

Feedback from the field monitoring visit in Russia

Dear Stefan Ignar,

As part of our on-going monitoring of Tempus activities in Russia, a field monitoring was done on 13 March 2014 in the premises of Moscow State Food Production University. Dr. Anna Muraveva, Deputy Director, National tempus Office (NTO) Russian Federation met and discussed the progress of activities with local representatives of the project. We would like to thank you for the good preparations for the monitoring visits and the rector Dr. Edelev, Moscow State Food Production University and all project representatives for the time that they devoted to the discussions and for having provided information on the progress towards the achievement of the project objectives. The presence of several of the partners have been able to give a comprehensive and good picture of the project progress. We are pleased to know that the cooperation between the project coordinator, the local coordinator and all the partners are functioning exceptionally well. The project has taken the recommendations of the previous monitoring seriously, which is clearly seen in the management that has been streamlined and well-organised enhancing the relevance of the project. The monitor listed in her reports several accomplishments towards the project objectives.

In particular, we have noted positively that the project has a strong focus on the European dimension in higher education. Given that the participating universities are not very knowledgeable about the EAHE, it is definitely a strength of the project that it places the sector qualification framework within a broader context of the Bologna Process. A clear strength of the project is the adopted cascade approach to training university trainers in the area of HE internationalization processes and of the modernized curricula delivery. Another strength of the project is that it is implemented regionally with regard to local conditions and contexts. In all project regions the partner universities have improved cooperation with sector employers who have been involved in the surveys and in approving the developed/modernized courses.

Despite the overall highly positive impression of the project progress there are certain issues that could be improved. We would like draw your attention to the following recommendations that we kindly ask you to take into account in the next phases of your project implementation:

- to speed up the development of short-cycle qualifications descriptors;
- to immediately update the quality of the mgupp web-site in terms of the reflection of the Tempus project, as the current moment it fails to offer an comprehensive picture of the Tempus project activities, progress and products.
- the role of the Federal Institute should be made more visible, otherwise its participation will be considered as ineffective;

Please circulate this email among your partners.

In closing, may I once again thank you and your team for your commitment and achievements to-date.

I wish you a successful continuation of your project activities.

With best regards,

Paivi Hernesniemi
Project officer

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