



Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Tempus & Bilateral Cooperation with Industrialised Countries

Brussels, 21.01.2010

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**Subject: Tempus IV 2nd Call for Proposals EAC/01/2009 - Proposal 159074-
TEMPUS-1-2009-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR - Grant agreement 2009-4933**

Dear Sir,

You have recently received the Grant Agreement for the implementation of your Tempus IV proposal. Again, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to you and to the members of your consortium.

As previously announced, please find enclosed the experts' comments and recommendations for your proposal which were collected during the various steps of the selection procedure. We hope that these constructive comments regarding potential improvements to your project will add to its positive and effective implementation.

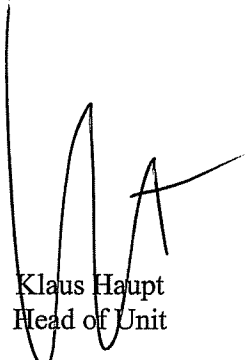
You may also find requests to clarify certain aspects of your project in the framework of your progress reports or explanations on specific Tempus contractual rules and approaches that might be important for your project implementation. We ask you to please note these recommendations and actively follow them during the life of the project.

A copy of this letter will be sent to all the National Tempus Offices and National Contact Points in the countries of the partners involved in the project. You should take contact with the office in your country, as they can provide advice and assistance in the management of Tempus projects. The contact details are listed on the Tempus website.

Also enclosed is a VAT document that enables you to benefit from tax exemption when purchasing equipment in the framework of your project.

We look forward to a fruitful collaboration.

With my best wishes,


Klaus Haupt
Head of Unit

Annexes: Experts' recommendations and VAT exemption document
CC: Relevant NTOs and NCPs

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency
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Proposal number:	159074-TEMPUS-1-2009-1-RS-TEMPUS-JPCR
Proposal title:	Education Policy Study Programme in Serbia and Montenegro (E.P.S.P)
Coordinator:	Mr. Dusan TEODOROVIC
Applicant organisation:	UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

Award Criteria

Relevance

The need to develop postgraduate curricula in education policy and to provide a new calibre of professionals to contribute to the education reform process in the partner countries has been demonstrated. The content of the planned curricula is to be adapted to local conditions and requirements and will be interdisciplinary reflecting the complex skill set required. The focus of the project is listed as a regional priority for Joint Projects in the partner countries. The consortium has been established through past experience in Tempus projects. The project seeks to build upon and indeed use some of the outputs from previous projects. The EU members of the consortium are Higher Education Institutions and in both partner countries the Ministry of Education is included. The project has a strong national dimension through its objective of promoting education reform at different levels in the partner countries. Thus, the reach of the project extends beyond the participating institutions and should impact positively on different groups within and between the partner countries.

Financial and Operating Capacity

The consortium consists of universities from 3 EU countries (Slovenia, Denmark and Belgium), 3 universities from Serbia and one from Montenegro, a non-governmental organisation with expertise in education, Ministries of Education and a local education authority from the two partner countries. The lead applicant has significant experience of managing Tempus and other EU funded projects. The consortium has strong technical expertise and capacity to develop the planned Masters and PhD courses. The project has a well defined capacity-building component which is appropriate and necessary for the achievement of the planned outputs. Thus, the project will not only develop postgraduate curricula in Education Policy but also the skills of project staff and others within the participating partner country higher education institutions to promote innovation in the content and its delivery.

Methodology

The objectives are well defined and the project structure is appropriate to achieve these within the planned time frame. The logical framework matrix provides a clear overview of the project and the main activities are well sequenced in the Work plan. The descriptions in the activity table provide a good understanding of the specific content of the different activities and the role and responsibilities of the individual partners are identified. The plans for management, quality control and dissemination are well described, clear and realistic. There is a fair distribution of tasks between the partners and responsibility at the institutional level has been devolved and similarly shared. The relevance of the project could be improved by increasing the active participation of the Ministry of Education from both partner countries in more of the planned activities. Similarly, the way that stakeholders are to be involved in the various conferences and other dissemination activities should be specified.

Sustainability

The sustainability plan draws on the commitment at both the institutional and individual levels coupled with the real identified need for the planned postgraduate curricula. This will be supported by a dissemination plan which involves different activities over the project life. The quality control process has appropriate indicators and benchmarks which should ensure the relevance and quality of the planned training materials and programmes. Greater participation by the Ministry of Education would secure increased support at the policy-making level and contribute to the sustainability of the project outputs in the longer term. This would also multiply the impact on policy-making in education at the national level.

Budget and Cost Effectiveness

The staff costs that have been applied seem appropriate by country and, in general, information on how these were calculated is clearly provided. The equipment requested is appropriate to the achievement of the project outputs and mobility has been used to ensure the efficient transfer of expertise between the EU and partner country participants. Indirect costs are not specified. The allocations made to the individual participating institutions reflect the extent of their participation in the different planned activities.

Conclusions

General Comment(s):

The project is in line with the Tempus programme objectives and regional priorities for the West Balkans for the modernisation of curriculum. It is supported by the relevant governmental authorities who will support the accreditation of the new curricula and their sustainability. The partnership possesses strong technical expertise to deliver the project effectively and significant experience in project management. An appropriate management structure is in place and clear indicators for quality review and control have been established. The work plan and logical framework matrix are well devised with appropriate activities that would promote the development of quality training materials and programmes.

Recommendation(s):

Given the stated link of the project to policy-making in education at different levels, the relevance could be improved by increasing the participation of the Ministry of Education in the partner countries. In your next Implementation Report, please explain how cooperation with this group of stakeholders can be structured and sustained during and after the project. A better definition of the stakeholder target groups would contribute not only to the relevance of the postgraduate curricula, but also to their sustainability in the longer term. This will also increase the impact and sustainability of the planned outputs. Appropriate measures should be taken from the start in order to achieve the employability of future students after they obtain MA or PhD degree. If it is possible, it would be useful to establish MA and PhD programme not only at University of Belgrade but at the University of Novi Sad too (at least MA in Education Policy).



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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The European Commission confirms that the Joint Project

Number of the Agreement: **2009-4933**

Title: *"Education Policy Study Programme in Serbia and Montenegro (E.P.S.P)"*

having as partners the following consortium members:

- Center for Education Policy, Belgrade (RS)
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven (BE)
- Ministry of Education and Science in Montenegro, Podgorica (ME)
- Ministry of Education Serbia, Belgrade (RS)
- Provincial Department for Education of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Novi Sad (RS)
- University of Aarhus, Copenhagen (DK)
- University of Belgrade, Belgrade (RS)
- University of Kragujevac, Jagodina (RS)
- University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana (SI)
- University of Montenegro, Podgorica (ME)
- University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad (RS)

is awarded a grant in the framework of the Tempus Programme (Trans-European Cooperation Scheme for Higher Education).

Acquisition, delivery and installation of equipment and services provided for the above-mentioned consortium members in the Partner Countries are part of the Joint European Project (appfin)

Therefore all equipment purchased and provision of services **in the Partner Countries** are exempt from taxes (including VAT), duties and charges (such as customs and import duties), if a Common Framework Agreement ("Financing Agreement") has been signed between the European Commission and the **Partner Country**.

The present certificate cannot be used to purchase equipment or services exempt from taxes (including VAT) within the European Union. However, equipment purchased within the EU with a view to being immediately exported to Partner Countries in the framework of the Tempus programme may be exempted from taxes (including VAT), duties and charges in accordance with the normal rules.

Brussels,

Klaus Haupt
Head of Unit