

INQA – Initiative New Quality of Work

INQA is a project organised jointly by the federal government, the federal states, social insurance institutions, the social partners, the Bertelsmann foundation, the Hans-Böckler foundation and private industry. The initiators of INQA believe that promoting a new quality of work is an important task and a future challenge. INQA's goal is to combine employees' expectations of healthy and satisfying working conditions with the need to be competitive in today's economy. The basic idea is: "acting together - with individual responsibility". All those involved want to initiate a broad debate about the future of work. The aim is to raise public awareness of the demands of tomorrow's world of work and how it can be reconciled with personal goals. Even in times of structural change in the economy and serious problems in the labour market, the issues of quantity and quality of work remain inseparable. In selected sectors the partners involved are developing and implementing concepts for the improvement of the working situation. INQA promotes good practice examples from companies that have already introduced exemplary models of innovative health and safety protection at work. Furthermore, INQA initiates the exchange of ideas and promotes cooperation between companies. INQA Demography established a company network (the Demography Network-ddn) designed to facilitate the sharing of experience. Mental Health is an very important issue in this initiative with a lot of models of good practices on the web! (www.inqa.de)

Outcome: INQA is in its second period and runs for three more years than originally planned because the results in the different expert groups (thematic networks) are very positive.