



**STAFFORDSHIRE
UNIVERSITY**

Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development in
Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia

145061-Tempus-2008-UK-JPHES

NEWSLETTER No. 2

November 2011

Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia

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This is the second Newsletter of this Project which will summarise the activities and achievements of the project since the first newsletter in January 2010, up to the end of August 2011, leaving the final year of the project to be reported in the third newsletter.

EXTENSION TO THE PROJECT PERIOD

Following an application to the European Commission, permission was given for the project period to be extended from mid-January to mid-July 2012. The reason for our request was so that the two cohorts of students on the MA Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development in Kosovo and Macedonia would be able to finish the taught part of their courses and benefit from EU staff who would teach a part of each module, and whose visits would be funded by the Tempus project. Also, that there will be enough time to run the Training Programme in Albania and Macedonia.

Second Workshop

In April 2010 we held the second workshop of the Project in Tirana, this time exploring the operation of PhD programmes, emphasising the mentoring of PhD candidates. This Workshop was arranged followed a suggestion made by partners from Albania and Macedonia at the first Workshop in March 2009:

Present at the meeting:

From the EU side: Prof Iraj Hashi, Prof Nick Adnett, Mrs Jenny Herbert (SU, UK), Prof Heinz-Dieter Wenzel, Mr Juergen Gilke (Bamberg, DE), Prof Giuseppe Canullo (UPMA, IT)

From the partner country side: A total of 75 persons from 7 of the 9 partner institutions attended the Workshop, including the Rector, Dean, Vice Dean and staff of the University of Tirana (AL), the Vice-Rector and staff of the University of Elbasan (AL), the Rector, Vice-Rector and staff of South East European University, Tetovo (MK), Deans, Vice Deans and staff of the Agricultural University of Tirana (AL), State University of Tetovo (MK), the University of Prishtina, and AAB-Riinvest University (XK).

Mentoring PhD Students under the New Style Doctoral Programmes

Tirana, April 9 – 10, 2010

Workshop Programme

Friday, April 9th 2010

09:00 - 09:15 Welcome: Plan of the Symposium

09:15 -10:45 Session 1: Recent Trends in European Doctoral Programmes

Prof. Nick Adnett, Head of Research, Staffordshire University Business School, UK
What is a PhD? The emphasis upon transferable skills and the need for trained and research active mentors. What are the key stages of the PhD process?

COFFEE

11:15 – 12:45 Session 2: Recent Trends in Bavarian Doctoral Programmes

Prof. Heinz-Dieter Wenzel, Chair of Public Finance, Otto-Friedrich
Universitat Bamberg, Germany

LUNCH

14:15 – 15:30 Session 3: What is a PhD and what is expected of PhD students in Italy?
Prof. Giuseppe Canullo, Universita Politenica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy

COFFEE

16:00 – 17:15 Session 4: Role of the Mentor
Prof. Nick Adnett

What is the role of the mentor? What skills do they need? What are the different styles of supervision? The Reflective Mentor. Training of mentors.

Saturday, April 10th, 2010

09:00 – 10:30 Session 5: Monitoring Student's Progress, Regulations and Code of Practice
Prof. Iraj Hashi, Doctoral Awards Tutor, Staffordshire University, UK

Annual monitoring and regulations for doctoral programmes (who can mentor? maximum and minimum duration of studies?), code of practice (how to maintain quality of doctoral programmes across the University)

COFFEE

11:00 – 13:00 Session 6: Examples of PhD Topics and Experience of PhD students
Prof Nick Adnett with Dr. Fatmir Besimi, Dr. Adnan Efendic, Ms Zorica Kalezic, Dr. Nikica Mojsoska, Dr. Hilda Shijaku, Dr. Aleksander Stojkov, (Staffordshire University PhD graduates and candidate) & Mr. Juergen Gilke (Bamberg doctoral candidate)

What makes a good PhD topic? Short presentations of five Staffordshire University and one Bamberg University students on their own doctoral research

LUNCH

14:15 – 15:30 Session 7: Examination of PhDs
Prof. Nick Adnett

When should a thesis be submitted? Who should examine the PhD? The role of the external examiner. Length and format of the viva. The role of the mentor.

COFFEE

16:00 – 17:15 Session 8: Overview: How to Produce a High Quality Doctoral Programme?
Profs. Adnett, Canullo, Hashi & Wenzel

Designing incentives for staff and students to produce high quality doctoral theses on time. Gaining a reputation for high quality – recruiting high-quality students; training high-quality mentors and the role of external examiners.

Concluding Remarks and Summary of Discussions

The Project Coordinator and Project Manager have continued to hold meetings with partner universities in each of the three countries and also held further consultation by email and telephone with EU and partner country institutions to agree on further details of project activities.

1. Masters Programme

In Albania it was decided that the MA programme would be introduced as a profile on the existing MBA award at the Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana: MBA (Entrepreneurship). As lengthy validation procedures were not necessary, the programme started in February 2010 with some 35 students recruited on the programme. The full programme, including both local and EU staff who taught jointly on modules is included as Appendix 1. The three semesters of taught modules have been completed and the students are now completing their Masters dissertations.

In Kosovo the MA programme was validated and became one of the regular masters programmes of the Faculty of Economics, University of Prishtina and began in mid-November 2010. Please see Appendix 2 for the full programme and list of both local and EU staff. 36 students were recruited onto the MA Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development. All subjects were taught jointly by staff from the Faculty of Economics, UP and AAB-Riinvest University, as well as EU partners.

In Macedonia, like Kosovo, lengthy accreditation procedures had to be undertaken for the MA Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development. Approval was finally obtained and plans were made for the programme to start in November 2011. The Programme was advertised and it was decided that classes would be held at the Skopje campus of South East European University, as a more central location. Unfortunately recruitment was not as successful as we had hoped and only 9 students enrolled onto the programme. See Appendix 3 for the full programme and local and EU staff who taught modules on the programme.

2. Training Programme

Kosovo

Following consultation with stakeholders in Kosovo, AAB-Riinvest University agreed to run the Training Programme. After a recruitment campaign and contact with Ministries, local government agencies, NGOs and partner companies of the project, the programme started in Kosovo with nearly 40 students. As foreign professors were going to visit Prishtina to teach on the Masters programme, it was decided that it would be desirable to arrange the programme in such a way that its participants could also attend the lectures given to Masters students by foreign professors. Thus the Training Programme was arranged alongside the MA ELED, and was completed in June 2011. Many of the participants have expressed a desire to use the credits gained on the Training Programme and move on to Masters programmes. They are currently investigating the various options for continuing their studies to Masters level (in Kosovo and abroad).

In the Training Programme has not been implemented in Albania and Macedonia yet but preparations are underway and it is hoped that they programme will start in the last year of the Project in these two countries.

3. Three month mobilities for assistants

Fifteen more assistants from partner country institutions have undertaken 1-3 month mobilities to EU universities in order to spend an intensive period working on their PhD research or MSc dissertation and updating their teaching materials. These are shown in the following table.

Name	Home Institution	Host institution	Duration
Orkida Totjani	Agricultural University of Tirana, AL	University of Macedonia, EL	3 months
Marsida Ranxha	University of Elbasan, AL	Universita Politecnica della Marche, Ancona, IT	3 months
Nada Krypa	University of Elbasan, AL	Universita Politecnica della Marche, Ancona, IT	2 months
Sevdie Alshiqi	University of Prishtina, XK	Staffordshire University, UK	3 months
Fadil Aliu	AAB-Riinvest University, Prishtina, XK	Universita Politecnica della Marche, Ancona, IT	2 months
Alban Zogaj	AAB-Riinvest University, Prishtina, XK	Universita Politecnica della Marche, Ancona, IT	3 months
Artane Rizvanolli	AAB-Riinvest University, Prishtina, XK	Staffordshire University, UK	2 months
Hyrije Abazi-Alili	SEEU, Tetovo, MK	Staffordshire University, UK	3 months
Luan Eshtrefi	SEEU, Tetovo, MK	Wolverhampton University, UK	2 months
Harun Tahiri	State University of Tetovo, MK	University of Ljubljana, SI	1 month
Fljukurim Saliu	State University of Tetovo, MK	University of Ljubljana, SI	1 month
Bardhyl Dauti	State University of Tetovo, MK	University of Ljubljana, SI	3 months
Igor Andreev	Faculty of Economics, Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	Linnaeus University, Vaxjo, SE	2 months
Ilija Hristoski	Faculty of Economics, Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	Linnaeus University, Vaxjo, SE	2 months
Dejan Zdraveski	Faculty of Economics, Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	Wolverhampton University, UK	1 month

Several more mobilities are either taking place at the moment, or are planned for next semester, and will be reported in the Final Newsletter.

4. Short visits of senior staff or administrative staff from partner country universities to EU partner universities

Following the visits which took place in the first project year, further short visits took place:

Name	Home institution	Host institution	Date	Purpose
Maksim MEÇO	Agricultural University of Tirana, AL	University of Macedonia, EL	May 2010	To investigate the implementation of the Bologna system
Bari MUSABELLIU	Agricultural University of Tirana, AL	University of Macedonia, EL	May 2010	To investigate the implementation of the Bologna system
Sadie MIFTARI	AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Staffordshire University, UK	March 2011	To find out more about university Quality Assurance systems and procedures
Bardha QIREZI	AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Staffordshire University, UK	March 2011	To find out more about university Quality Assurance systems and procedures

5. Longer visits for the purpose of curriculum development

Following the establishment of the MA Programmes in Entrepreneurship and Local Economic Development in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia, the following staff undertook visits to EU partner universities to prepare teaching material and consult with EU staff on the syllabus of the modules for which they were responsible:

Name	Home institution	Host institution	Date
Bujar PIRA	AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Staffordshire University, UK	February 2010
Ajet AHMETI	University of Prishtina, XK	Free University of Brussels, BE	February 2010
Safet MEROVCI	University of Prishtina, XK	Free University of Brussels, BE	February 2010
Muhamet MUSTAFA	AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Staffordshire University, UK and University of West of England, UK	February 2010
Bujar LESKAJ	University of Tirana, AL	University of Bamberg, DE	April 2010
Zana PISTOLI	University of Tirana, AL	Linnaeus University, SE	September 2010
Besa SHAHINI	University of Tirana, AL	Linnaeus University, SE	September 2010
Doloreza SINANJ	University of Tirana, AL	Linnaeus University, SE	September 2010
Adela LLATJA	University of Tirana, AL	Universita Politecnica della Marche, Ancona, IT	September 2010

Soana TEKA	University of Tirana, AL	Free University of Brussels, BE	September 2010
Evis CAKU-KUSHI	University of Elbasan, AL	Free University of Brussels, BE	September 2010
Etleva LESKAJ	University of Tirana, AL	Staffordshire University, UK	September 2010
Manjola NACO	University of Tirana, AL	Staffordshire University, UK	September 2010
Reinold MUCA	University of Tirana, AL	Staffordshire University, UK	September 2010
Gadaf REXHEPI	South East European University, MK	Free University of Brussels, BE	October 2010
Miroljub SHUKAROV	South East European University, MK	University of West of England, UK and Staffordshire University, UK	October 2010
Etleva DASHI	Agricultural University of Tirana, AL	University of West of England, UK	December 2010
Luan ESHTREFI	South East European University, MK	Staffordshire University, UK	February 2011
Petrit DOLLANI	University of Tirana, AL	University of Wolverhampton, UK	March 2011
Veland RAMADANI	South East European University, MK	Free University of Brussels, BE	March 2011
Izet ZEQRIRI	South East European University, MK	Free University of Brussels, BE	March 2011
Petrit POLOZHANI	State University of Tetovo, MK	Staffordshire University, UK	March 2011
Seadin XHAFERI	State University of Tetovo, MK	Staffordshire University, UK	March 2011
Abdulmenaf BEXHETI	South East European University, MK	University of West of England, UK and Staffordshire University, UK	April 2011
Dimitar NIKOLOSKI	Faculty of Economics-Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	Staffordshire University, UK	May 2011
Gazmend QORRAJ	University of Prishtina, XK	University of Ljubljana, SI	June 2011
Olivera KOSTOSKA	Faculty of Economics-Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	University of Wolverhampton, UK	June 2011
Marjan Angjeleski	Faculty of Economics-Prilep, University of Bitola, MK	University of Wolverhampton, UK	June 2011

In addition, 5 young staff members attended intensive courses at the University of Ljubljana, SI as part of their International Graduate Summer programme as follows:

Home institution	Name	Course followed	Date
University of Tirana, AL	Elona POJANI	Environmental Economics and Management	May 2011
AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Dita JAKA	Banking Management	May 2011
AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Diellza GASHI	Consumer Behaviour	May 2011
AAB-Riinvest University, XK	Etida ZEKA	Consumer Behaviour	May 2011
University of Tirana, AL	Erjon ZOTO	Design Management	June 2011

6. EU Staff Visits

See Appendices 1, 2 and 3 for the names of EU staff who have taught on the three MA ELED programmes and the Training Programme in Kosovo.

7. Purchase of Books and Equipment

A number of books have been purchased for and delivered to the following partner universities:

Tirana University, AL

University of Prishtina, XK

AAB-Riinvest University, XK

South East European University, MK

State University of Tetovo, MK

Goce-Delcev University, Stip, MK

A variety of equipment, including audio/sound system, laptop computers, LCD projectors, photocopier, interactive smartboards and software have been purchased for the partners in Macedonia and Kosovo.

November 2011
Professor Iraj Hashi
Grantholder

Mrs. Jenny Herbert
Project Manager

APPENDIX 1

COURSE CALENDAR 2010-2011

MBA (Entrepreneurship), UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA, ALBANIA

Module	Date of Module	Name of Local Professor	Name of EU Professor	Dates of EU teaching
SEMESTER 1				
Managerial Economics	3 Feb – mid March 2010	Prof. Dr. Ahmet Mancellari (UT)	n/a	(Volcanic ash) 04 -08 Feb 2010
Organizational Behaviour	Mid March - 26 April 2010	Prof. Dr. As. Mimoza Kasimati (UT)	n/a	15 -18 March 2010
Entrepreneurship	May- mid June 2010	Dr. Ervin Demo (UT)	Dr. Milford Bateman (indep expert)	10-14 May 2010
Financial Management	Mid June – end July 2010	Prof. Dr. Beshir Ciceri (UT)	Mr. Jim O’Neill (indep expert)	21-24 June 2010
SEMESTER 2				
Rural Economic Development	03 Sep- mid October 2010	Dr Eva Dashi (AUT)	Dr. J. Korovilas (UWE, UK)	5-10 Sept 2010
Managerial Accounting	Mid October – 30 Nov 2010	Dr Manjola Naco (UT)	Mr John Wyld (SU, UK)	16-20 Nov 2010
Research Methods	01 Dec 2010 – mid Jan 2011	Dr Besa Shahini (UT)	Prof Marja Wadman & Ms Senada Bahto (Linnaeus, SE)	17-22 January 2011
SEMESTER 3				
Business Strategy	01 March- mid April 2011	Dr. Doloresa Sinanaj (UT) Dr. Etleva Leskaj (UT)	Prof Sarah Philipson (Linnaeus, SE)	11-14. April 2011
Option 1: Active Labour Market Policy	Mid April – 30 May 2011	Prof. Dr. As. Zana Koli (UT) Dr. Arsena Gjipali (UT)	Prof Harald Niklasson (Linnaeus, SE)	18-21 April 2011
Option 2: SME Management, or EU Integration and SME Development	01 June- 15 July 2011	Prof. Petrit Dollani (UT) Dr. Blerina Macolli (UT)	Dr. Silke Machold (UW, UK) Prof Martin Dangerfield (UW, UK)	13-16 June 2011 13-16 June 2011

APPENDIX 2

MA ELED, UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA, KOSOVO TIMETABLE MA ELED 2010-12

	Module	Date of Module	Name of Local Professor	Name of EU Professor	Dates of EU visit
1	Economics of Development and Transition	15-27.11.10	Prof. Petrit Gashi (UP)	Mr James Korovilas (UWE, UK)	15-18 November 2010
2	Managerial Economics	02-19.12.10	Prof. Florentina Krasniqi (UP)	Prof Matjaz Koman (Ljubljana, SI)	4-6 December 2010
3	EU Integration and SME Development	20.12.10 - 07.01.11	Prof. Gazmend Qorraj (UP)	Prof Mojmar Mrak (Ljubljana, SI)	4-7 January 2011
4	Entrepreneurship	10.01-20.01.11	Prof. Safet Merovci (UP)	Mr Jim O'Neill (indep expert)	10-14 January 2011
Semester 2					
5	SME Management	04.04–03.05.11	Prof. Besnik Krasniqi (UP)	Prof. Marc Goldchstein (VUB, BE)	18-22 April 2011
6	LED in SEE countries (esp. Kosova)	05.04-12.05.11	Prof Muhamet Mustafa (AAB-R) / Prof Mervete Badivuku (UP)	Dr James Korovilas (UWE, UK)	09-12 May 2011
7 i	Macroeconomic Business Environment	16.05-27.06.11	Prof. Muhamet Sadiku (AAB-R)	Prof H D Wenzel (Bamberg, DE)	27-28 May 2011
8	EU and International Business Laws and Regulations	25.05-29.06.11	Prof. Korab Sejdiu; (AAB-R)	Mr. Dewi Williams (SU, UK)	14-17 June 2011
7 ii	Financial Management and SMEs	24.05-28.06.11	Prof. Skender Ahmeti (UP);	Prof Hysen Cela (UT, AL)	20-24 June 2011
Semester 3					
9	Market Research for SMEs	14.11-19.12.11	Prof. Nail Rashidi (UP)	Mr Peter Ingham (SU, UK)	5-9 December 2011
10	Research Methods	15.11-20.12.11	Prof. Justina Pula (UP)	Prof Ionnidis Dimitrios (UoM, EL)	13-16 December 2011
11	Business Ethics and CSR	26.12-30.01.12	Prof. Ymer Havolli(AAB-R)	Jonathan Bradley (UWE, UK)	9-12 January 2012
12	International Business	27.12-31.01.12	Prof Petrit Gashi (UP)	Prof. Giuseppe Canullo (Ancona, IT)	23-26 January 2012

APPENDIX 3

MA ELED, MACEDONIA

	Module	Dates of module	MK staff	Date of MK teaching	EU staff	Date of EU teaching
SEMESTER 1 Autumn 2010						
1	Economic development & transition	19.11.10 - 05.12.10	Prof. Miroljub Shukarov (SEEU)	4-5 December 2010	Dr James Korovilas (UWE, UK)	19-20 November 2010
2	Entrepreneurship	17.12.10 – 15.01.11	Prof. Gadaf Rexhepi (SEEU)	14-15 January 2011	Prof. Marc Goldchstein (VUB, BE)	17-18 December 2010
3	EU and International Business Law	27.01.11 – 05.02.11	M-r.Luan Eshtrefi (SEEU)	4-5 February 2011	Mr. Dewi Williams (SU, UK)	27-28 January 2011
4	Managerial Economics	11.02.11 – 19.02.11	Prof.Fatmir Besimi (SEEU)	11-12 February 2011	Prof Marc Jegers (VUB, BE)	18-19 February 2011
SEMESTER 2 Spring 2011						
5	Research Methods	01.04.11 - 09.04.11	Prof. Dimitar Nikoloski (Bitola)	01-02 April 2011	Prof Jean Mangan (SU, UK)	8-9 April 2011
6	Management Information systems	15.04.11 – 08.06.11	Prof. Izet Zeqiri (SEEU)	17-18 June 2011	Prof Eddy Vandijck (VUB, BE)	15-16 April 2011
7	Local Economic Development in SEE countries	06.05.11 – 11.06.11	Prof. Abdylmenaf Bexheti (SEEU)	10-11 June 2011	Dr James Korovilas (UWE, UK)	6-7 May 2011
8	Macroeconomics and Business Environment	20.05.11 – 28.05.11	Prof. Petrit Polozhani (SUT)	20-21 May 2011	Prof Heinz-Dieter Wenzel (Bamberg, DE)	27-28 May 2011
SEMESTER 3 Autumn 2011						
10	Active Labour Market Policy	28.10.11 – 03.12.11	Prof Nikica Mojsoska-Blazevska (SEEU/external)	2-3 December 2011	Prof Nick Adnett (SU, UK)	28-29 October 2011
11	EU Integration & SME Development	04.11.11 – 19.11.11	Prof Veland Ramadani (SEEU, MK)	18-19 November 2011	Prof Martin Dangerfield (UW, UK)	4-5 November 2011
9	SME Management	16.12. 11 – 24.12.11	Prof. Snezana Mojsovska-Salamovska (Prilep)	23-24 December 2011	Prof Vouzas (UoM, Greece)	16-17 December 2011
12	International Business	20.01.12 – 28.01.12	Prof. Seadin Xhaferi (SUT) (assitant Selma Kurtishi, SEEU)	27-28 January 2012	Prof Stuart Farquhar (UW, UK)	20-21 January 2012