

## REPORT ON THE NATIONAL CONSORTIUM MEETING OF THE WamPPP PROJECT PARTICIANTS HELD IN NOVI SAD ON 2<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2017

A meeting of the National consortium of the WamPPP project was held in the premises of VTŠ Novi Sad on 2<sup>rd</sup> March 2017. The meeting was attended by: Aleksandra Boričić, Dejan Blagojević, Aleksandra Grujić, Borivoje Rodić, Živko Stijelja, Marina Stamenović, Koviljka Banjević, Anita Petrović, Petra Tanović, Nikolina Pajović, Miljana Ščekić, Jugoslava Bursać, Bratimir Nešić, Jelena Petković, Irina Cenić and Vera Petrović.

Aleksandra Boričić, PhD, the project coordinator was a chairman of this meeting. The following were the items on the agenda:

1. Experience in accreditation of specialist studies ( P.Tanović )
2. Preparation of the curriculum for master studies ( A.Boričić )
3. Results of the activities done so far ( D.Blagojević )
4. Establishment of laboratories ( Aleksandra Grujić, Živko Stjelja )
5. Preparation of the study visit to Ostrava ( A.Boričić )
6. Preparation of documentation ( J. Petković )
7. Reports on each separate work package
8. Preparation of financial documentation ( Irina Cenić )

### **2<sup>rd</sup> March 2017**

First of all, Anita Petrović, a professor of vocational studies at NTSNS greeted the participants of the meeting and then the meeting was officially opened by the professor Aleksandra Boričić. The aims of the meeting were: writing of the mid-term report and summing up of all the achievements concerning the development of the curriculum for the study programmes which are to be submitted for accreditation by the project partners.

#### **ITEM 1**

Petra Tanović informed the meeting participants that the College of Technical Vocational Studies from Novi Sad has successfully accredited a new study programme for Waste Management at the level of specialist vocational studies. This programme contains all the elements that are requested by the second level of studies in line with the principles of the Bologna process and it relies on the study programme of Environmental Protection primarily, and secondarily on other study programs in the field of protection that were accredited at the basic level of studies.

To enrol the said studies, students need to complete either basic professional studies in duration of three years or basic academic studies of 180 ECTS credits in the area of protection or other areas related to technical sciences and technology. This new study programme will be realized in the usual manner. It will train specialists-professional engineers to become proficient in understanding and solving the problems in waste management and teach them how to take part in the business processes for safe handling and disposal of waste, hierarchical treatment of solid and hazardous waste and the possibilities for transformation of solid waste into energy. Harmonization of the study programme for Waste Management with similar accredited programmes at international higher education institutions has been reached at the percentage higher than 60%. As models of modern study programmes, the programmes from the College of Security with Public's Right in Zagreb, Croatia, Hellenic Open University in Greece and Nuertingen University in Germany were used.

## ITEM 2

Aleksandra Boričić informed all the participants that the curriculum for professional master in the field of waste management was prepared by the College of Applied Technical Sciences in Nis. She pointed out that during the preparation of this curriculum, special care was taken of the proposals given by the project partners coming from the economy; as a result of this, a course related to health issues under the name of Environment and Public Health was introduced and established as a general mandatory course.

Moreover, a course on Social Ecology was also introduced in view of developing social awareness of the importance of waste management among students. Stakeholders from the economy sector gave a proposal that the future engineers in this field should possess knowledge of the English language and have skills in advanced Excel; therefore, in the elective group of courses, new courses such as Business English and Software Tools in Environmental Protection were introduced.

Upon the proposal of the professor Filip Kokalj from the University of Maribor, the name of the Business English course was changed into Vocational English. The curriculum also suggested that the practical classes for testing of waste are to be held in the laboratory which is equipped with the WamPPP project equipment.

Professor Boričić said that a course on Applied Research Work carrying 8 ECTS credits, devised as a sort of introductory course to writing of the master paper was introduced upon the proposal of VISER project partners. In line with the proposal given by the stakeholders from the economy, courses on Economic Profitability of Waste Management and Sustainability of Waste Management were introduced as well so that the students could be acquainted with the law regulations and economic significance of waste management.

Waste management study programme is by its structure and content, aims and outcomes, and competencies of graduate students completely harmonized with the modern international flows in higher education in the field of environmental protection at the level of master studies. The quality and the contemporarity of the study programme is comparable with the majority of relevant study programs in the EU (in terms of enrollment policy, duration of studies, number of requested credits for the completion of studies, conditions for the enrollment of the subsequent year of study, obtaining a diploma, etc.)

Actual comparison was done in the following higher education institutions: Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, Univerza v Maribor, and the Faculty for Mechanical Engineering, a partner on this project.

After the discussion of the participants, it was concluded that the curriculum for the study programme of professional master in Waste Management is comprehensive and well prepared with well-defined aims and outcomes. Throughout the studies at this study programme, students can obtain knowledge and develop the skills needed for understanding of practical tasks from their profession and get adequate level of training for performing these tasks.

Miljana Šćekić, a representative of E-recycling has given a proposal that an economist can be engaged for the course on Economic Profitability. Also, Bratislav Nesic added that the name of the Organic Waste course can be changed into Management of Biodegradable Waste, since this name is much more comprehensive.

Aleksandra Grujuć, a representative of VISSER informed the meeting participants that their institution is in the process of accreditation of a new study programme at the basic level of studies under the name of Ecological Engineering, which is also one of the outcomes of this project. She added that the approval for this study programme is being expected.

### ITEM 3

Summing up all the activities done on the project so far, PhD Dejan Blagojevic said that the activity package I was also completed and that he is satisfied with the results of all the activities from this work package, except for the one dealing with the model for professional training. He mentioned that the model for professional training proposed by the College of Technical Sciences from Novi Sad was analyzed, but not discussed in its entirety. As far as the activities from the work package I are concerned, each of the documents was approved during the consortium meeting held in Crete, with the only exception of the model for professional training which was not fully approved by the consortium at that time. On the other hand, study visits have been completed and documented on the project website. ITS portal has been finished, but there are still some contracts missing which the partners have signed with the companies so as to establish the cooperation network and allow for this activity to last until the end of the project. As far as the publications are concerned, for the time being we have only one publication prepared by the College of Professional Studies from Arandjelovac, but VTS Nis is currently preparing a material that needs to be published soon. The equipment has been procured and purchased, while new curriculum and syllabi have been made, some already being accredited and some yet to be. However, portfolio has not been made yet. Professor Blagojevic stated that a lot of work has been done, that we have been active on social networks but that we still need to replenish the WamPPP site. It is necessary to upload all the clips and photos on the YouTube channel. He emphasized the importance of campaigns and mentioned the example of VTS Nis which did the campaign for collection of old batteries quite successfully. As far as the activity 6.1 is concerned, he said that the material and the procedures were prepared in the initial phase of the project and that there were no deviations further on. We did financing according to the plan, apart from the fact that a bit larger amount was transferred to the College in Novi Sad for equipment. Therefore, in the second tranche, the amount to be transferred to this college will be reduced. Each meeting was followed by an evaluation questionnaire and after each meeting a report was written. All the reports have been published and they are available in public.

After the discussion, the following conclusions were made:

- to design a training course for the economy as soon as possible,
- for Polytechnics, to give a model of cooperation with the economy,
- to send all contracts that have been signed within the network so as to "fill in" the ITS portal
- to develop a model for professional training,
- to intensify publishing,
- to make a portfolio,
- to make a calendar of events related to the environmental protection and a calendar of other dates suitable for implementing campaigns, and then to announce them on the website for the purpose of campaign organization (ex. European day of the Sun, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, the Day of Environmental Protection, etc.)
- to upload additional material onto the project site and the YouTube channel,
- to organize students to make a selection of batteries collected in the campaign for the collection of old batteries so as to learn in a practical way how to select this kind of waste.

Bratislav Nešić, a representative of PWW informed the participants that he would submit the list of training courses for the economy sector and provide assistance in development of these courses.

A report on the dissemination package was given by Borivoje Rodic who is responsible for the management of this activity. Borivoje Rodic informed the participants that the dissemination plan

was almost completely realized although it was quite ambitious. He mentioned the things that are still missing and the things that need to be completed:

- to make a plan for exploitation of the project results,
- to organize campaigns,
- to adjust the dissemination plan on the website of the project with the adopted version of the plan,
- to update the package I after a certain period of time,
- and for VTŠ Niš, to select a person responsible for dissemination of the results and inform the project partners about this.

Dejan Blagojević pointed out that the model of dissemination made by the College in Novi Sad, which provides a service on the college website under the name "Development Plan for Waste Management" is a good example that other colleges might follow by offering the same kind of service to nursery schools, primary and secondary schools and higher education institutions.

When asked how the stakeholders from the economy sector conduct the dissemination of the project results, Miljana Šćekić said that she gave an interview about the project for the Biz nou, that she performs internal dissemination activities continually and that all the employees in E-recycling have been informed about the project on a consortium and on the training for ADR. Bratislav Nešić informed the participants that PWW regularly performs internal dissemination activities and that all of their employees are acquainted with the content and the goals of the project.

#### **ITEM 4**

In relation to this item, Aleksandra Grujić, a representative of VISER informed the participants that 20 computers and a video projector were installed and connected in their institution as equipment purchased from the project. Two laptops and 4 external hard disks are already used for teaching and for the activities related to the implementation of the WamPPP project. She said that by the end of March their institution is expecting a delivery of a pilot plant for biodiesel: „DL BIO-10 Pilot plant for the production of biodiesel (10 litres/batch)”. Also, she informed the participants that a part of the ground floor in their college is currently under reconstruction in order to install a waste incinerator which asks for special storing conditions.

Živko Stijelja informed the participants that the equipment arrived in their college and that it was installed. One part of the equipment is being used already for the implementation of the WamPPP project; however, the equipment will be used more actively, once the new study programme is accredited.

#### **ITEM 5**

In relation to this item, Aleksandra Boričić informed the participants that the study visit to the Technical University in Ostrava will take place from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017. A tour of the faculty is planned for 16<sup>th</sup> May, a visit to a dump on 17<sup>th</sup> May, and a meeting with the faculty representatives on 18<sup>th</sup> May. As far as the student visit/ practical training to the Technical University in Ostrava is concerned, the plan is to organize it in the end of May and the beginning of June. The training should last for 3 weeks (from 22<sup>nd</sup> May to 9<sup>th</sup> June). Boričić suggested that during each week one of the professors from the three colleges could stay with the students for a week at this university to monitor their work. After their stay in Ostrava, students will need to write a report. The time they spend in Ostrava will be regarded upon and treated as a fully realized practical training.

## ITEM 6

Jelena Petković informed the participants that the financial resources received in the first tranche have been spent, i.e. that more than 70% of the previously paid pre-financing means have been spent mostly for the procurement of the equipment. In order to proceed with further activities according to the project plan, it is necessary to submit a request to the The Education, Audio-Visual and Cultural Executive Agency for additional pre-financing payments by sending the following documents:

- a request for payment as indicated in Anex VI;
- a statement on incurred costs as indicated in Anex VI and
- a report on progress of the implementation of the activities as indicated in Anex V.

Request for payment should be accompanied by the financial statement confirmation and the basic accounts, as it is indicated in Anex VII. This confirmation must be provided in all cases, regardless of the amount which has been indicated as the total contribution in the form of reimbursement of the real costs.

The time framework in which the Agency should make a payment of the requested financial means is 60 days.

Since the request for payment of new resources matches the period envisaged for the preparation of the mid-term report, it has been agreed that along with this request, the mid-term report should be submitted.

Jelena Petković informed the participants that the descriptive part of the mid-term report should contain the following items: Quality of the Project Implementation, Influence and Sustainability, Quality of Cooperation, Significance and Horizontal Issues. Then the meeting participants made an agreement on deciding which partners should be responsible for writing which section of the report. It was agreed that the final version of the mid-term report should be approved on the meeting scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> March at Belgrade Poly -Technics.

## ITEM 7

Irina Cenić informed the participants that since it is necessary to prepare a "Declaration on Costs Incurred", all the project participants need to submit the following documentation:

- Invoices for the equipment that was purchased - copies of invoices,
- Annex 2 (Staff Cost) and the supporting documentation according to the Serbian rules (ex.: contract of authorship, copy of a bank statement)
- Annex 3 (Travel costs & Costs of stay) and the supporting documentation according to the Serbian rules (ex: travel orders, hotel receipts, bank statements and other travel costs);
- If someone of the partners was co-financed, he/she needs to submit the documentation which proves this (according to the Serbian rules) (ex. If Staff Costs were co-financed, the adequate documentation must be submitted).

Some of the participants have submitted the requested documentation. Mrs Cenic made an analysis of the submitted material and wrote down for each partner institution which documentation is missing and sent this notification in the written form to all the partners.

Novi Sad 2<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

Technical secretary of the WamPPP project  
Jelena Petković