



Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

Tempus & Bilateral Cooperation with Industrialised Countries

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**Subject: 158881-TEMPUS-RS-TEMPUS-JPHES (2009-4656)
Intermediate Report on the implementation of the project (IR)
Statement of the costs incurred and request for Payment**

Dear Prof. Milentijevic,

We would like to inform you and your project partners that we have carried out the assessment of your Intermediate Report received on 18 July 2011 and we are pleased to inform you that it has been approved. In particular we would like to congratulate you on the results you have produced so far and for the activities you have implemented during this first period.

Overall, we are pleased to see that despite some delays, the project is advancing well and this is largely thanks to the professionalism and commitment of the project team and the good collaboration among all consortium members.

In particular, we appreciate the results achieved so far in terms of analysis of the current situation in research, education and innovation in Serbia and the methodology established to develop the Serbian National Platform for knowledge triangle.

We are glad to know that the National Inter-institutional Body, representing the main Serbian universities, Ministries, Economy Chambers, companies, the National Council for HE and the National Council for Science and Technology, is supposed to exist after the end of the project as a high authority in Serbia. We would appreciate to receive more detailed information in your Final Report about these future developments.

We are pleased to learn that preparatory activities for the establishment of the Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) at the Serbian universities have been carried out. However, we would like to stress the importance of officially defining the status of these centres as soon as possible, as to ensure they will be operational and their activities sustainable in the long term.

We agree with your decision to develop the experts database and to use for this purpose the financial savings related to the activities 2.2 and 2.3. If any budget transfer is needed, we would

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like to remind you that projects may increase the amount of each budget heading of direct eligible costs set out in Annex II of the Grant Agreement by a maximum of 10% by transferring money without prior authorisation (according to Article I.4.4). Even if according to the information provided in your report it would seem that the transfer from Staff costs budget heading to Equipment is below the 10%, please note that a prior authorisation has to be asked from the Education, Audio-visual & Culture Executive Agency if one or more budget headings have to be increased by more than 10%.

Concerning the participation of external experts in project management activities, we would like to draw your attention to the fact that Tempus beneficiaries are expected to have the administrative resources and skills to administer the project themselves, as explained in the question n. 63 of the FAQ document. For this reason a subcontracted project manager would not be considered justified.

We can deduce from your report that the quality control (internal and external) and monitoring activities are so far performed according to the work plan.

We visited the project website and we noted with pleasure that it is well structured, updated and the information is presented in a very user friendly way. We appreciate that all reports and presentations from workshops and study visits have been published on it.

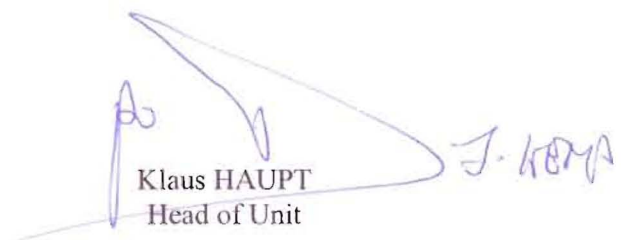
As regards the dissemination of the project outcomes, we are pleased to see that you have already carried out a wide range of dissemination activities. In particular it appears that the regional ICT Forum, co-organised by KNOWTS project, had a strong impact in terms of visibility among the industrial and academic community.

As it was already recommended by the external experts who evaluated your proposal, the involvement of students in the project activities needs to be more explored. On the basis of the monitoring visit we carried out in March 2011, it was confirmed that the involvement of students at the University of Nis has improved; however, we would have expected to find in the report additional information concerning the situation in other universities. Please explain in your Last Report how students have been involved in all the universities and their role in the project activities.

Should you require any further information, please contact Antonella GIORGIO (Tel: +32 2 29 93218, e-mail: eacea-tempus-project-management@ec.europa.eu). We also encourage you to regularly consult our Tempus website <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/tempus>.

We wish you a successful continuation of your activities.

Yours sincerely,


Klaus HAUPT
Head of Unit

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