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Priorities and possibilities
for cooperation with the
Western Balkans

Current trends and challenges

NEO Serbia

**Central European Joint Infoday on Centralized
Actions, Bratislava, 26-27 Nov 2015**



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Some figures on Serbian HE system

- 242 848 students enrolled in 2013/2014 academic year
- 15 accredited universities + two that have some accredited study programmes
- 65 colleges of applied studies and 6 (academic) colleges
- 1553 study programmes accredited during the first accreditation cycle
- National Commission for Accreditation and Quality Control is a member of ENQA
- *individual faculties mostly act as legal bodies, integrative functions are being developed and gradually applied.*

Please note that only universities and other independent legal entities can participate in the Erasmus+ programme



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Western Balkans in Erasmus+ 2016 call for proposals

Opportunities for Higher Education:

- 1. Capacity building in Higher Education -regional allocation for projects**
- 1. International Credit Mobility - regional allocation for projects**
- 2. Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees**
- 3. “conditional” participation in other parts of E+**
- 4. Jean Monnet**



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Capacity building in Higher Education (former Tempus)

- ✓ Modernisation of HE system and its opening to the world of work
- ✓ Building capacity of teaching staff
- ✓ Purchasing valuable equipment
- ✓ Mobility opportunities for students and staff



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Capacity building in Higher Education

it is important to bear in mind ...
**national and regional priorities for
projects**





CBHE Priorities – Categories/Themes – part I

Themes Categories	Curriculum Development	Governance and Management	Higher Education and Society
A. Subject Areas	X		
B. Improving quality of education and training	X	X	X
C. Improving Management and operation of HEIs		X	
D. Developing the HE sector within society at large			X



CBHE Priorities – Categories/Themes – part II

	Type of Activities		
Type of projects	Modernisation of curriculum by developing new and innovative courses and methodologies	Modernisation of governance, management and functioning of higher education	Strengthening of relations between higher education and the wider economic and social environment
Joint Projects	Categories A, B	Categories B, C	Categories B, D
Structural Projects	/	Categories B, C	Categories B, D



CBHE Priorities – RS National /WB Regional - part III

	National priorities	Regional priorities
<p>Category A Subject areas for Curriculum development</p>	<p>Teacher training and education science</p> <p>Journalism and information</p> <p>Business and administration</p> <p>Law</p> <p>Computing</p> <p>Manufacturing and processing</p> <p>Social services</p> <p>Environmental protection</p> <p>Security services</p> <p>Others (Multidisciplinary, Interdisciplinary)</p>	<p>Teacher training and education science</p> <p>Physical sciences</p> <p>Engineering and engineering trades</p> <p>Agriculture, forestry and fishery</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Transport services</p> <p>Environmental protection</p>



Examples of study programmes/modules developed in projects with SK partners

- *Energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and environmental impacts-master study(regional)*
- *Reshaping of Agricultural Vocational Studies in the Western Balkans (regional)*
- *Improvement of product development studies in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- *Development and Improvement of Automotive and Urban Engineering Studies in Serbia*
- *Master programme in applied statistics*



CBHE Priorities – RS National /WB Regional – part IV

	National priorities	Regional priorities
Category B Improving quality of education and teaching	Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches including learning outcomes and ICT-based practices (inter alia, flexible learning paths, blended courses, virtual and real mobility, practical placements etc.)	Learning and teaching tools, methodologies and pedagogical approaches including learning outcomes and ICT-based practices (inter alia, flexible learning paths, blended courses, virtual and real mobility, practical placements etc.)



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CBHE Priorities – RS National/WB Regional – Part V

	National priorities	Regional priorities
Category C Improving management and operation of higher education institutions	University services such as support services for student and staff mobility, such as student counselling and guidance, social services, academic affairs, libraries, etc.	Governance, strategic planning and management of higher education institutions (including human resource and financial management)
	Quality assurance processes and mechanisms	Internationalisation of higher education institutions (including recognition mechanisms and mobility, international relations capacities)
	Development of research and innovative capacities (excluding research activities)	Access to and democratisation of higher education (including the disadvantaged groups of people and regions)



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Examples of Tempus projects implemented with SK partners

- *Internal Quality Assurance at Serbian Universities*
- *Education and Training of Institutions in Quality Management and Metrology*



CBHE Priorities – RS National/ WBRegional – Part VI

	National priorities	Regional priorities
Category D Developing the Higher Education sector within society at large	Non-University sector at tertiary education level	Non-University sector at tertiary education level
		University-enterprise cooperation, entrepreneurship and employability of graduates
	Definition, implementation and monitoring of the reform policies	Qualification frameworks and recognition of qualifications
		Definition, implementation and monitoring of the reform policies



Examples of Tempus projects implemented with SK partners

- *Development of higher education and society by creating a collaborative environment in the field of arts and media through regional student partnership in production of audio/video content (regional)*
- *Network for education and training for public environmental laboratories (regional)*
- *Development of Policy-Oriented Training Programmes in the Context of the European Integration (regional)*
- *Improvement of partnership with enterprises by enhancement of a regional quality management potentials in WBC*



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Serbia: national needs, according to the Action plan for implementation of Strategy on Education Development

- Systematic follow up of HE effectiveness – indicators and procedures
- Trainings of HE staff – introduction into the profession, recruitment procedures, election and advancement
- Fostering of entrepreneurial aspect of universities
- Internationalization of study programmes
- Improvement of competences of staff who teach at applied studies



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Serbia: national needs, according to the Action plan for implementation of Strategy on Education Development

- Introduction of part time studies
- Systematic use of quality indicators
- Decreasing drop out from HE
- Improvement of teaching methodology and use of learning outcomes approach



NEO Serbia general observations concerning CBHE project proposals

- ✓ Need for real involvements of relevant authorities/ministries, social partners, stakeholders, companies, enterprises
- ✓ Effective involvement of students/ student representative bodies
- ✓ Insistence on cost-effectiveness and wider impact – especially in respect of target groups (and bearing in mind a project budget)
- ✓ Capacity/level of institutions for addressing certain topics of the projects
- ✓ Sustainability of results
- ✓ Overlapping with current or previous Tempus or other EU funding needs to be avoided, please consult data bases which provide information on all Tempus projects and their results in Serbia



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Procedure for involvement of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development

Request for cooperation in CBHE project, to the Ministry of Education is to be submitted by a deadline (expected after the Call is published) by e-mail to razvoj@mpn.gov.rs (please put neo_serbia@tempus.ac.rs in copy)

The role of the Ministry needs to be clearly described and the links with the Strategy on Education Development and its Draft Action plan

Basic data about the project proposal need to be provided to the Ministry- a short overview with objectives and expected outputs, planned overall budget, list of project partners



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Important documents for project planning

<http://erasmusplus.rs/important-for-project-contents/national-documents/>

- Strategy on Education Development
- Action plan
- Law on Higher Education and other education laws
- List of important institutions and organisations

Description of the Serbian education system available at Eurydice:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Serbia:Overview>

It is very important that the project supports the national policies relevant for HE reform



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International Credit mobility

Bilateral projects – programme and partner countries

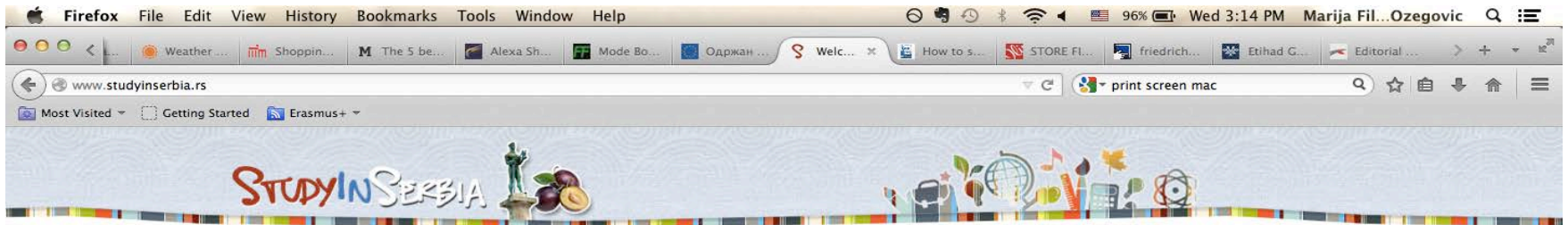
- ✓ **project applications submitted by programme countries to their NAs**
- ✓ Interinstitutional agreements as a basis for organisation of mobility
- ✓ Principles of Erasmus charter respected by partner countries, too !





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Useful for mobility projects - www.studyinserbia.rs



Welcome to Study in Serbia Your gateway to Serbian education



I'm looking for

Institution Programme

Institution title

Type

Welcome to Study in Serbia

DEC
28
2013

Study in Serbia, a database of learning opportunities in Serbia for foreign students provides foreign students interested in studying in Serbia with an opportunity to find courses available in foreign languages as well as courses which provide additional opportunities for foreign exchange students, such as consultations in English or language classes. Furthermore, Study in Serbia also helps foreign students learn more about Serbian education system, and find practical information which will be very useful



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Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

- WB universities cannot make the minimum consortium of three universities from programme countries, but can act as additional members contributing the quality of consortium
- Challenge of interdisciplinarity mixed with cross-border cooperation + organisational aspects
- Opportunities to “test” programmes developed through earlier projects (perhaps in Tempus)





“conditional” participation –

necessity for WB institutions to explain how that they can bring added value to a consortium:

- ❖ Knowledge Alliances (EACEA)
- ❖ Sectoral Skills Alliances (EACEA)
- ❖ Strategic Partnerships –(NAs)



Useful resources

- For checking overlapping with previously funded EU projects <http://projects.tempus.ac.rs/>
- Brochure: Serbia-Opportunities for Cooperation
<http://erasmusplus.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Serbia-Opportunities-for-Cooperation.pdf>
- Leaflet on National and Regional Priorities relevant for CBHE projects
<http://erasmusplus.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Serbia-in-ErasmusPlus-2015-Call-for-Proposals.pdf>
- Data base on learning opportunities in Serbia
www.studyinserbia.rs



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Thank you for your attention!

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