



Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Erasmus+ : Higher Education - International Capacity Building

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**Subject: Project number 544091-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-BE-TEMPUS-JPCR
Intermediate Report on implementation of the project (IR) - Statement of the
costs incurred and Request for Payment**

Dear Mr Van Merode,

We would like to inform you and your project partners that we have carried out the assessment of your Intermediate Report received on 1 June 2015 and we are pleased to inform you that it has been approved. In particular we would like to congratulate you on the results you have produced so far and for the activities you have implemented during this first period.

As you know, two field monitoring visits of your project have taken place during the last academic year: one on 7 November 2014 at the Tbilisi State University in Georgia and another on 12 April 2015 at the Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University in Ukraine. The findings of these visits are also reflected in our assessment. We take this opportunity to thank you and your colleagues at the Georgian and Ukrainian partner institutions for all the information provided during these monitoring visits to the representatives of our National Erasmus+ Offices.

We were happy to note that your project is progressing according to plans and that an efficient cooperation has been established between the project partners. The monitoring visits in particular showed that there is a good communication between the consortium members and that project related decision are taken together. We also understood that partnership agreements have been signed and that project related procedures are clear to the partners. Furthermore, we were happy to learn that concrete quality assurance measures have been put in place at institutional, national and project level.

As far as the project activities are concerned, we take note that the surveys addressed to students, teachers and local industries have been carried out and have resulted in reports on the

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competences needed in the field of embedded systems engineering. We also note that the development of three thematic modules and six courses to be implemented at the universities in Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine was about to be finalised at the stage of submitting your report, and that some partners will create full new study programmes on this basis. We understand that the new courses / programmes will be particularly relevant in these countries, as there is a high demand for specialists in embedded systems. We also appreciate that the introduction of the new courses is being supported by staff training activities and that support is provided via video-tutorials on how to use Moodle for the creation of e-courses.

Furthermore, we very much appreciate that strong links have been established with local companies in the Partner Countries and that University-Enterprise Contact Groups have been set up at each partner institution. We also consider as good practice that the project has given the possibility to non-consortium member universities to join project activities at their own costs, and take note that for the moment already three universities have expressed their interest to be involved.

Finally, we were happy to learn that some concrete plans and agreements are already in place in order to continue the cooperation between consortium members after the end of the project lifetime. We also take note that you have submitted applications for Erasmus+ Credit Mobility with the Ukrainian partners and hope that similar exchanges will be planned also with partners in Armenia and Georgia.

On the basis of our analysis of your report, we would like to make the following remarks, which we hope you will take into consideration during the implementation of the last part of your project. We would also like to receive detailed information on your follow-up of these comments in your final report.

- We take note that most of the equipment has already been delivered to the partner universities and hope that the rest of the purchases will be finalised as soon as possible.
- As far as dissemination is concerned, we positively note the many types of activities and publications that have been used to inform stakeholders about the project activities. We also appreciate that many project related documents and presentations are available on the project website and we hope that you will continue with this practice. In particular, we recommend that you publish the results of the surveys carried out in the beginning of the project, as well as any other relevant project outputs.
- We take note that the number of staff members trained through the project is particularly high in Ukraine, while the numbers are lower in Georgia and even more so in Armenia. We hope that further staff training opportunities will be offered at national level in order to increase the number of persons benefitting from the project.

In addition, further to the field monitoring visit in Georgia and Ukraine, we would like to make some specific recommendations concerning the participation of the partner institutions in these countries. We realise that some of these recommendations might have already been followed-up as a result of the visits.

In Ukraine:

- In the development of the new modules, the National Erasmus+ Office in Ukraine recommends using materials developed by the Ukrainian Higher Education Reform Expert team and which are in line with the new Law on Higher Education. These can be found at:
<http://erasmusplus.org.ua/erasmus/ka3-pidtrymka-reform/natsionalna-komanda-ekspertiv-here/zakhody-i-materialy.html>

- For a more effective external dissemination, the project could make use of the 5th Channel “Window to Europe” programme, as well as the website of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Higher Education Portal (<http://vnz.org.ua>) and other relevant websites.
- Tempus visibility rules should be respected in all dissemination activities.

In Georgia:

- It is recommended to consider the possibility of developing a joint Master programme involving both Georgian partner universities (Tbilisi State University and the Georgian Technical University).
- Whichever option is chosen for the future Master (joint programme or single Master programme at Georgian Technical University) it is recommended to launch as early as possible the preparation for programme accreditation.


Finally, we would like to thank you for your Request for Payment and Statement of the Costs incurred received on 1 June 2015.

We are pleased to inform you that, on the basis of the information provided in the above mentioned form, the requirements foreseen by Article I.4.1 of the Grant Agreement have been met. Therefore, you may expect payment of a further pre-financing, corresponding to 30% of the maximum grant amount (please refer to Article I.3 of your Grant Agreement), within 45 days of the date of this letter.

Should you require any further information, please contact Hélène Banegas (Tel: +32 2 29 98525, e-mail: eacea-tempus-project-management@ec.europa.eu). We also encourage you to regularly consult our Tempus website <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus>.

We wish you a successful continuation of your activities.

Yours sincerely,



Ralf RAHDERS
Head of Unit

Copy: NEOs AM, GE, UA

