Dear Ms Zinyuk,

As part of our on-going monitoring of Capacity Building in Higher Education activities in the Partner Countries, a preventative Field Monitoring Visit for the CBHE project MoPED 'Modernization of Pedagogical Higher Education by Innovative Teaching Instruments '  took place on 18 September 2018 at the Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University.

Ms Svitlana Shytikova and Ms Zhanna Talanova, representatives of the National Erasmus+ Office in Ukraine, and myself representing the EACEA, met with you and with your  partners' representatives from Deusto and from the Ukrainian beneficiaries of the project at the premises of Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University and discussed the project implementation from the perspective of the Ukrainian institutions involved.

We would like to thank you and all the participants for the time they devoted to these discussions.

The visit confirmed that the project is still relevant to the needs of defined target groups, local and national stakeholders based on the laws on education and higher education and especially based on the implementation of the New School Strategy.  As regards the implementation of the work plan, there is slight but manageable delay with the fulfilment with the development of the materials, questionnaires, ecosystem design and equipment purchase etc. The communication and decision making within the project have been organized in a clearly way; the responsibilities and functions are distributed among the project partners. The partnership included experienced and newcomers which provides good opportunities for the peer learning and experience exchange. The work packages are led by the Ukrainian partners and all partners are informed about management and financial mechanisms such as the Unit costs approach. We note as a good practice example the training organized at the beginning of the project with all beneficiaries administrative and financial Units in order to brief them on the use of the grant and the reporting mechanisms. These horizontal services of the beneficiaries provide currently valuable support for effective project implementation. This experienced has been shared during the cluster seminars and meetings with the newly selected projects and has become a good example for other Ukrainian universities.

The partners universities accounts are used to manage staff and travel costs. The equipment funds are managed by the coordinator university, that already started the tendering procedure. The monitors noted the risk to purchase equipment that does not quite meet the requirements for the Innovative Classrooms because national legislation produces some limits to state detailed parameters for equipment in frame of the tender procedure. The issue of the transfer of the equipment to the balance of all partners requires the approval from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. To install equipment to the Borys Grinchenko University being responsible to the municipality – Kyiv City, requires the specific regulation to be met.

The partnership has developed a Quality Assurance plan, which was presented to the monitoring team during the visit. Dissemination and Sustainability plans are not completed yet. The elements of sustainability and dissemination plans are planned to be provided through the project website, Universities websites, promotional materials, publications, participation in conferences, round tables, workshops, etc. that were presented during monitoring. The decision making matrix and road maps are developed.

The project impact is expected at individual, institutional and national level. The key impact is based on implementation of new innovative courses into the Master and Bachelor programmes and creation of the 6 ICR with equipment. The courses for the Bachelor and Master programmes are selected. Online course «English for teaching staff» was prepared and piloted. 3 D Mapping is performed. The ICR concept was developed and adapted by each partner University, rooms were identified and its preparation is in process.

The monitors noted that the Project website need further development and that there are differences in the way the different beneficiaries comply with the visibility and publicity obligations. Video recording of the meetings is a good dissemination tool and could become a valuable sustainability resources to be used after the project is finished.

On the other hand, the monitoring team noted positively that the cooperation with the colleges and municipalities have been established and that communication with the MESU is on-going and the specific procedure has to be followed as soon as possible.

Following the findings of this monitoring visit, we propose some recommendations to be taken into consideration as soon as possible:

         It is recommended to project team and universities’ working groups to pay more attention to modern European sources and involving of European project partners experience by the development of study and methodical materials of courses and programmes as well as to improve descriptions of the competence and learning outcomes in line with EHEA approaches.

         It is important to make a complex-systematic approach to the modernization of the curricula, including the content, methodological didactics for teaching and learning, to describe self-work methods and other relevant guides to ensure the smooth exploitation of results in case the staff member will leave the university.

         To include students’ representatives into courses development and assessment providing student feedbacks after courses piloting.

         It is recommended the extensive knowledge and materials sharing developed by partners and ready made to implement, like QUAERE project on internal quality assurance system for the synergy. To invite trainers to perform a master classes on the already developed procedures and systems and use the ALIGN project results for the Qualification Framework tune in addition to the synergy with other projects mentioned above.

         To use the developed materials for the in-service training courses, short-term trainings and seminars for enhancing the impact of the Project results.

         To record the seminars, master classes and other relevant events part important for further usage as a useful resource for the sustainability after the project end.

         To use Higher Education Reform Experts materials could be to meet national legislation and standards: [http://erasmusplus.org.ua/erasmus/ka3-pidtrymka-reform/natsionalna-komanda-ekspertiv-here/materiali-here.html](http://erasmusplus.org.ua/erasmus/ka3-pidtrymka-reform/natsionalna-komanda-ekspertiv-here/materiali-here.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).

         It is important to start the programme and courses promotion campaign as early as possible to ensure the smooth and relevant students recruitment process.

         To develop the Sustainability plan to ensure implementation of the expected project outcomes and results.

         To finalize Dissemination plan for high quality project implementation.

         To place the project results not only within closed management space but also at the project website, at the relevant pages of partner Universities websites.

         It is recommended to Ukrainian project partner universities to use the web-sites of the NEO-Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine for promotion of the project results and outcomes and strengthening project achievements in the HE spheres for other universities.

         The project partners should observe visibility rules for all presentations that demonstrated in frame of the training for staff (EACEA website, NEO website), news on HEIs’ websites as well as teaching and methodical materials.

         To consider the Erasmus+ Programme visibility rules with visual identity and logos on the websites, publications, public events, etc.

         It is critical to ensure the soonest finalization of the equipment purchase and availability of relevant grant amount to purchase the equipment at the partners.

         It is critical to find the solution of the purchase of the subscriptions and resources, to cooperate with MESU in this matter.

         To initiate the changes at the legislative level on the procedures and mechanisms which currently provide obstacles for smooth grant holder role of the Ukrainian university.

         It is highly recommended to the project team to keep all the financial and report documents in line with the guidelines and directives of the European Commission (for 5 years since the date of the official close of the project).

Please ensure the dissemination of this feedback to your project partners and refer in your Intermediate Report on how you have addressed all these issues.

We wish you a successful continuation of your activities.

Best regards,

**BELÉN ENCISO**Project Officer

 **European Commission**

**Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)***Managing programmes and activities on behalf of the European Commission*

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