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Memorandum of Understanding

between

**University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" – Prizren
Faculty of Computer Sciences**

and

evonem LLC

Pristina, August 2021

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" – Prizren
Faculty of Computer Sciences
1 Shkronjat,
20000, Prizren,
Republika e Kosovës**

- hereinafter referred to as "UP-UKSHIN HOTI"

and

**evonem LLC
Çarshia-Marigona Residence
10400 Graçanice
Republic of Kosovo**

- hereinafter referred to as "evonem" -

Preamble

The high level of unemployment is considered as one of the key issues in Kosovo with the youth being twice as likely as other adults to be unemployed (Kosovo Skills and Employment Outlook). While being the country with the youngest population (50% of people under the age of 35), youth unemployment rate assessed at over 50% is perceived to be particularly problematic. On top of that, many Kosovan youths do not have the skills necessary for the jobs that are available with unskilled workers accounting for 60% of total registered job seekers. This suggests that there is a clear mismatch between the education and training systems and the country-specific labor market needs. The education system has been unable to equip youths with a full set of knowledge and skills to match the demand of the labor market. The number of unemployed persons with a university education has also increased, signaling a mismatch between the skills needed in the labor market and those provided by the education system. This can be seen in certain selected sectors, such as in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), where skill gaps deriving from the education system are apparent. Thus, the labor market remains rigid, and there are few job opportunities for young entrants. Also, those employed have difficulties of being re-trained in order to keep the competitive edge, due to high costs of trainings.

The shared skills vision for Kosovo reads: by 2021 Kosovo is a globally competitive knowledge society, with skills that adapt to the needs of the economy, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, and attracting investment for sustainable development and social inclusion.

Young people in Kosovo often enjoy a solid university access or comparable academic education in the IT sector, but in the companies experience in Kosovo, this is often not sufficient to serve customer needs in the international market and to fill relevant jobs in Kosovo. There are not enough educational institutions in Kosovo that provide young IT specialists with market-oriented knowledge and help them to be prepared for the local job market in the short to midterm. As a result, many young academics remain financially dependent on their families or are forced to take advantage of training opportunities abroad. Hence, they are often lost for the labor market in Kosovo, as they take up employment abroad after completing their training and education. This leads to the big problem of brain drain in the region.

Major challenges lie in convincing young people that they do not have to leave their home country to achieve their professional goals. Therefore, EX-CITE is striving to create an institution that offers exactly these opportunities: In the first step, a high-quality, market-oriented education in IT and IT-related professions supported by partner companies and others in Kosovo who are able to provide internships, jobs or projects in the IT sector.

Art. 1) Basis of the Memorandum of Understanding

The basis for this cooperation is the joint project between elpix AG, Consistency GmbH & CoKG, evonem LLC and the GIZ develoPPP.de programme on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development to establish "EX-CITE (Excellence Center for IT Education)" as a new training provider for IT and IT related skills in Kosovo. EX-CITE has the primary goals to professionalize the IT sector in Kosovo by training young professionals and graduates in IT and IT related skills that are relevant for successful careers in IT related surroundings.

The project goals are in full alignment with the ideas of the Kosovar government on economic development as manifested by the objective of the National IT strategy.

Our goal is to establish EX-CITE as an independent training provider in the region (own contents with own trainers) and as a training platform on the regional market for external trainings providers. Due to the demographic composition of the regional population (very young average age), the need for trainings for young academics will also be present in upcoming years, which will ensure a high demand for the services in the long run.

The project contributes to the following sustainable development goals:

- Quality Education – Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;
- Decent work and economic growth - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; and
- Partnerships for the goals - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Art. 2) Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding

Evonem and its partner organizations elpix and consistency are planning to set up a regional provider for professional IT and IT related trainings. EX-CITE serves as the joint project to work towards this goal. In order to establish EX-CITE as a brand and reputable training provider in Kosovo and the region, we are looking for local and regional partners that can benefit from the services EX-CITE provides and on the other side support EX-CITE in being promoted and being established especially among students and young professionals.

Art. 3) Contributions by EX-CITE, represented by evonem and partners

EX-CITE develops and implements training courses in IT and IT related topics targeting graduates and young professionals with the goal to start or improve their career opportunities in IT related professions. EX-CITE promotes classes and brings on experienced trainers from their partner companies (Initially) as well as own trainers in the future.

1. Hence, EX-CITE contributes to the cooperation with "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" as a training provider for skills development of young professionals and students from "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" by providing:
 - 10 scholarships for SCRUM – Agile and 10 scholarships for AWS trainings for academic year 2020-2021
 - 10 scholarships for SCRUM – Agile and 10 scholarships for AWS trainings for academic year 2021-2022
 - 10 scholarships for SCRUM – Agile and 10 scholarships for AWS trainings for academic year 2022-2023
2. For the rest of the students of UP-FECE which will not be selected for scholarship, EX-CITE will give a discount from standard rate of 849,00 Eur to academic rate 249,00 Eur
3. EX-CITE will provide a facilitated premise for each trainings including here catering and lunch.
4. EX-CITE will facilitate all training participants authorized certification path link to the certification process.
5. EX-CITE will provide all training promotional material (hard copy or electronic) for dissemination within the "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" institution.

Art. 4) Contributions by "UP-UKSHIN HOTI"

1. "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" will build scholarship criteria for student applicants for the trainings and manage the process of application and selection.
2. "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" will promote EX-CITE trainings among their students in order to highlight the importance of the training courses.
3. "UP-UKSHIN HOTI" will disseminate EX-CITE provided training promotion material, hard copies and electronic once.

Art. 5) Modification or Termination of the Memorandum

The memorandum, or any of its parts, can be modified or abolished automatically upon entry into force of a law whose scope touches any of the points of this agreement, or other legal acts whose provisions are in violation of this memorandum.

Any potential change of this memorandum will be added as an annex and entered into force upon signature by the representatives of the implementing parties of the memorandum.

Any revision or modification of the Memorandum must be signed by the parties. Each party may withdraw within thirty (30) days after written warning. Warning time will be the date of receipt of the warning letter.

Art. 6) Enter into force

This Agreement enters into force on 01/08/2021 (or: the day of signing by all parties). It can be terminated by each party without the need to give reasons. This memorandum is intended to define the collaboration between evonem and UP-FECE, but not legally binding.

Signing parties

Evonem

Milot Hoxha
CEO
Or

Lulzim Guhelli
Training/Event/PR and
Sales manager

**University of Prizren
"Ukshin Hoti"**

Prof. Asoc.Dr. Samedin Krrabaj
ac. Rector

Faculty of Computer Sciences

Prof. Ass. Dr. Zirije Hasani
ac. Dean

Signature and stamp



Signature and stamp



Signature and stamp

