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GRADUA PROJECT

project No. 585961-EPP-1-2017-1-AL-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP (2017 -2926/001 -001)

*“GRaduates Advancement and Development of
University capacities in Albania”*

MONITORING REPORT N° 1 D.8.2.1.

Internal Document

Month 1-9 of Project Implementation

Period covered: 15/10/ 2017; 30/06/2018



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Premise:

The First Monitoring Report (WP.9. Quality Control) refers to the first project period (month 1-9 of project implementation). The project officially started in April 2018 with the Project' Kick off held in Tirana on 5th of April 2018 at Agriculture University of Tirana.

1 – Description of the activities

Project's GANTT



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Project's Work Packages

WP.1. Taxonomy of the Higher Education and Labour Market System for platform development
1.1 Data sistematization
1.2 Educational supply mapping
WP.2. On line platform for graduates tracking and employability
2.1 Graduates platform tools set-up (development - step 1)
2.2 Database population
2.3 Companies platform tools set-up (development - step 2)
2.4 Platform tuning
WP.3. Knowledge transfer and competence provision: short intensive trainings
3.1 Research training on survey methodology
3.2 Secretariat staff training
3.3 IT staff training for platform use
3.4 IT sustainability training for platform migration and maintenance
3.5 Training on labour market analysis
WP.4. Creating sustainable university-enterprise cooperation through capacity building dynamics
4.1 Seminar on professional traineeship development
4.2 Assess students and companies experience in training programs
WP.5. Albanian Graduates Profile Survey
5.1 On line questionnaire definition
5.2 Data cleaning and analysis
5.3 Survey preparation
WP.6. Career Office enhancement and guidance tools development
6.1 Competence provision for Career office enhancement
6.2 Development of student employability skills
WP.7. Dissemination
7.1. Project website development
7.2. Dissemination plan and material
7.3. Dissemination events
WP.8. Sustainability
8.1 Platform tutorial for stakeholders
8.2 Long-term sustainability analysis
8.3 System centralization in Albania
WP.9 Management and quality control
9.1 Management framework definition and board meetings
9.2 Quality control



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WPs' Deliverables progress according to Project Gantt (month 1-9)

GRADUA PROJECT WP description			
WP.1. Taxonomy of the Higher Education and Labour Market System for platform development			
DELIVERABLE	PROGRESS	RELEASE DATE	OTHER REMARKS/ CHANGE OCCURED WITH RESPECT TO GANTT
1.1 Data sistematization	RELEASED	JUNE 2018	Data Collection and Planning- Study on Privacy Law Data collection and Planning-GEO Decoding Tables; the development of decoding tables started at the end of 2017 ; the AlmaLaurea send the templates to the coordinator who shared and discuss with the Albanian Universities
1.2 Educational supply mapping	RELEASED	JUNE 2018	Data collection and Planning- Educational supply (EDU) Decoding Tables;the development of decoding tables started at the end of 2017 ; the AlmaLaurea send the templates to the coordinator who shared and discuss with the Albanian Universities. The Albanian Universities created the decoding tables were defined following the correction suggested by AlmaLaurea IT staff in charge with the development of the platform

To be add the tables form the xls file



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RELEVANT INDICATORS ACCORDING TO LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

WP.1

- ✓ 1 GEO decoding table release
- ✓ 9 Educational supply decoding tables release (1 for each Albanian University)
- ✓ Participation to pre training held in Bologna, May 2018:
 - 45 staff members of the Albanian Universities took part in the pre-training regarding the methodology of survey to be implemented in Albania and the technical aspects of the future platform (Agriculture University of Tirana, University of Tirana, University of Arts, Tirana, Polytechnic University of Tirana, University of Medicine Tirana, European University of Tirana, POLIS University, Catholic University "Our Lady of Good Counsel", Tirana, Albanian University).
 - 1 member of the Albanian Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth
 - 2 members of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tirana
 - Other European participants:
 - 6 staff members of the AlmaLaurea Inter-University Consortium, Bologna, Italy
 - 3 staff members of the University of Bologna, Italy
 - 1 staff member of University of Siena, Italy
 - 1 staff member of University of Barcelona, Spain
 - 1 staff member of Instituto Universitariò de Lisboa, Portugal

RECCOMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

- Cooperation among partners has been sufficient, and all the partners seem to be committed as regards their own tasks, and interested in having a strong collaboration in order to take advantage of the activities. In particular, Albanian Universities seem to be aware of the opportunity for their Universities to ameliorate their services for graduates and their relations with companies. These aspects have prevented problems. The initial activities of the project have had a correct focus on the explanation of the long-term positive effects that the project



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may have in the involved universities, their students and graduates and as regards the services, they can offer to local companies for recruitment of graduates.

- The project has been recognized to have great importance for the modernization of universities and improvement of their services; furthermore, they contribute to cover the substantial lack in the Universities involved of placement services and offices.
- The local partners are convinced of the necessity to maintain the activities after the conclusion of the project. This is the most important aspect for sustainability at the beginning of a project and has to be maintained in the future. Disseminating and communicating activities must be maintained over the years to achieve sustainability after the life-cycle of the project. Information related to the survey platform will need to be disseminated all year round and integrated in relevant student activities to make students aware of the benefits of the platform and sign up for accounts voluntarily.
- For the pilot group graduating in June 2019, as soon as the project web site will be ready, will start the dissemination among Albanian students.
- The project will be sustainable if the students, the key beneficiaries of the project, understand the benefits they obtain from the project and willing to participate in the project beyond its funded life. In order to ensure the sustainability of the project, universities have committed resources to communicate about the project and its benefit to the students. Much more communication effort is needed. Stories of graduates finding good employment opportunities via the project platform are crucial.
- It is necessary to establish and strengthen the link between universities and business community with real cooperative activities that build up skills and enhance employment opportunities for graduates. Certain specific activities including the involvement of Albanian universities career centers will be consider.
- Conclusions from the coordinator Agriculture University:

Despite the long and complicated procedure regarding the Grant, the partnership agreements were signed (what about the Minsitry???) and soon the grant amounts will be transferred to each partner.

The activities planned in the first period of the Projects have been carried out: background paper (that will be as well translated in Albanian language), decoding tables, both GEO and supply educational programmes for each University, drafting the dissemination plan, participation in the first pre- training activities related to the survey methodology, questionnaire definition and technical architecture of the future platform.