

## The development and implementation of PhD Curricula in ICT for Kosovo Education System / DI-PHDICTKES

The general aim of this project is to create a national curriculum for PhD Program in ICT, and initially involve in the program three Universities in Kosovo (University of Prishtina, University “Ukshin Hoti” Prizren and, UBT College, and in the future, aim to increase the number of affiliated Universities) with direct involvement of Programme Country institutions (LNU: Linnaeus University, NTNU: Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and SEERC: South East European Center) that have demonstrated long time experience in similar programs.

The Partner Country’s specific objectives are as follows:

1. Establishing a national research school in ICT in Kosovo
2. Establishing a national curriculum for PhD studies in the ICT field with key elements of learning outcomes, goals and skills
3. Increase the research competences of Kosovo staff Universities
4. Facilitate the accreditation process of the individual universities’ PhD programs to appropriate national bodies
5. Implement the national PhD program, register the first generation of graduate students, which will be jointly supervised from Programme and Partner Countries

Kosovo lacks a quality program in ICT education within country. The problem is identified as a shortage of resources - both financial and human. The specific objectives outlined in this project proposal will address the problem by slowly building up the necessary human capital alongside a generous influx of funds that will allow the program to succeed. Specifically, the target groups for this proposal have been identified and each step in the objective-driven plan will meet their needs. For example, a need by the target group of PhD students, is to have access to a national research school with quality elements of learning outcomes, goals and skills in ICT. A need by industry employers, and industry experts is to have access to the graduates of that same national research school. The need of faculty, staff and administration at HEI in Kosovo is to have increased knowledge, skills and abilities appropriate to deliver a quality education in a new ICT PhD curriculum within Kosovo.

The reason this project can succeed is due to the support and participation of the three Programme institutions who have a wealth of experience in this field and in similar, successful projects. In addition, it cannot be ignored that the three Partner institutions within Kosovo also have much to offer to the project in terms of dedication, stakeholder and country empowerment and some comparable experiences. During discussion between the consortium partners, this project has clearly identified and developed a plan that will be successful with building block

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completion points, where each step will support and lead to the next, creating a strong foundation for our project to thrive.

Furthermore, this project has included the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Kosovo, Accreditation Agency of Kosovo, and the Industry in order to support the sustainability of the project, and to create synergy of all potential stakeholders in the aspiration of this project for the public good.

Universities



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