

Enhancing the quality of distance learning at Western Balkan higher education institutions



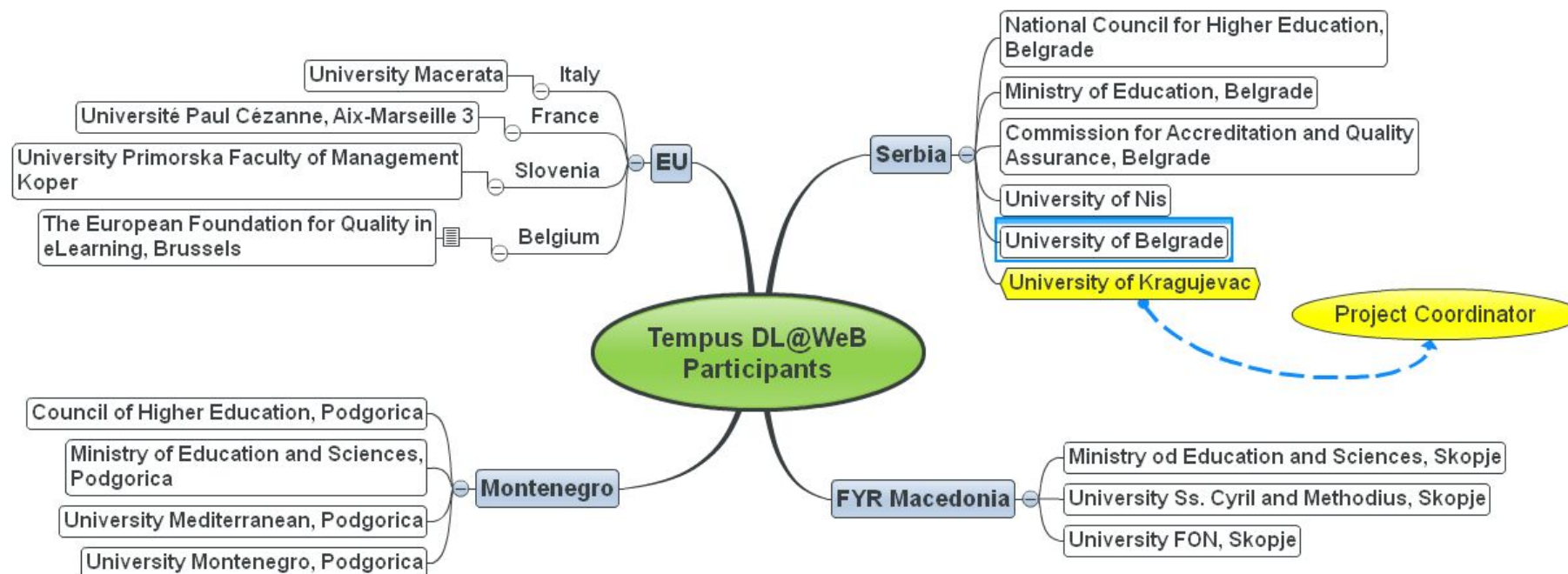
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<http://www.dlweb.kg.ac.rs>

About the project

- Sub-programme:
 - *Structural Measures for Governance Reform*
- Duration of the project:
 - *3 years*
- Project budget:
 - *€ 793.132,00 (including co-financing)*

List of partner organisations





European Commission
TEMPUS



**Mediterranean
University**

511126-TEMPUS-1-2010-1-RS-TEMPUS-SMGR



Tempus Info Day, November 26nd, 2010
Podgorica, Montenegro



National and Regional Priorities for 2010 addressed by DL@WEB

- This project proposal completely addresses TEMPUS programme theme

"Governance reform - Introduction of quality assurance"

- National priorities for SM in Serbia, Montenegro and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Regional priorities for SM in Western Balkans (IPA)



Motivation behind the project

Quality assurance is becoming increasingly important as ICT-based learning becomes more and more widespread in universities in Europe.

However -within Europe, a **broadly acceptable Quality Accreditation system in eLearning within HE is absent** despite the need to support HE in order to face the challenges presented by the emerging needs associated with the introduction of new technologies

Joint WB Initiative

- The number of higher education institutions in Western Balkan beneficiary countries that have adopted some form of online teaching is increasing, ***but the quality varies substantially.***
- Uniformity of e-learning methodology, quality standards and harmonization of the national accreditation systems with the existing European quality assurance system

Establishing partnership

- **The European Foundation for Quality in eLearning (EFQUEL) issue:**
 - **UNIQUE** (The Quality Label for the use of ICT in Higher Education or European University Quality in eLearning)
 - The UNIQUE process is structured in six very distinct stages and offers a formalised approach in each of the steps.
- **University of Macerata, Italy** has accredited for **UNIQUE** quality label (one of 7 UNIQUE Universities in Europe)
 - **E-Learning and Integrated Training Centre (CELF)** supports and coordinates the continuous professional development of all the educational teaching staff of the University.
 - The Faculty holds a **PhD in E-learning and Knowledge management** using online environments

Establishing partnership

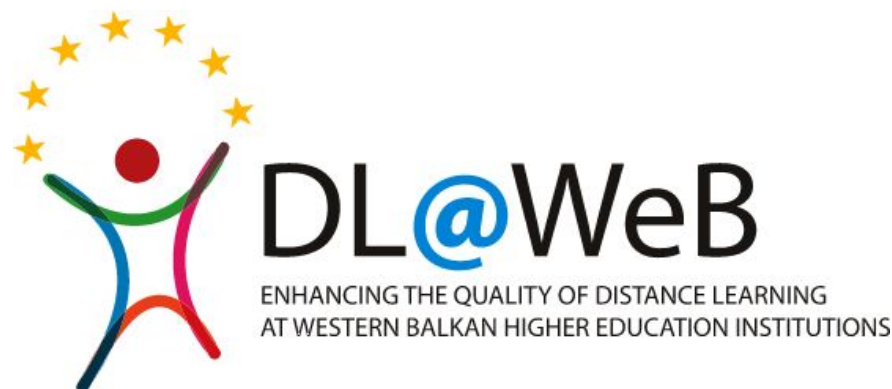
- **University Paul-Cezzane (France)**
 - pilots the **Digital University** in south east region of France (PACA) which includes 6 universities.
 - It provides training for teachers, researchers, students and staff through a digital services through a digital working environment (virtual office, offers training, technical cell).
 - It has expertise in the construction of service offerings based on ICT, which is consistent, scalable and meets the quality requirements of all users of Higher Education.
- **University Primorska (Slovenia)**
 - transferring good practices from their national accreditation and quality assurance system to Western Balkan partner countries

Wider Project Objective

- The DL@WEB project has been designed to improve the quality and relevance of distance education (DL) at Western Balkan higher education institutions and to enable easier inclusion of partner country institutions into European Higher Education Area.
- This proposal is highly supported by Ministries of Education, National Councils for Higher Education and Commissions for Accreditation in all three partner countries.

Specific Project Objectives

- To improve, develop and implement accreditation standards, guidelines and procedures for distance learning study programs according to EU practices at national levels in Serbia, Montenegro and FYRM
- To establish the framework for improving DL quality assurance and eLearning methodology on HE institutional level in WB countries
- To provide training for relevant members of HE educational and public authorities responsible for accreditation and evaluation of DL programs and trainers involved in DL from each partner country



Thank you!
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