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SUSTAINABILITY PLAN DRAFT

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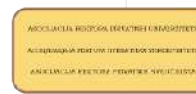
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PARTS OF SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

This sustainability plan for an Erasmus+ project WBNET focused on capacity building for higher education institutions includes measures to ensure the project's long-term impact and effectiveness, based on the following key elements:

1. **The first part** - Summary
2. **The second part – Introduction** with settled sustainability goals
3. **The third part** refers to the Academic plan of the Higher Education Institution of the WB (HEI plan), followed by **sustainability goals for each of the institutions**
4. **The fourth part** is about dissemination activities that will be used for promotion the activities about introduction of new short study cycles
5. **The fifth part** refers to financial sustainability,
6. **The sixth** is conclusion



1. Summary

The overall goal of the WBNET project is to introduce joint short study programs in the higher education institutions (HEIs) of the Western Balkans (WB) in the area of ICT. This will be done through:

- 1) Registration of 4 Centers for short-study programs in WB
- 2) Creation of a curriculum of short study programs in the technical-technological field and registration of a short study program with competent national bodies;
- 3) Implementation of a short study program.

The role of the Centres will be to:

- Analyse the labour market situation and identification of the needs of employers in order to identify the problem - lack of knowledge and skills to perform a specific job that corresponds to higher education in terms of type and level of competence and complexity;
- Creation of a curriculum for short study programs in the technical-technological field, a designed set of subjects and practice/training aimed at ensuring the acquisition of narrower and functionally related knowledge and skills, in order to train participants to perform specific work that corresponds to higher education in terms of type and level of competence and complexity ;
- Registration of a short study program with competent national bodies;
- Implementation of a short study program;
- Keeping records of completed short study programs and issued certificates in accordance with national laws.



2. Introduction

The project overall goal clearly defines the project main beneficiaries and stakeholders, i.e. **target groups** which are the following:

- Students of participating WB HEIs
- Academic staff of participating WB HEIs
- Universities in surroundings,
- Industry partners and business institutions in partner countries including techno-parks, business incubators, foundations for the development of innovative businesses and startups, and similar.
- Individuals willing to up-skill themselves.

Realization is based on **4 main documents**:

1. Grant Agreement,
2. Project Management Plan,
3. Quality Assurance Plan,
4. Dissemination Plan



Common sustainability goals are:

1. Exchanging of knowledge and experience gained during the project with stakeholders and partners from other institutions;
2. Creation and designing of new projects with partners from the project consortium and partners from other universities;
3. Finding new partners for further steps, self-realization and strengthening ties between countries and regions;
4. Attracting local partners and stakeholders into the project implementation for the sustainability of the project;
5. Collaborating with other projects within own universities;
6. Disseminating the project information on nationally and international level;



3. Academic plan for the project life and beyond

- This chapter describes the actions that HEI institutions will undertake to maximize benefits from establishing Centres for short study cycles.
- This plan will ensure that curricula reform is properly implemented and actively used at every partner institution.
- Since every institution has different needs and practices, the HEI plan is created for each institution individually.



Measures:

EACH WB HEI (should choose some or all):

- building strong network with economy,
- creating new short study courses based on economy needs,
- updating existing short study courses,
- establishing labs in line with the designed courses,
- designing programs of professional practices in line with ,
- updating learning materials in accordance with the new/innovated courses
- Creating network with economy stakeholders and citizens in order to better serve market needs
- Maximize the cooperation with existing partners from higher education ecosystem,
- Participate in new partnerships dealing with LLL

* Can be added something new....



4. Dissemination plan for sustainability

- A website dedicated to the WBNET project was created (<https://wbnet.atuss.edu.rs/>).
- This website should serve as a permanent advertising platform.
- All events should also be heavily promoted on social networks.
- Every HEI involved in the project also have a web PAGE dedicated to WB energy stability system curricula reform.
- These PAGES contain information relevant to the project WBNET that the higher education institution uses as well as promote events about WB energy stability system curricula reform and must be updated continuously.



Measures after the project life (suggestions):

Measures that can be taken:

- conduct interviews with teachers and students that are participating in short study cycles *in order to promote examples of good practice.*
- Such activities should be promoted through social platforms as well as HEI websites,
- Promote new/modernized syllabieases for short study cycles through the year – before each new study year

* Can be added something new....



5. Financial sustainability

- Resources, as a prerequisite for work and development of higher education, have been the target or covered topic of many previously carried out reform projects, with a common outcome analysis - higher education in WB countries is inadequately financed and low on the priority list.
- The financial sustainability plan deals with the mechanisms each institution will implement in order to provide resources that are needed for seamless operation and necessary upgrades to the platforms used.
- It is essential that these mechanisms are implemented in a way that will make sure that they are in place even after the official end of the project.
- Listed below are mechanisms/measures each institution can implement.
- Accurate and effective financial management is carried out under the lead of the coordinating institution (ATUSS) and project coordinator.
- The total project budget is distributed among all participants according to signed GA.
- All spending are predicted in a most cost efficient way
- **Financial sustainability goal: to secure a sound administrative, financial and logistical support on HEI in the future;**



Measures:

- **Promotion of cooperation with economy partners in the light of fast getting skills necessary on the labour market;**
 - meetings
 - round tables,
 - Cluster meetings,
 - conferences...
- **Cooperation with competent government bodies** at the national and local level In order to foster and provide support for greater including potential students/partners from remote and rural areas,
- **Providing funds from own revenues for developing new short study cycles or modernize existing to be in line with market demands;**
 - Providing funds from online/face to face trainings/events organized by HEI for the needs of economy,
 - Consultations with all interested parties short study programs area,
- **In kind support/contribution of HEI** (use existing personnel resources, funds);
- **Organize seminars, conferences and symposiums;**
- **Participation in other projects** (national, Erasmus+, Eureka, Horizon, etc).
- * **Something new can be added**



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Questions & Answers

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Network of centers for regional short study programs in the countries of the Western Balkans

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