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**Priorities and possibilities
for cooperation with the
Western Balkans**

Current trends and challenges

NEO Serbia

**EU-HE Cooperation between Germany and
Western Balkan region, Belgrade, 23-24 Sept 2015**



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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**
- 2. International Credit Mobility - regional allocation for projects**
- 3. Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees**
- 4. "conditional" participation in other parts of E+**
- 5. 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>



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

- *Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy Sources and Environmental Impact (regional)*
- *Product Development Studies (regional)*
- *Environment and Resources Engineering (regional)*
- *Environmental Chemistry*
- *Material and Energy Flows Management*
- *European Studies*
- *South-East Europe Studies*
- *Human Rights Courses (regional)*



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 past Tempus projects implemented with DE partners

- *Conducting Graduate Surveys and Improving Alumni Services ...*
- *International Accreditation of Engineering Studies*
- *Modernisation and Reconstruction of University Management and Structure*
- *Fostering University Support Services and Procedures for Full Participation in the EHEA*



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



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Examples of Tempus projects implemented with DE partners

- *Fostering students' entrepreneurship and open innovation in university-industry collaboration*
- *Modernization of WBC universities through strengthening of structures and services for knowledge transfer, research and innovation*
- *National Platform for Knowledge Triangle in Serbia*
- *Creation of university-enterprise cooperation networks for education on sustainable technologies*



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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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 in Eurydice webgate:

<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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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
- *Introduction of part time studies*



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

...

- *Systematic use of quality indicators*
- *Decreasing drop out from HE*
- *Improvement of teaching methodology and use of learning outcomes approach*



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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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International Credit mobility

Bilateral projects – programme and partner countries

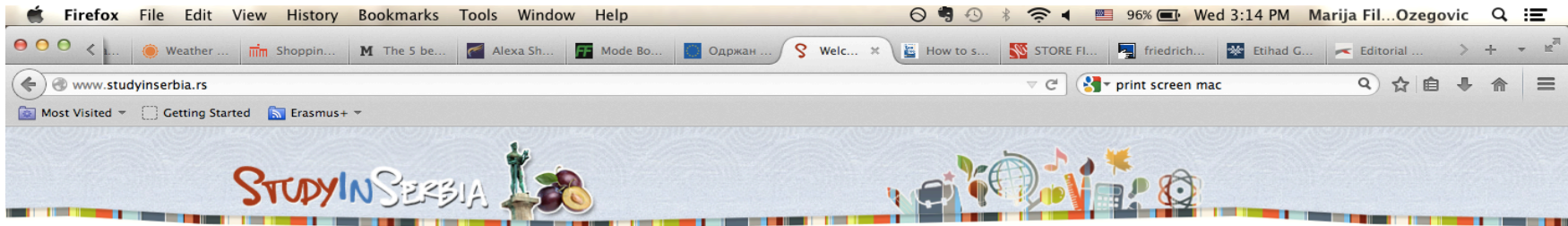
- ✓ **project applications submitted by programme countries to their NAs**
- ✓ Interinstitutional agreements as a basis for organisation of mobility
- ✓ Principles of Erasmus charter respected by partner countries, too !



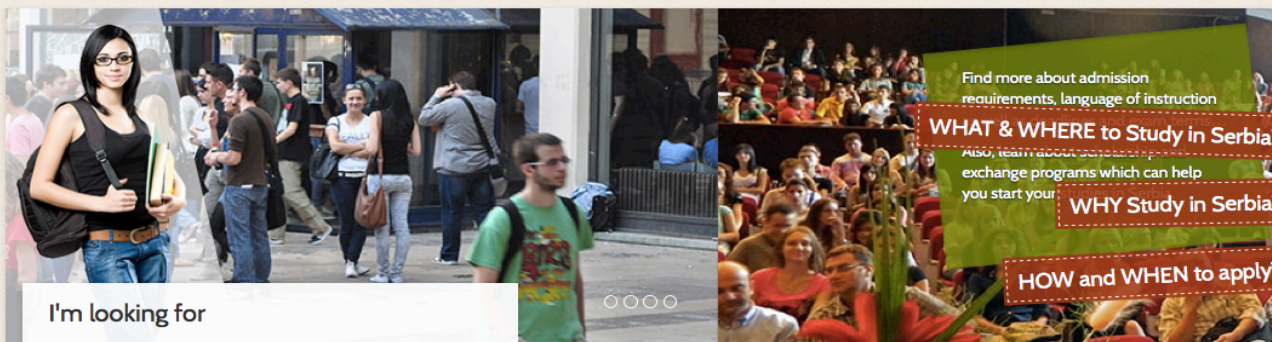


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Useful for mobility projects - www.studyinserbia.rs



Welcome to Study in Serbia Your gateway to Serbian education



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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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
- **Accommodation:** 17.184 places in student centers (866 from vulnerable social groups); including meals

Remark: 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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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!

National Erasmus+ Office in Serbia

Tel: +381 11 3342 430,
+381 11 3342 432

E-mail: neo_serbia@erasmusplus.rs
www.erasmusplus.rs

