

Feedback on Field Monitoring 1 November 2012

Dear Stefan Ignar,

As part of our on-going monitoring of Tempus activities in Russia, you will be aware that a field monitoring visit took place on 1 November 2012 in the premises of Moscow State Food Production University. Dr. Anna Muraveva, Deputy Director, National Tempus Office (NTO) Russian Federation and the undersigned 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 monitoring report confirmed that the atmosphere of the project is cooperative and productive. In particular, it was positively noticed that most of the project activities have followed the plan within the timeframe and that the measures are taken to develop, in line with the objectives of the project, analysis of existing standards and methodologies of QF and development of Sector QF for food Science studies.

We would like to congratulate you of the several activities implemented to date. To mention a few, the six study visits has taken place during 2012 to Bologna University, Polytechnic institute of Coimbra, Catholic University Porto, Dublin Technological Institute, ISEKI Food Association and Warsaw University of life Sciences. In total 12-14 persons from the PC universities participated in these mobilities and the visits were deemed very productive in deepening the understanding by the Russian team of the European HE integration process. We were pleased to hear that also the outputs of the study tours have been disseminated by means of the Forum "Innovation technologies to Ensure Food Safety and Quality" which was held in Russia in October 2012. Also we learned that the analysis of the EU and RF practices of developing qualifications framework is ready and available in e-format. We acknowledge also as a very positive element the close and productive cooperation with the Association of Fishery Employers.

The major concern raised by the monitor was that the first Draft of the Sector Qualifications framework was not been developed with sound methodology - the team has focused on bachelor level only and it has not proceeded from the occupational standards. Lack of a sound foundation has not been instrumental in justifying the disciplines that are selected to match the arbitrarily identified competences. Hence, the team should make a special effort to adopt a systemic methodology for the SQF development and have it agreed on by all project participants.

In the view of the above, 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 enhance quality of the project deliverables, and to base the SQF on the occupational standards that have to be developed to design the SQF;
- SQFs developed earlier under Tempus project (Regional Qualifications framework for Chelyabinsk Region, and the SQF for the aviation sector) should be studied by the project team and contacts should be established with the teams from those projects to discuss the methodology issues;
- the role of the Federal Institute should be made more visible, otherwise its participation will be considered as ineffective;
- the project management board should be established as soon as possible;
- the role of the Federal Ministry should also be enhanced, the project being an Structural measures project.

We kindly ask you to actively follow the comments during the implementation of the project and to provide us with information, latest with your sending your first interim report due 15 April 2013 on how you have addressed the above issues.

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

European Commission

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