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Work package 6	Activity 6.3. Monitoring visits by externally appointed peer review and representatives of TEMPUS office

Report on Monitoring visits by externally appointed peer review and representatives of TEMPUS office

Authors:	
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Project task:

Activity 6.3. Monitoring visits by externally appointed peer review and representatives of TEMPUS office

Task description:

Milan Antonijević, PhD, professor at Faculty of Engineering and Science School of Science, Chatham, University of Greenwich, London, UK, visited Business Technical College of Applied in Užice with the aims: to meet senior management team of the project lead institution, to meet project team responsible for project implementation, to discuss dynamics of the project implementation and to assess readiness of the senior management team to provide support to project team when needed, to evaluate project Quality Management System and to identify any potential obstacles, issues and propose preventive and corrective measures.

Description of outcomes:

The report on Monitoring visits by externally appointed and representatives of TEMPUS review organized in January 2016, at the Business and Technical College of Applied Sciences in Užice.



Initial visit

The aims of my first visit were:

- 1) to meet senior management team of the project lead institution
- 2) to meet project team responsible for project implementation
- 3) to discuss dynamics of the project implementation and to assess readiness of the senior management team to provide support to project team when needed
- 4) to evaluate project Quality Management System
- 5) to identify any potential obstacles, issues and propose preventive and corrective measures.

During my visit I had the opportunity to meet senior management team (SMT) of the Business Technical College Uzice. In discussion with them it was clear that project they embarked on is of a high priority for the institution. SMT who is led by Prof. Ljubica Dikovic fully understood commitments they have for the accomplishment of the project. Moreover, they expressed willingness to expand their involvement in other education as well as scientific projects. College plays important role as the main Higher Education establishment for the several regions starting from Wester Serbia, North Monte Negro and ending with Eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina. Along with the educational impact this institution has significant impact on economic development true the implementation of various joint projects. This project along with its educational output can also be considered as developmental project in the area of eco-tourism and rural tourism. Therefore, not only lead institution on this project but also many touristic business systems (TBS) are interested for the outcomes of the project. Such interest in the project led to willingness of TBS to actively participate in project activities.

After discussion with SMT, I had the opportunity to meet project management team. My first impression was that the team was well organised. Analysing structure and number of staff dedicated to the project management work it is evident that project responsibilities are nicely distributed and that



coordinator has great experience in leading project teams. There is a very good balance between experienced and novice (first time involved in international projects) members of staff involved in the management of project. Such selection should ensure sustainability of the project outcomes and help institution achieve knowledge transfer within rapidly aging staff population.

According to project plan Quality Management System (QMS) was one of the first tasks to be completed. As I was heavily involved in majority of parts of its development my views may be impartial. Having said that, in this report, I will make comparison between current project with others that I was involved in. Coordinators' institution has developed excellent system communication and reporting system especially with respect to financial matters.

All activities for this period are conducted and completed according to project plan. Furthermore, discussion around purchase of equipment has started 3 months before scheduled time as ERASMUS + office suggested, based on previous experiences with similar projects, that timely start of this task may be beneficial.

At this point in time, as all project activities are conducted according to project plan, there were no needs for corrective measures or other project amendments. Therefore, project team should be commended for all efforts so far placed in the delivery of project activities.