

Fact Sheet on Perspective 50plus

The Federal Programme	"Perspective 50plus – Employment Pacts for Older Workers in the Regions":
Objective	Improve employment opportunities for long-term unemployed persons with the aim of re-integrating them permanently into the labour market. Active use is made of the potential existing in the regions
Target group	Long-term unemployed men and women between 50 and 64
Programme phases	<p>1. Programme phase: 2005–2007 Key objectives: Improve the employment opportunities of older long-term unemployed, create regional networks, involve all relevant labour market actors, approach companies with information on demographic issues.</p> <p>2. Programme phase: 2008–2010 Key objectives: Develop pilot project into a commonly applied element of labour market policy; by the end of 2009, activation of 100,000 persons, and within the next three years, integration of 30,000 older long-term unemployed into the general labour market (supported by the pilot regions with 292 participating joint agencies, municipal bodies and employment agencies; separate responsibilities.</p>
Employment pacts	Perspective 50plus is supported by 62 regional employment pacts throughout Germany. Since 1 January 2010, a total of 349 joint agencies and approved community providers have participated in the Federal Programme (representing two-third of the total number of 437 agencies responsible for basic income support in Germany). Partners cooperating in the pacts include companies, industrial and commercial chambers, employment and educational institutions, institutions for economic promotion and development and other regional labour market actors.
Successes	In the first programme phase some 80,000 older unemployed were contacted. Of this group, 22,562 persons were re-integrated into the labour market. About 80 per cent of the new employment contracts corresponded to, or exceeded, the level of the person's previous employment.

<p>Successes (continued)</p>	<p>At the beginning of the 2nd programme phase 198,000 older job seekers were activated and 50,500 were integrated. Moreover, the number of basic income support agencies was increased. Further programme outcomes will be communicated after completion of the second programme phase.</p>
<p>Promotion and support</p>	<p>"Perspektive 50plus – Employment Pacts for Older Workers in the Regions" is a labour market programme supported and promoted by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.</p> <p><u>The BMAS:</u> The BMAS' key responsibilities include setting the right framework conditions for more employment, assuring social integration and maintaining the proper functioning of social security systems. In brief: The BMA's policy making is for citizens to be able to live in a country worth living in.</p>
<p>Key issues 2009</p>	<p>The key issues for 2009 are skills, mobility and health.</p> <p><u>Reasons:</u> Activities in these areas play a significant part in improving or restoring the capabilities and employability of older long-term unemployed persons. Their prospects of successful placement are greatly enhanced.</p> <p>The employment pacts have developed concepts for health promotion, reduction of obstacles to mobility, enhancement of skills (for more information see the texts on the key issues).</p>
<p>Website</p>	<p>www.perspektive50plus.de; www.bmas.de</p>