

## Analysis of implementation of Lisbon and NRP targets shows need for stronger political commitment

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The analysis of implementation for the two targets, presented in the report of the Commission in December 2007, is evaluated by S-time-distance measure showing the deviation in time of a given actual value from the envisaged time on the line to target. We find that there is no place for complacency. Å

For the EU target of 70 percent for total employment rate the delay is between 2-3 years, the situation is considerably better for the NRP targets. It is suggested that the countries for which their NRP employment rate targets were not specified in the Report be invited to specify or re-specify them before the 2008 Spring European Council to confirm the overall political commitment to the process.

The EU Lisbon 1 target of 3 percent of R&D in GDP is deeply in arrears. Even with respect to the lower NRP targets there is no improvement in implementation: 25 countries are lagging behind the line to their NRP targets; 20 of them more than 3 years and 10 of them more than 5 years (adding up to about 94 percent of the EU27 population in the first and about 56 percent in the second group). This is alarming and much stronger commitment is needed.

At the EU and at the national level good governance implies good communication with many stakeholders and S-time-distance is an excellent presentation and communication tool for policy use. The web application monitoring tool is available for immediate operational use relevant for the Lisbon process and beyond on <http://www.gaptimer.eu/content/view/25/33/>.

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