# National TEMPUS Info Day

#### Building Capacity for Structural Reform in Higher Education of Western Balkan Countries

November 26, 2010

Nada Kovač Ministry of Education and Science

# Key features of the Project

- Grant holder : University of Novi Sad
- Duration of Projects: 3 years
- No of Participants: 21

   partner countries are Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Albania

-EU countries: Ireland, Sweden and United Kingdom

- Total Project Finance: around 810 000 euro
- Basis for drafting the major needs of the Region are conclusions from three international conferences on structural reforms in higher education, held within "Initiative of Novi Sad", 2005 – 2009 (Novi Sad, Dubrovnik and Sarajevo)
- Target groups: higher education administrators and policy makers from WBC

#### **PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**

**Higher Education Institutions** 

University of Novi Sad, project coordinator University of Belgrade University of Montenegro, ME University of Sarajevo, BA University of Mostar, BA University of Banja Luka, BA St.Kliment Ohridski University of Bitola, MK Goce Delcev University, Stip, MK Middlesex University, UK Stockholm University, SE University of Tirana, Al Aleksander Moisiu University of Durres Dablin Institute of Technology, IE

#### **PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**

Other partner institutions

Ministry of Education of Republic of Serbia
Center for Education Policy, Republic of Serbia
National Council for Higher Education, Republic of Serbia
Commission for Accreditation and Quality Assurance, Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Education and Science of Montenegro (FYROM)
Ministry of Education and Science of Macedonia (FYROM)
Ministry of Education and Science of Albania
Agency for Development of Higher Education and QA, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Higher Education Authority of Ireland
Swedish National Agency for Higher Education

# **Specific Project Objectives**

To enchance regional cooperation in higher education issues (address questions concerning coherent convergence of the region towards EHEA)

■To promote the reform and modernization of higher education

To strengthen capacity for change in public administration on the issues related to the EU modernization agenda

To build up capacity of higher education institutions , in particular international cooperation

To develop joint regional roadmap for structural reform and benchmark it with the best European practice

■To enhance networking among HEIs and research institutes

#### Overall broader objective

To strenghten capacity for higher education structural reform in WBC and facilitate a coherent convergence of the Region towards EHEA, as a prerequisite for genuine implementation of Bologna Agenda

Activities are divided into 8 workpackages

- Workpackage 1: Benchmarking higher education systems and structural reform in WBC with the best European practice
- Surveying specific higher education structural reforms issues of WBC and its benchmarking with the best European practice

It will be done through:

- a)Drafting questionnaire for self evaluation reporting and fulfilling the questionnaire by all partner countries HEI (institutional self evaluation) and
- b)Compiling relevant information on national higher education systems, policies, structural reforms and legal frameworks in WBC by relevant working groups (national self evaluation)
- Surveys on specific higher education reforms issues and its benchmarking with the best European practice, through expert's reports
- Conference "Awareness Raising and Benchmarking with the best practice

Discussion papers and conclusions will be presented into conferences reports

Workpackage 2: Strengthening capacity for change of partner countries universities in order to facilitate implementation of bologna agenda

- Setting up university offices for internal reform
- Workshop "Strengthening capacity
- for internal reform as a prerequisite for genuine implementation of Bologna agenda" (Novi Sad)
- Setting up network of the university offices for internal reform and regional board for governing the network

Workpackage 3: Capacity building of the staff in the institutions that govern higher education on the issues related to the EU modernization agenda

- Seminars for higher education administrators and policy makers on strategic issues in higher education
- Training of higher education administrators and policy makers from WBC on the issues related to the EU modernization agenda
- Setting up Regional Expert Network on Higher Education in WBC

Workpackage 4: Development of a joint regional roadmap for higher education structural reform and modes of its implementation

- Developing joint regional roadmap for acceleration of higher education structural reform
- Developing modes of implementation of joint regional roadmap
- Conference "Roadmap for acceleration of higher education structural reform in WBC"

Workpackage 5: Quality Control

- Feedback reports and evaluation surveys from training, seminars and conferences considering the quality of the implementation of all work packages
- Annual Steering Committee reporting on the quality of the implementation of project activities and financial management



- Provide organizational and legal framework for continuous functioning of the Regional expert Network beyond the project life
- Provide legal and organizational prerequisites for ensuring that university offices for internal reform will continue to provide services after the project life time

- Workpackage 7
- Adopt dissemination plan and identify target groups for dissemination
- Publish and distribute articles, news and newsletter on project report and events
- Publish and disseminate Institutional self evaluation reports, National Self evaluation reports, Experts' reports, Conferences conclusions and recommendations, seminar and training manuals and guidelines
- Design and maintain of web site

- Workpackage 8: Management of the Project
- Setting up management structure and rules of condact
- Setting up activity plan, mobility plan and plan of events for each project year
- Coordination of project activities
- Management of the grant and implementation of project management activities
- Management and coordination meetings

# Project working groups

- National task Force Groups
- Strategic Working Group
- Expert's Working Group
- Rector's Working Group
- Monitoring and Steering Group

# Project events

- Two international Conferences on Higher Education Structural Reform
- Seminar on strategic issues in higher education structural reform
- Training courses for advanced professional development of higher education administrators, managers and policy makers
- Meetings of Strategic Working Group, National Task Force Groups, Expert's Working Groups, Steering Committee, Core Group of the Steering Committee and
- Meetings of various bodies related to the quality control, sustainability and dissemination

