



FINDINGS FOR FUTURE CO-OPERATION IN PROJECTS

Project: BACID – Sustainable Cities

Date: 17.6.2019

During the personal meetings in Kragujevac with the Dean and Vice-dean of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Kragujevac, the project team members of the faculty of Engineering of the University of Kragujevac and with the head of the Regional Development Agency of the region of Šumadija and Pomoravlje, as well as during several on-line project meetings with the project team the following areas of common interest were identified, where the involved parties will work on developing further educational projects.

1. TVET

Vocational education is an important topic for the region, as several international companies established operations in the area (eg. Siemens, Fiat,...) and are facing lack of qualified work-force, as Serbia is a) experiencing emigration of qualified workers, and b) the vocational school system fails to produce qualified work-force in sufficient numbers. Of course also domestic companies are facing the same problems.

Therefore it was concluded, to find partners and a funding source (eg. ADA) to establish TVET Academy for certain professions, similar to the already established Tech AK in Niš (financed by ADA), which educates jobless people for certain professions in the automotive industry, in a way, that the trainees are having not only theoretical education, but to a high extent also practical training in the companies that are supporting the project. In this way, the trainees rather quickly obtain the necessary skills for doing their future job. A potential partner for this project would be the Polytechnical school in Kragujevac, which is very interested in improving the trainings to meet the expectations of the labour market.

The professional areas to be covered by the TVET Academy are: CNC, welding, car mechanics and other technical professions.

Ipcenter.at GmbH already contacted company Siemens, which has opened a operation in Kragujevac recently, to evaluate, whether they will be interested to join a project.

	<p>2. Digital competencies</p> <p>There is also the need to include up-to-date digital skills in the curriculum of vocational schools / training institutions / Universities. As the production processes and technologies are changing very quickly (automatization, robotics or 3D-printing), this fact has also to be reflected in the curriculum of the respective training institutions. Ipcenter.at GmbH has participated in developing several projects from this area, which have been submitted recently and are waiting approval from the donor-organisations (eg. Erasmus +, Interreg). A future project would be about: modernization of VET Curricula for technical professions, new skills needed on the labour market for Industry 4.0, improvement of quality and relevance of the vocational education. Besides that, also the necessary equipment (machinery, training equipment) for the schools/training providers has to be taken into consideration, to be able to offer up to date training</p>		
	<p>3. Entrepreneurship training for technical HEI´s</p> <p>As it is often the case, that for example students of technical professions, who are potential future entrepreneurs, do not receive adequate entrepreneurial education during their studies, another project idea is to introduce a Start-Up training curriculum, which gives the opportunity to acquire the respective skills in a simulated environment. The goal of the project is to provide a curriculum where the students are taught how to establish a Start-Up company, including all the necessary phases, like developing the Business idea, SWOT analysis, marketing plan, financing,..... The project foresees also running a Simulated Enterprise for one semester on the SE platform EUROPEN, where the students are mentored by the professors. The project can also include an educative game, which is used for knowledge transfer in a motivating, playful way.</p>		
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