

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Erasmus+ : Higher Education - International Capacity Building

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Subject: 544543-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR (2013 – 4526 / 001-002)
Intermediate Report on implementation of the project (IR)
Statement of the costs incurred and Request for Payment

Dear Prof. Djuricic,

We would like to inform you and your project partners that we have carried out the assessment of your Intermediate Report submitted on 27/05/2015 and we are pleased to inform you that it has been approved together with your Request for Payment and Statement of the Costs incurred received on 09/11/2015. In particular we would like to congratulate you on the results you have produced so far and for the activities you have implemented during this first period.

The information provided in the report as well as the findings from the project monitoring visit carried out by the Serbian Erasmus+ Office at the Faculty of Technical Sciences of the University of Novi Sad on the 12th of May confirm the good progress of the project activities.

We are happy to read that based on a situation analysis of study programmes and a market needs analysis, the consortium succeeded to modernise undergraduate study programmes at all HEIs participating in the project as well as to develop new postgraduate programmes. Regulations of the international quality standards ISO 9001, international quality standards in higher education and procedures for teaching process have been followed in this process.

We congratulate you that two out of three HEI have accredited or re-accredited both undergraduate and postgraduate study programs and hope that the accreditation of FHMT's undergraduate and master studies has been finalised in the meantime. Training courses are well prepared and carried out according to plan.

The withdrawal of the academic partner Business College of Applied Studies in Novi Sad has been managed successfully with the redistribution of the tasks and the associated budget among the Serbian consortium partners.

We understand that the procurement of equipment with the requirement of the certificate of origin has resulted in the prolongation of the public procurement, and are happy to know that albeit the delay the equipment purchase could be finalised.

In the implementation of the project activities during the next months, please refer to the following recommendations that are based on your report and on outcomes of the NEO monitoring visit last May:

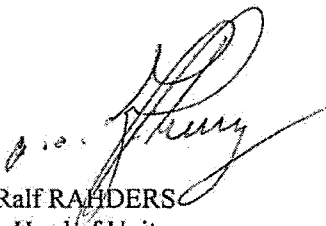
- The process of fine-tuning of defined learning outcomes and competencies among project partners needs to be continued. It should be based on the feedback of all parties involved (students, teaching staff and employers). It can also be envisaged after the completion of the studies for the first generation of enrolled students as a sustainability measure;
- The question of student internships – their length, number of ECTS assigned and structure of internship programmes – needs to be revised in consultations with non-academic project partners and other stakeholders;
- A specific set of indicators should be developed for monitoring the quality of the student internships, as this has been highlighted by the non-academic partners as the weakest part of the study programmes;
- The planned web portal should be finalised as soon as possible and be used as a tool for fine-tuning/adjustments of the created lifelong learning courses, as well as for adjustments related to the curricula.
- The existing project website should be less static and needs to be updated with information on current and completed activities in order to reflect the progress made during project implementation;
- Project partners need to develop financial sustainability plans beyond the scope of the project financing regarding the modernised/developed study programmes and the LLL courses offered at the HEIs.

In response to your *Request for Payment and Statement of the Costs incurred* received on 09/11/2015, we are pleased to inform you that, on the basis of the information provided in the above mentioned form, the requirements foreseen by Article I.4.1 of the Grant Agreement have been met. Therefore, you may expect payment of a further pre-financing, corresponding to 30% of the maximum grant amount (please refer to Article I.3 of your Grant Agreement), within 45 days of the date of this letter.

Should you require any further information, please contact Anne Spangemacher (Tel: +32 2 29 57302, e-mail: eacea-tempus-project-management@ec.europa.eu). We also encourage you to regularly consult our Tempus website <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus>.

We wish you a successful continuation of your activities.

Yours sincerely,


Ralf RAHDERS
Head of Unit

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