



Erasmus+

Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices sub-programme

TECHNICAL REPORT form

Programme	Erasmus+
Sub-Programme	Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
Action	Capacity Building in higher education
Sub-Action	Structural Projects
Call for Proposal	EAC-A03-2016
Project number	586029-EPP-1-2017-1-RS-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP
Agreement/decision number	20172962
Project Title	Implementation of Dual Education in Higher Education of Serbia
Language used to complete the form	English

Contractual Data

Dates and Beneficiaries

Dates

Project Start: 15/10/2017	Project End: 14/10/2020
Activities Start:	Activities End:
Project Duration(months): 36	

Beneficiary Data

Role	PIC	Name	Country
Coordinating Organization / Beneficiary	999641843	UNIVERZITET U BEOGRADU	Serbia
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Co-Beneficiary / Partner	947217708	NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA	Serbia
Co-Beneficiary / Partner	999821681	MINISTARSTVO PROSVETE, NAUKE I TEHNOLOSKOG RAZVOJA	Serbia
Co-Beneficiary / Partner	940285603	VISOKA SKOLA ELEKTROTEHNIKE I RACUNARSTVA STRUKOVNIH STUDIJA	Serbia
Co-Beneficiary / Partner	933416257	DRZAVNI UNIVERZITET U NOVOM PAZARU	Serbia
Co-Beneficiary / Partner	998850323	UNIVERZITET U KRAGUJEVCU	Serbia
Co-Beneficiary / Partner	998833833	UNIVERZITET U NOVOM SADU	Serbia
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Project Summary and Horizontal Issues

Project Description

English - 1

Horizontal Issues

Previous recommendations/follow-up

The monitoring visit by the National Erasmus Office of the Republic of Serbia was successfully realized at the University of Belgrade on 19 June 2018. The progress of project activities were analyzed and discussed with local representatives of the DUAEDU project consortium.

The following set of recommendations to be followed in the upcoming project period was established:

- The project partners should ensure that the initial delays in the implementation of activities do not affect the overall project implementation.
- The representatives of the Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development should be fully involved in the project activities as soon as possible as their participation is pertinent to ensuring the sustainability of the project results,
- The project partners need to ensure that the evidence collected within WP1 on the need for dual higher education programs is representative for entire system mindful of the fact that HE graduates are employed by various employers across all sectors,
- The quality assurance plan should be produced as soon as possible. It should refer to internal quality assurance procedures and rely on measurable progress indicators,
- The project partners should ensure the sustainability of law amendments that will be developed within third work package,
- The dissemination and exploitation plan should be updated with a precise timeline and progress indicators in order to provide a clear outline of dissemination activities that are expected from each project partner,
- As advised by the project evaluation, more structured connections with associated partners could be established,
- The project website could be redesigned in order to clearly present project outputs (reports, project presentations, meeting conclusions etc.) in order to make it more relatable to the general public. In addition, project's Facebook and LinkedIn profiles should be linked with the project website and updated with relevant content,
- In the process of developing special website for promoting dual higher education programs, as envisaged by the project application, the project partners could consider connecting with online platforms already developed within other CBHE projects (for example a platform developed within the CBHE project School-to-Work Transition for Higher education students with disabilities in Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia & Herzegovina Trans2W - 561847-2015).

Transversal issues

During the project realization the gender balance is reached at all levels. Both genders are equally involved in decision making structures, as the representatives of the project partners' institutions. Also, the age discrimination is avoided because people from different age groups are equally involved in the project management and decision making bodies, such as Steering Committee, Local Committee, Working groups, etc.

Through mapping of dual education activities at Serbian HEIs and making them visible and available for broader users, the project will increase the ability of individuals to improve their current state regarding to wealth, occupation, education - thus improving the social cohesion on a wider level,

- Dedication of Serbian partner university institutions to develop newly designed dual studies will contribute to the achievement of the project final goals:

- Improvement of the competencies of higher education graduates in Serbia according to the needs of employers,
- Increase of the employability of graduates and their motivation to study, and
- Improvement of accessibility to higher education of students from lower income families

Involvement of people with fewer opportunities

People with fewer opportunities have not been the focal point or the target group of the project. However, a particular care will be dedicated to enable participation of the people with fewer opportunities in the pilot DHE Study programs developed within this project.

Award Criteria

Typology

Horizontal priorities

Fostering the assessment of transversal skills	☐
Promoting the take-up of practical entrepreneurial experiences in education, training and youth work	☒
Promoting the professional development of staff and youth workers in ICT methodologies	☐
Supporting the production and adoption of Open Educational Resources in diverse European languages	☐
Facilitating the validation of non-formal and informal learning and its permeability with formal education pathways	☒

Linkages

School education	☐
Higher education	☒
Adult education	☐
Vocational training	☐
Youth sector	☐
Cross-sector	☐

If cross sector is selected

School education	☐
Higher education	☐
Adult education	☐
Vocational training	☐
Youth sector	☐

CBHE Aims

Support the modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of the higher education field in the eligible Partner Countries.	☒
Support eligible Partner Countries to address the challenges facing their higher education institutions and systems, including those of quality, relevance, equity of access, planning, delivery, management, governance.	☐
Promote people to people contacts, intercultural awareness and understanding.	☐
Promote voluntary convergence with EU developments in higher education.	☒
Contribute to the cooperation between the EU and the eligible Partner Countries (and amongst the eligible Partner Countries).	☐

CBHE Objectives

Improve the quality of higher education and enhance its relevance for the labour market and society.	☒
Improve the level of competences and skills in HEIs by developing new and innovative education programmes.	☐
Enhance the management, governance and innovation capacities, as well as the internationalisation of HEIs.	☐
Increase the capacities of national authorities to modernise their higher education systems, by supporting to the definition, implementation and monitoring of reform policies.	☒
Foster regional integration and cooperation across different regions of the world through joint initiatives, sharing of good practices and cooperation	☐

Specific activities

Modernisation of policies, governance and management of higher education systems	☐
Strengthening of relations between higher education systems and the wider economic and social environment	☒

Type of project

National project	☒
Multi-country project	☐

Regions involved

Region 1 - Western Balkans	☒
Region 2 - Eastern Partnership Countries	☐
Region 3 - South Mediterranean Countries	☐
Region 4 - Russian Federation	☐
Region 6 - Asia	☐
Region 7 - Central Asia	☐
Region 8 - Latin America	☐
Region 9 – Iran, Iraq, Yemen	☐
Region 10 - South Africa	☐
Region 11 - ACP	☐
Cross-regional	☐
Regional	☐
National	☐

Special mobility strand

The project contains a Special Mobility Strand	☐
The project does not contains a Special Mobility Strand	☒

Involvement of people with fewer opportunities

YES/NO	☐
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Assessment Criteria

Relevance of the project

Relevance to the objectives

Dual Education is a unique education model, which combines classroom-based education with work experiences. The recent analysis published by The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia shows that the unemployment rate is significantly lower for young people with vocational secondary education than for graduates. This shows that professional skills are closely related with labour market demands. The cause of high youth unemployment rate lies in the fact that the work experience is the decisive factor for the employers. The graduates are mostly without any work experience and this disables them from getting a job thus capturing them in the unemployment - no experience circle. The employers rarely recognize the graduates' degree of competence even when they are completely suitable for the position. Concerning working students there are two main problems: the dropout rates are considerably high so the working students don't get a degree and the fact that the Labor Law and connected legislation don't address the student labor in manner of reducing the administrative procedures and tax obligations for employers enough to make the students and consequently the graduates a desirable workforce. There is an ongoing initiative conducted by The Serbian Government to implement dual secondary education that is recently spreading towards higher education. There are also many retraining/additional training programmes conducted by The National Employment Agency of Serbia in order to reduce the unemployment rates between surplus occupations, but the sustainable solution for the youth unemployment problem is to develop the study programmes and education models based on the labor market demands. This is particularly important for attracting investments since the investors demand not only positive business climate but also highly trained workforce that can be produced fast enough through flexible DHEM. Aiming to improve the relevance and effectiveness of education, meaning that education has to provide graduates with competences required by employers and job market, Serbian Government is giving high priority to implementation of Dual Education. This project has to specify a generic, flexible Dual Higher Education (DHE) model to be implemented in Serbia, after testing different derived specific models during their pilot implementations. Some sectors, such as IT, need to employ students due to the lack of IT graduates. Other sectors are expecting graduates to have competences more in line with their needs. After analysis best practices in Europe and worldwide, and after interviewing interested companies in Serbia what DHE models are the most suitable to them, the project will specify a flexible and generic DHE model from which different specific DHE models could be derived and implemented according to companies requirements. The project will propose amendments to the corresponding legislation, such as Law on dual studies and corresponding HEIs accreditation standards. The selected DHE models will be tested during their pilot implementations by all Serbian HEIs participating in the project and with companies - its associate members, during the second half of this 3-years project. Proposals of amendments to DE and HE legislation and accreditation standards, based on the developed and tested DHE model, as well as guidelines for DHE implementation offered to HEIs and companies, are also expected project outcomes. They will have a significant impact to the relevance and effectiveness of higher education in Serbia, as more graduates will have competences needed by employers.

EU Education, Cooperation & Development policies

This project targets the main issues concerning the employability of students and graduates which is in line with national strategy for increasing the employment rate of young population. The project is also in line with relevant EU policies as well as with the following Regional Priorities for Joint & Structural Projects (Erasmus+ KA2 – Capacity Building in Higher Education) for the Region 1 (Western Balkan):

1. Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches: The project proposes a new approach in Serbia to making the HE programmes more professionally oriented with emphasis on offering the exact working skills to the students.
2. Non-University sector at tertiary education level: The DHE studies are intended to be mainly professional and one of the project outcomes is to define the obligations between HEI and student, student and employer and employer and HEI.
3. University-enterprise cooperation, entrepreneurship and employability of graduates in three ways:
 - The DHE connects the employers that request particular set of skills with students that have strong propensity and potential to acquire that set of skills.
 - The DHE gives the students an opportunity to acquire much needed work experience before graduation which in turn enables them to be more competitive on the labor market.
 - The DHE implementation requires from the HEIs to develop such study programmes that are highly compatible with students' future profession and altogether create a teaching ambience similar to that of a workplace.
4. Definition, implementation and monitoring the reform policies: The project will provide the legislation background for establishing currently nonexistent DHE studies in Serbia.

Up to now the HEIs in Serbia based their endeavor to increase the graduates' employability on modernizing and adjusting study programmes in order to transfer the knowledge required by the employers without including them into the study programme development process. That didn't bring the expected results in making the graduates attractive enough on labor market. In the countries that adopted the DHE some significant results in resolving the problem of youth unemployment are shown. This is why the establishment of DHE in Serbia was chosen as the key priority of this project. Bearing that in mind, the consortium examined the effects of existing dual education EU policies/initiatives and existing dual education study programmes and drew parallels between the current situation in Serbia and the situation in other countries before adopting the DHE regarding the youth unemployment. Also the legal regulations in countries that adopted the DHE were examined in order to define which amendments to the laws concerning the matter are needed.

Quality of the project implementation

Description of the implemented activities

In order to achieve the project objectives, all major types of working packages and corresponding activities with milestones are planned and realised according to the modified project plan (adopted and approved by the Steering Committee during the kick off meeting):

PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES (Finished 100%)

WP1 Research and needs analysis: Based on the analysis of EU practice, experiences and legislation in the area of dual higher education (DHE) and survey of Serbian companies (from different regions and in different industrial sectors) needs for DHE, a report on the state-of-the-art of DHE was prepared with recommendations. The second report summarized the results of the surveys and interviews with the companies.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

WP2 Flexible and generic Dual Higher Education Model (DHEM) for Serbia (Finished 90%): Within this WP a flexible and generic Dual Higher Education Model (DHEM) for Serbia was developed, including the remarks given by key stakeholders and policy makers at the Discussion Forum on the proposed DHEM which was used for improving the draft version of DHEM. This model represents a synthesis of the needs of different stakeholders identified in WP1. The model is flexible in terms of DHE programme concept, duration of internship, engagement of students, paid or free internships, as well as all other options identified in WP1.

WP3 Creation of Legal and Other Conditions for Implementation of DHE in Serbia (Finished 40%): Within this WP the details regarding the proposal of needed changes in legislation and regulation acts in the Republic of Serbia identified in WP 2 were developed. It is foreseen that the changes of Serbian Laws on Dual Education, Higher Education, and Labor as well as of Accreditation Standards will be needed. Three working groups are established with the goal to create the proposals of the amendments for considered legal acts and eventually submit them to the authorities. The changes in all other secondary laws connected to these laws will be proposed and submitted to the authorities, as well.

WP4 Pilot testing of the flexible and generic DHEM (will be started in the next period of the project realisation – according to the modified work plan): Flexible and generic DHEM developed in WP2 will represent a basis for development of specific DHEMs. Within this WP each HEI partner from Serbia develops at least one own specific DHEM according the overall needs of companies in the selected sector (M13). Each HEI will present the defined specific DHEM concept to selected companies in order to make agreements for their participation in DHE study programme. After agreement with companies on their participation in DHE, HEIs will create detailed plan of DHE programme, purchase relevant equipment (M15) and complete creating training materials in cooperation with companies (M28). The core of this WP is the implementation of specific DHEMs (M32). Milestones: 50% of agreements signed by M14 of the project; 50% of pilot test started by the end of M17; 100% of teaching, training and learning material for the next semester prepared before semester start.

Detailed description of planned and achieved activities in the first half of the project realization is shown in Annex V – attached with this Technical Report.

Quality assurance

At the beginning of the project the quality and evaluation strategy was generated. This strategy includes the action plan for quality assurance with peer review guidelines from EU experts from project consortium, the methods for internal quality assessment, and the metrics for analysis of project outcomes. Each PC partner will generate internal QA report and Implementation of Dual Education in Higher Education of Serbia / DualEdu. Programme countries partners will generate external QA evaluation reports. These reports will be submitted to SC and will represent a basis for generation of evaluation reports demanded by EU Commission.

Visibility

Dissemination plan of the project was implemented in line with Erasmus+ project recommendations. Dissemination and exploitation plan was developed at the beginning of project. This document defines dissemination and exploitation strategy, target groups, dissemination tools with special emphasize on the key results that can be exploited after completion of the project.

The dissemination strategy of the project can be divided in an internal and an external dissemination part.

a) Internal Dissemination strategy:

Dissemination within partner institutions is an important issue and the teaching staff members from HEI, partner organisations and companies representatives involved in the mobility to EU universities has possibility to disseminate the academic knowledge and experiences acquired abroad to their colleagues at organized meetings and workshops. In order to inform the partners of the project content and project development, during project implementation interim and final dissemination reports are developed and delivered.

b) External Dissemination strategy:

The consortium members develop specific actions directed towards future partners and other HEIs and stakeholders. Information about the project are published on the project web site (<https://dualedu.ef.uns.ac.rs/>) in order to ensure a national and international communication, also results of the project are delivered by using social networks, and special video streaming services.

To disseminate the results of the project, the following target groups are invited to seminars and trainings: representatives of other educational institutions, representatives of labour market agencies, SMEs representatives, agencies for environmental protection, potential services users, National government representatives, EU partner representatives, legal associations etc.

To complete the external dissemination, UB management staff in cooperation with partner organizations informs the local media (newspapers, televisions, radios) in order to present project results.

To fully implement these strategies, the consortium members realized the following activities:

- Dissemination material is designed (logo, leaflets, roll-up banner, flyers etc.).
- The project web site is developed and maintained;
- Dissemination seminars for the transfer of knowledge are organized.

The consortium members regularly inform on project activities and outcomes the following groups:

the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and Ministry of Self Government and Local Government, The Ministry of Finance and Economy, Chamber of Commerce of Serbia, National Employment Agency, Local self-governments, Regional developmental agencies, Clusters of SME and Companies

So far, the DualEdu project website is designed and successfully used (<https://dualedu.ef.uns.ac.rs/>). At the moment, the relevant documents about the project realization are being constantly uploaded to the website. The news about the project realization are regularly updated. Also, in order to improve communication between consortium members, the Trello platform is set up - all relevant information for the project realization are regularly uploaded by the partners. The project's Roll-up banner is also designed and discussed during the Local Committee Meeting in Nis, 14.06.2018. After the meeting, its' improved according the suggestions from the project partners and printed in project partners' institutions from Serbia.

Equipment

In the project application, equipment purchase is planned so equipment will be delivered at the time when all partners need to start pilot implementation in order to be well prepared and able to properly fulfil all project requirements. Each item is carefully specified in the Project proposal Budget Excel table. Equipment specification for each partner is closely related to specific needs according to the activities that will be implemented in the next project period. All Partner Country HEIs prepared their equipment list according to the workplan and in order to be prepared for successful project realization. Equipment costs are estimated to be 297,693.00 EUR, distributed among HEI partners according to their needs. However, after the beginning of the projects some of the partners realised that very small number of specific items from their original equipment lists need to be replaced with the improved models. The lists of equipment which should be replaced regarding to the original project application are prepared (including technical specifications - by all partners). The appropriate letter for the EU commission is prepared. After the confirmation from the Project officer, the more detailed technical specification is prepared and included in the tendering documentation. All equipment purchases for the purpose of project realization, regardless of the equipment value, are done through public tendering. The tendering procedure was started in time, but changes in the relevant national procedures (introduction of the new electronic tax relief procedure) caused the delay in equipment procurement procedure. Out of twenty-two Equipment Lots in total, only five didn't receive any offers (rest of them are already delivered to the final users and payed to the bidders). At the moment, the relaunch of the Equipment Lots that haven't receive any offers in the original tender is started and it is expected that complete procurement procedure will be finished in next three months.

The project includes activities relating to curriculum development

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Teaching / Training Activities

- ☒ Yes

Mobility for Teaching, Training and/or project research activities

When planning the travel cost (80,925.00 EUR) and cost of stay (153,690.00 EUR), in the project application, the following meetings were planned – for the overall Project implementation period:

- Six two-workdays study visits to each of partners from EU (Programme Countries) by 1 to 5 team members from all partners from Serbia (as Partner Country);
- Five two-workdays Steering Committee (SC) meetings in Serbia are planned during the life cycle of the project and representatives of all project partners need to attend;
- Seven two-days Local Committee (LC) meetings will be organized during the project, with participation of all team members from project partners from Serbia.

So far, all of the mobilities planned for the first half of the Project implementation period are successfully realised:

- Four two-workdays study visits to each of partners from EU (Programme Countries) by 1 to 5 team members from all partners from Serbia (as Partner Country) – it is planned that at least one more study visit will be realised in the next period of the Project implementation;
- Two-workdays Steering Committee (SC) meetings in Serbia – next Steering Committee will be held in two months (beginning of the June, Novi Sad, Serbia);
- Three Local Committee (LC) meetings, with participation of all team members from project partners from Serbia – next Local Committee meeting will be also held in two months because in order to increase the cost effectiveness, the dates of most of SC and LC meetings are synchronized.

All of the listed already realised mobilities are documented according to the rules presented in the quality manual (four separate reports – Dev. 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3 and 1.2.4, and one unified – Report 1.2, titled 'Transfer of Knowledge and Skills from Programme Countries Institutions to Serbian HEIs') and available on the project website (<https://dualedu.ef.uns.ac.rs/>).

- ☐ No

Quality of cooperation

Project management

Project management is carried out at the overall (consortium) level and at the local level including only Serbian partners. To ensure efficient and successful project management, the guidelines for project management are developed at early phase of the project. All aspects of project implementation are followed and managed through reporting system, with interim and final reports to EACEA. All consortium partners participate in project management. The major decision-making body of the project is Steering Committee (SC) which consists of representatives from each EU and Serbian partner organization. It monitors all project activities, evaluate deliverables, produce detailed reports on implementation and suggests further activities. The Steering Committee coordinates the creation of quality and evaluation strategy, dissemination and exploitation plan, and also provides an input into strategic and organizational issues and define the project standards and agree on all project policies that must be formally and explicitly stated. Tasks assigned to consortium partners will become contractual obligations. The Steering Committee will meet in total 5 times during the project realization period, including the kick-off meeting. The responsibilities of the SC are to: (1) Review project progress and control the activities; (2) Ensure that the project maintains its relevance; (3) Be aware of relevant activities in other projects; (4) Resolve any technical administrative or contractual issues, which have not been resolved by other means within the project; (5) Be the overall quality manager of the project, controlling the overall quality of the Work Packages and check the quality of the deliverables. Decisions are taken on a consensual basis. In case of disagreement, the Steering Committee will make the final decision. The internal communication is conducted by emails, phone, Skype, Google pool, etc.

Local Committee (LC) consisting of the members from each partner institutions from Serbia is also established. It monitors implementation and organization of activities in Serbia, and actively participate in dissemination of project results. Seven LC meetings in total are planned during the project realization. Members will provide reports on implementation for their institutions, including regular financial monitoring and audit.

A detailed allocation of resources and distribution of tasks within the project is carried out equally between the partners and in accordance with the requirements for the implementation of each working package. Seven different partners are leaders of 7 working packages (5 from Serbia and 2 from EU). All partners are engaged in certain activities of each WP.

The issue of the ownership of the project results is discussed in the Consortium meeting and it is defined in the Consortium Agreement.

Involvement of partners and stakeholders

Members of the consortium in RS are the four universities (three public and one private), one college of applied sciences, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, National Council for Higher Education, cluster of national companies and other associated organizations. This diversification enables the accessibility to different project stakeholders during the project implementation period. The following stakeholders of the DualEdu project, sorted by their levels of impact, are: Students, HEIs, and Companies. Taking into account the three expected main results of the project (Flexible and generic Dual Higher Education Model, developed aiming maximal effectiveness of collaboration between HE students, HEIs and companies in Serbia, The legislative framework, needed for establishment of Dual Higher Education Model in Serbia and Pilot implementations, needed to test proposed flexible Dual Higher Education Model with its variants) it could be concluded that the most important task and one of the most prerequisite activities for the overall success of the project is already finished. Namely, the consortium has developed flexible Dual Education model according to existing coop models in EU and worldwide. For the establishment of legislative framework, achieved results from Erasmus+ project CWIHE (European Network of Cooperative and Work Integrated Higher Education) are also very important. Two partners of CWIHE project are in consortium of the DualEdu project. With other participating institutions, they are deeply involved in the development of the most optimized Dual Higher Education Model, its variants and derivatives specifically developed for Serbia, according to specificities of collaboration scenarios between DHE students, HEIs and companies. To achieve this, the consortium will continue to consult representatives of all stakeholders (identified below) in order to better identify their needs, expectations and requirements of Dual Higher Education in Serbia. Also, the consortium already proposed the legislation framework according to the best foreign practices and gained experiences. The amendments of the national Law on Dual Education are currently being analyzed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Developments of the Republic of Serbia. In that process, the involvement of Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development in the project implementation is very intensive and appreciated. In this way, the consortium will reach and include all target groups during the life cycle of the project at local, regional and national levels. The EU partners' training courses (realized during the mobilities in the previous period of the project realization) significantly improved the level of knowledge and experience in the area of dual education of university teachers at technical faculties in RS. Knowledge and experience gained in this process will be definitely useful to Serbian university teachers in their further work with students and in their university careers.

Management of the grant

Budget for DualEdu project is balanced, harmonized among partners and among work packages. The timely and cost-effective accomplishment of outcomes is secured primarily by efficient management within the work packages and by the strict control of performed academic activities and of the financial flow. To secure the timely realization of outcomes, the Steering Committee (SC) and the project coordinator closely monitor the performance of partners during the project realization. The transfer of funds to the partners depend on their delivery of expected outcomes and submitted reports. On every Steering and Local Committee meeting, the project management team define measures for overcoming problems or obstacles in realization of the project and revise the work plan if necessary, to ensure timely realization of the project. All equipment purchases for the purpose of project realization, regardless of the equipment value, are done through tendering or on the basis of three competitive bids. Mobility in the project are defined in a way that guarantees performing multiple tasks whenever possible. The financial management of the grant is conducted according to the defined Quality Manual, where the contents of all documents and forms are defined. Furthermore, the universities in Serbia apply strict policies in order to make legal decisions to regulate the financial management within the institutions. Project co-financing will be provided by additional work of project staff members for the purpose of obtaining desired outcomes. If the right conditions are fulfilled, the organization of the final conference, banking fees and cost of money transfer will be co-financed also. The total budget (EU grant) of the project is 992,310.00 EUR. The total staff cost (396,878.00 EUR) is planned according to the distribution of activities to all project partners and necessary work to be done. The planned travel costs are 80,925.00 EUR and costs of stay equals 153,690.00 EUR. Equipment cost (297,693.00 EUR) is planned according to the needs of all participating HEIs from Serbia, with constraint of 30% of the project budget. The equipment to be purchased is needed for pilot implementation of dual higher education by each HEI partner from Serbia. This equipment will allow HEIs to provide students with appropriate lab conditions for practical work and project-based learning, similar to the equipment used by companies where students realize their internships. Subcontracting cost (63,124.00 EUR) is planned for each partner according to the planned WP activities of the partner. The subcontracting cost cover project auditing, printing dissemination products, conference proceedings, translation services etc. Roughly, there are three groups of partners having a similar level of budget:

- a) HEIs from Serbia: total budget amount ranging from ca. 99,000.00 to 162,000.00 EUR
- b) Partners from EU countries: total budgets ranging from ca. 23,000.00 to 36,000.00 EUR
- c) Non-HEI partners from Serbia: budgets ranging from ca. 24,000.00 to 29,000.00 EUR.

At the moment, institutions from Serbia that participate in the project realization, have spent their budget predominantly on the equipment, travel and costs of stay budget lines – and the staff costs will be compensated after the second pre-financing (it is expected that 70% of the first pre-financing will be spent in next couple of weeks). The detailed summary of the current state of the Projects' finances is presented in the Financial Statement accompanying this Report.

IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Awareness raising, dissemination, sustainability and exploitation of the project results

This project creates the basis for continuous monitoring and improvement of dual education studies in three of the largest universities in the RS and their associated faculties, as well as in other participating institutions in the RS. The knowledge in the field of dual education will be transferred from EU partner universities to the HEIs in the RS, while university teachers at local faculties in RS will be trained to devise and conduct new dual education courses on their own. Faculties in Serbia will continue to improve the introduced dual education studies long after the completion of the project. According to the envisaged plan, faculties in RS will in future provide their students with a higher level of necessary competences, which will result with easier employment in companies as stakeholders of knowledge. Higher level of competences will consequently improve companies' effectiveness, making them more competitive on the world market, which will also have a positive impact on the economy in the RS. After the project realization, project outputs/outcomes will be presented to other non-technical HEIs and society at large in order to further increase impact of the project in RS. As mentioned in the project application, after the project is finished, the target groups of stakeholders and participating institutions will be reached using the following channels of communications:

1. **POTENTIAL STUDENTS:** A special web site will be created only for Dual Higher Education (DHE) in Serbia. All HEIs will be asked to announce their programs of DHE. This site will be promoted at the end of the project and will be constantly updated with relevant information about DHE in Serbia.

Other types of advertising will be realized by Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube channel, as well as via flyers and posters, which will be widely distributed.

2. **HEIs:** All HEIs in Serbia will be informed about the project outcomes. They will get the proceedings of the Final Conference, with all DHE specification documents, report of the pilot implementations and implementation guidelines.

3. **COMPANIES:** Two clusters which are members of the project consortium will inform its members (companies) about new Dual system of Higher Education in Serbia.

4. **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT (MPNTR):** At the end of the project MPNTR will put all relevant information about DHEM on its web site. Through continued collaboration with companies, HEIs and other stakeholders, MPNTR will continuously supervise implementation of DHEM.

5. **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION (NCHE):** As project partner authorized by Law for setting accreditation criteria, NCHE will establish the accreditation standards for DHE in Serbia. Through cooperation with HEIs and MPNTR, NCHE will monitor implementation and results of DHE in Serbia.

6. **ACCREDITATION COMMISSION:** The consortium will inform the Accreditation Commission about the proposed accreditation criteria for DHE studies, as one of outcomes of the project. The Accreditation Commission will be invited to participate in the Final Conference and discussion forums in order to be involved into the process of establishing accreditation criteria.

7. **NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AGENCY:** It will be invited to the Final Conference in order to be informed about the benefits that Dual Education studies may have on the employment.

8. **GENERAL PUBLIC:** All HEIs and companies involved in DHE system will promote DHE and provide appropriate marketing campaigns, as this is in their interest.

Statistics and Indicators

Type of equipment:

- ☐ books and pedagogic material
- ☒ audio-visual equipment
- ☒ Computers and software
- ☒ lab material
- ☒ Other

For Curriculum Development projects

☐ Yes

Level of new/updated courses:

- ☐ Short cycle
- ☐ 1st Cycle (e.g. Bachelor)
- ☐ 2nd Cycle (e.g. Master)
- ☐ 3rd Cycle (e.g. Doctoral)

☐ Vocational Education and Training

Type of recognition:

- ☐ HEI Degree
- ☐ National degree
- ☐ Multiple Degree
- ☐ Joint Degree

Volume (in ECTS) of new/updated courses

The new study programme includes:

- ☐ Placements/internships for students
- ☐ Career orientation service
- ☐ Career development measures

Number of learners / trainees enrolled (per intake / course delivery)

Type of skills/competence developed:

- ☐ Transversal/behavioural skills
- ☐ Technical /academic /scientific / research skills
- ☐ Linguistic competences

% of the new curriculum taught in foreign language of the the total of new curriculum developed by the project

For Training/Mobility Activities

Number of partner country "HEIs' students" trained

23

Number of partner country "HEIs' academic staff" trained

96

Number of partner country "HEIs' administrative staff" trained

20

Number of partner country "non-HEI individuals" trained (priv. sector, NGOs, civil servants, etc.)

113

IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Impact at individual level

Extent of attention given to vulnerable groups

to a high extent

Number of direct beneficiaries in the Partner country(ies) per year: academic staff from HEIs

80

Number of direct beneficiaries in the PCs (/year): administrative staff from HEIs

7

Number of direct beneficiaries in the PCs (/year): HE students

70

Number of direct beneficiaries in the PCs (/year): non HE individuals

67

Impact at institutional level

Extent of impact at institutional level: for instance new courses / strategies (policies, regulations) / services (units, centres)

to a very high extent

Potential of planned project measures to contribute to new national cooperation activities in the Partner countries HEIs as a result of the project (Memorandum of Understanding /research projects / joint publications /participation in networks or associations etc.)

to a high extent

Potential of project to contribute to new international cooperation activities in the Partner countries HEIs as a result of the project (international agreements / Memorandum of Understanding / research projects / joint publications / participation in networks or associations, etc.)

to a small extent

Impact on the HE Sector

Potential of project to contribute to new (/updated) national or regional policies / laws / regulations in HE

totally accomplished

Potential of project to contribute to the establishment (/ further development) of external bodies (/associations /agencies)

to a high extent

Potential of project to contribute to improve the excellence / competitiveness / attractiveness of the Higher Education institutions

totally accomplished

Innovative character of the planned results (i.e. the courses developed; the new tools, services, procedures delivered; the strategies implemented for reaching the target groups; etc.)

totally accomplished

Impact on the society as a whole

Potential of the project to pay particular attention to least developed countries

totally accomplished

Potential of the project to engage Partner Countries HEIs in new means of cooperation with employers and other stakeholders (e.g. NGOs, associations, etc.)

totally accomplished

Measures contributing to improving lifelong learning approaches in the Partner Country HEIs

totally accomplished

Sustainability

Institutional support for Partner Country HEIs to sustain project results

totally accomplished

Measures to collect Sources of financial (/logistic) support for sustaining the project results from:

- ☒ Partner HEIs
- ☒ Public authorities in Partner countries
- ☒ NGOs
- ☒ Private sector
- ☐ European Union
- ☐ Other

QUALITY OF PARTNERSHIP & COOPERATION

Involvement of students in the project implementation

to a very high extent

Involvement of non-educational stakeholders in the project implementation

totally accomplished

RELEVANCE in relation to project objectives

To what extent the project contributes to the policy objectives of the Partner Countries

totally accomplished

Project potential to promote EU's horizontal policies

- ☐ Agriculture, fisheries and foods
- ☒ Business
- ☐ Climate action
- ☐ Cross-cutting policies
- ☒ Culture, education and youth
- ☐ Economy, finance and tax
- ☒ Employment and social rights
- ☐ Energy and natural resources
- ☐ Environment, consumers and health
- ☐ External relations and foreign affairs
- ☐ Justice, home affairs and citizens' rights
- ☒ Regions and local development
- ☒ Science and technology
- ☐ Transport and travel

Meetings, Training and Mobilities

Meetings, Trainings and Mobilities

Estimated dates of consortium meetings until the end of the projects

Venue country	Venue city	Date of Meeting
Serbia	Novi Sad	17/06/2019
Serbia	Kragujevac	24/09/2019
Serbia	Novi Pazar	17/12/2019
Serbia	Niš	24/03/2020
Serbia	Niš	02/06/2020
	Belgrade	01/10/2020

Training and Mobilities

Event	Purpose	Type of participants	Gender	Number	Country of Origin	Country of destination	Duration (in weeks)	%compared to objectives
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Attachments

Type of File	Name of the File
Budget Table	Annex_vi_-_financial_statement DUALEDU INTERIM.xlsm
Declaration of Honour	Declaration of Honour UB.pdf
Table of achieved results	annex_c_table_of_achieved_planned_results_DUALEDU INTERIM.docx
Dissemination/Exploitation Plan	Deliverable_6.1_Dissemination_and_Exploitation_plan_v_3.1.pdf
Quality Assurance Plan	DualEdu_Quality_Control_and_Monitoring_Manual.pdf
Report Special Mobility Strand	
Request for Payment	UB DualEdu - Request and Financial Statement INTERIM signed and stamped.pdf