responding to acute or systemic problems, or with the need of identifying new approaches in rigidified segments. Evidence-based scientific analysis can provide support and guidance in the process of identifying, evaluating and implementing available (economic) policy options that best meet the objectives of the decision-makers.

In this context, *IZA World of Labor* has set itself the goal of delivering the world's existing evidence-based knowledge in the field of labor market research in relation to the needs of politics in practical action, and of making this knowledge universally accessible to become the most (frequently) used compendium on labor market issues.

The primary objective of *IZA World of Labor* is to assist policy-making by presenting current empirically-founded research and knowledge from the labor markets and of related economic policy measures by:

a) Condensing the most important existing knowledge in an innovative and b) wrapping it in a pioneering, abridged and time-efficient format, style and structure which meet the needs of stakeholders in labor markets worldwide.

The novelty of *IZA World of Labor* thus lies not in the generation of new findings, but in its presentation of research in an absolutely unique and highly topical style.

The final product will include a global, freely accessible online platform as well as book publications (in print and as e-books) with approximately 500 English-language contributions. Special features will supplement this core material online and build a “world” around the content.