

Strengthening Teaching Competences
in Higher Education
in Natural and Mathematical Sciences



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TeComp overview: Work packages, activities, project management and action plan

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University of Niš, Serbia



Kick-off Meeting, Niš, January 15-17, 2019



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Coordinating Institution: University of Nis (UN)

(Faculty of Science and Mathematics)

Responsible of the Project: prof. dr Dragan Antić

General Project Manager: prof. dr Jelena Ignjatović

Partners:

Serbia; Albania; Spain; Slovakia; Belgium; Czech Republic;



Key action:

**Cooperation for innovation and
the exchange of good practices**

Action:

Capacity Building in Higher Education

Acronym: **TeComp**

Ref.no:

598434-EPP-1-2018-1-RS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Duration:

**36 months -- November 15th, 2018
to November 14th, 2021**

Summary of the project

Project aims:

- Improving the quality of higher education (HE) in the field of natural and mathematical sciences in Serbia and Albania;
- Enhancing professional competences and skills of teaching staff through training courses in contemporary pedagogical approaches, methodologies and educational technologies;
- Upgrading educational infrastructure as a basis for wider integration of modern pedagogical principles and technologies in teaching and learning;



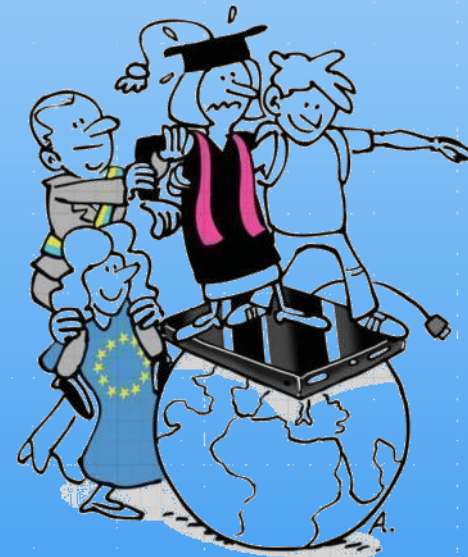
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Summary of the project

- Delivering new/modified courses in psychology, pedagogy and learning methodology of teaching and learning (T&L) at the PC HEIs
- Strengthening personnel infrastructure through the introduction of continual professional development in the system of HE



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Summary of the project

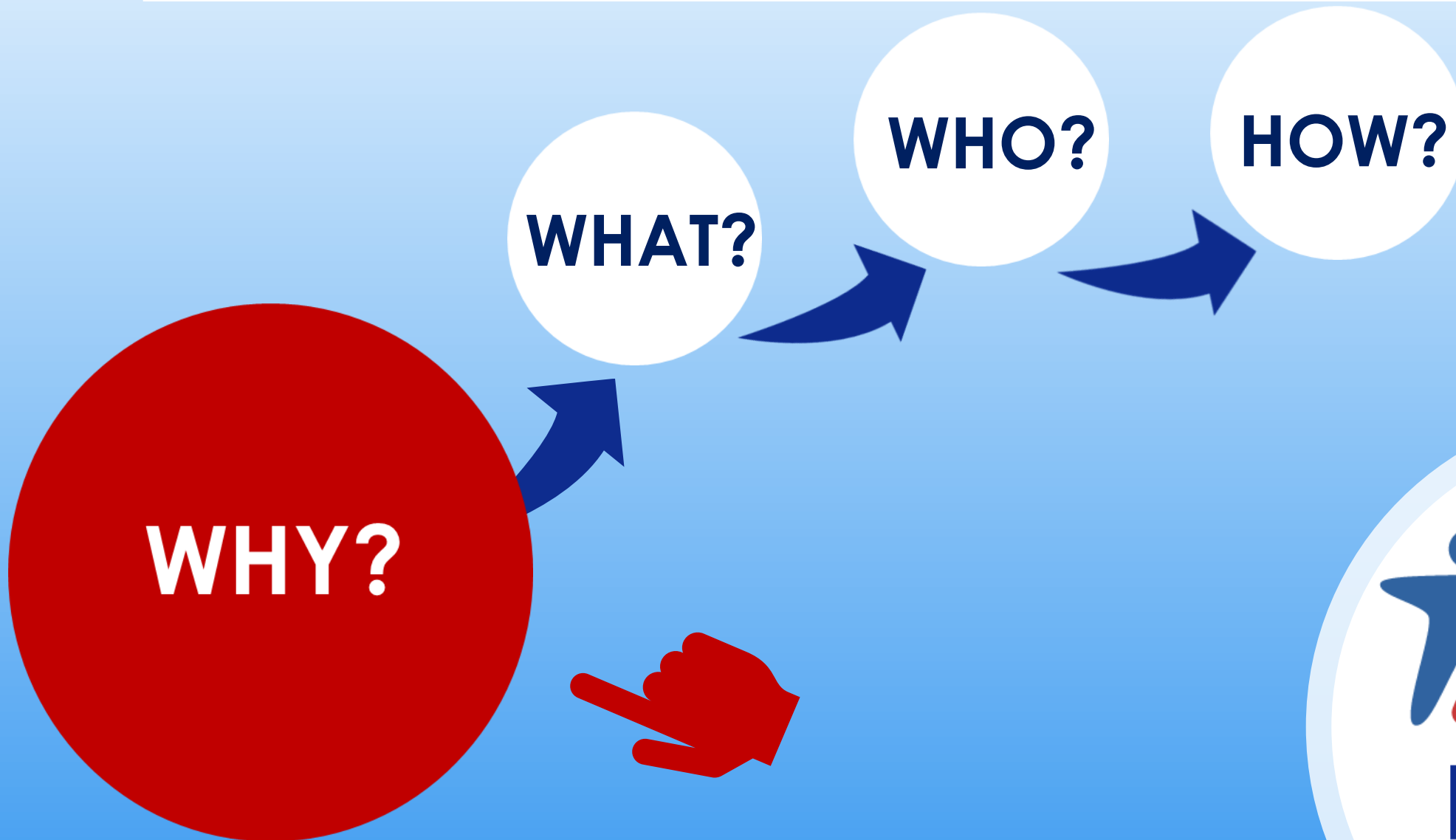
▪ **Project outcomes:**

- Identifying and adopting the necessary measures and actions required for quality enhancement of teaching and learning processes;
- Upgrading educational infrastructure;
- Developing the methodology and platforms for wider integration of ICT in teaching and learning.
- Training of teaching staff for harnessing pedagogical and methodological principles and new modes of teaching and learning;



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Basic questions



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Motivation

- Comprehensive reform of the HE system in Serbia and Albania
- Modern study programs – created with contents that strictly follow the European and world standards
- Modernisation of study programs – not accompanied by adequate changes in T&L
- Continuation of reforms should be accomplished through the modernisation of T&L
- The main initiative and recommendation of the European Union's High-Level Group on the Modernisation of HE – greater integration of new technologies and pedagogical approaches in conventional education



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Project tasks

- Preliminary analysis in Serbia and Albania – large number of university teachers and teaching assistants (especially young) have never attended the courses in pedagogy and methodology of T&L
- Continual professional development of university teaching personnel in the field of natural and mathematical sciences
- Enable the teaching staff to gain new knowledge about the basic pedagogical and methodological principles and modern technologies in the HE



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Project tasks

- Organising special training courses to rise the level of teaching competences and skills
- Organising the training for teachers for teaching and academic writing in English to stimulate internationalization
- Raising awareness about the necessity of modernisation T&L – integration of new technologies and relevant pedagogy
- Launching an initiative to develop and implement strategies for the support and on-going improvement of the quality of T&L and for the adoption of new modes of T&L



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Innovations

- Program of continuing professional development of teaching staff in HE institutions
- For the first appointments for a teaching position candidates hold a lecture that is evaluated by competent commission – teaching is gaining due attention
- Wider integration of ICT in teaching and learning

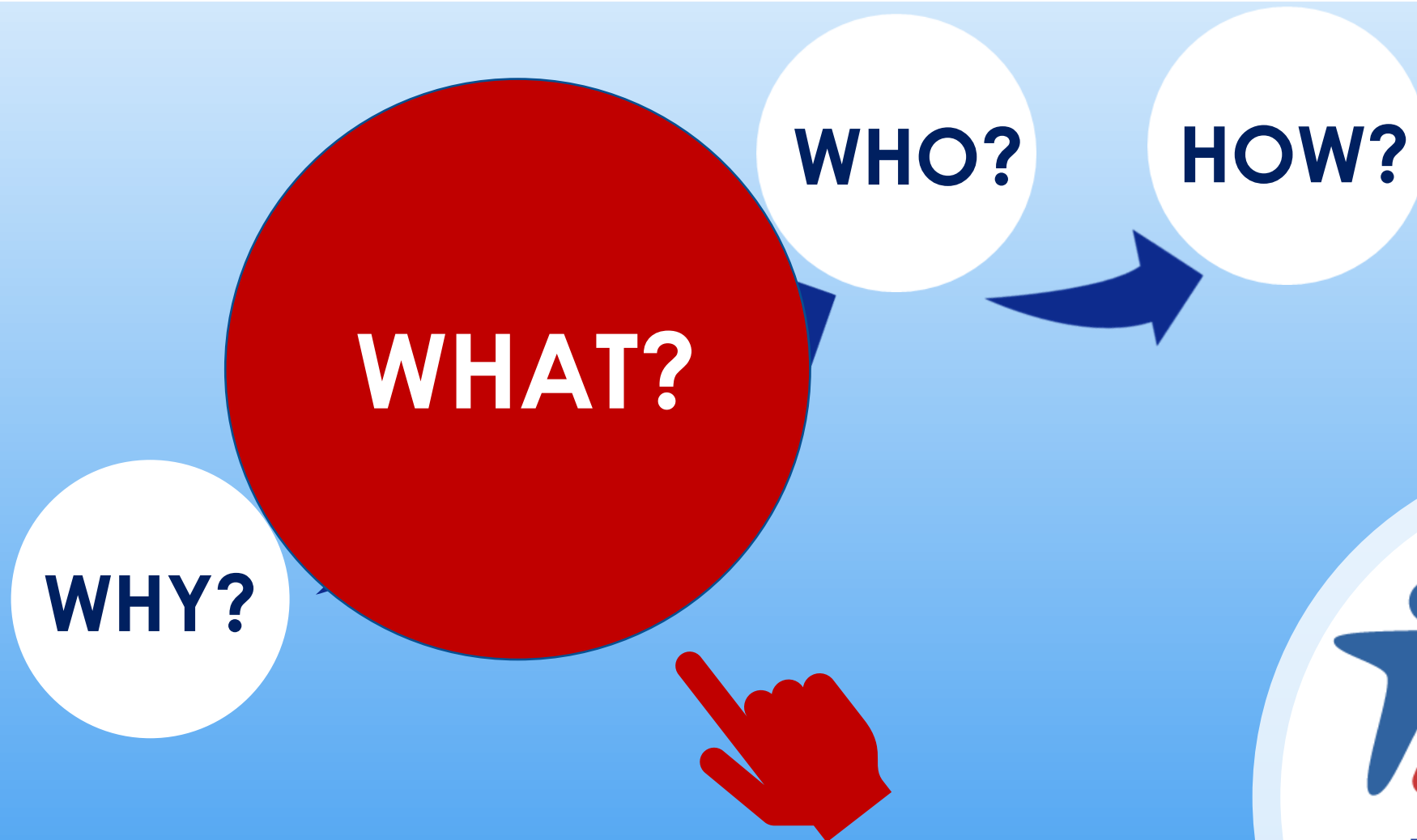


**HOPING THAT TeComp PROGRAM HAS A
GOOD CHANCE FOR SUCCESS!**



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Basic questions



Main objective

Improving the quality of higher education in the field of natural and mathematical sciences at higher education institutions in Serbia and Albania in line with advance EU practices, thereby enhancing their comparability and competitiveness in Europe and beyond.



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Project focus

TeComp is focused on:

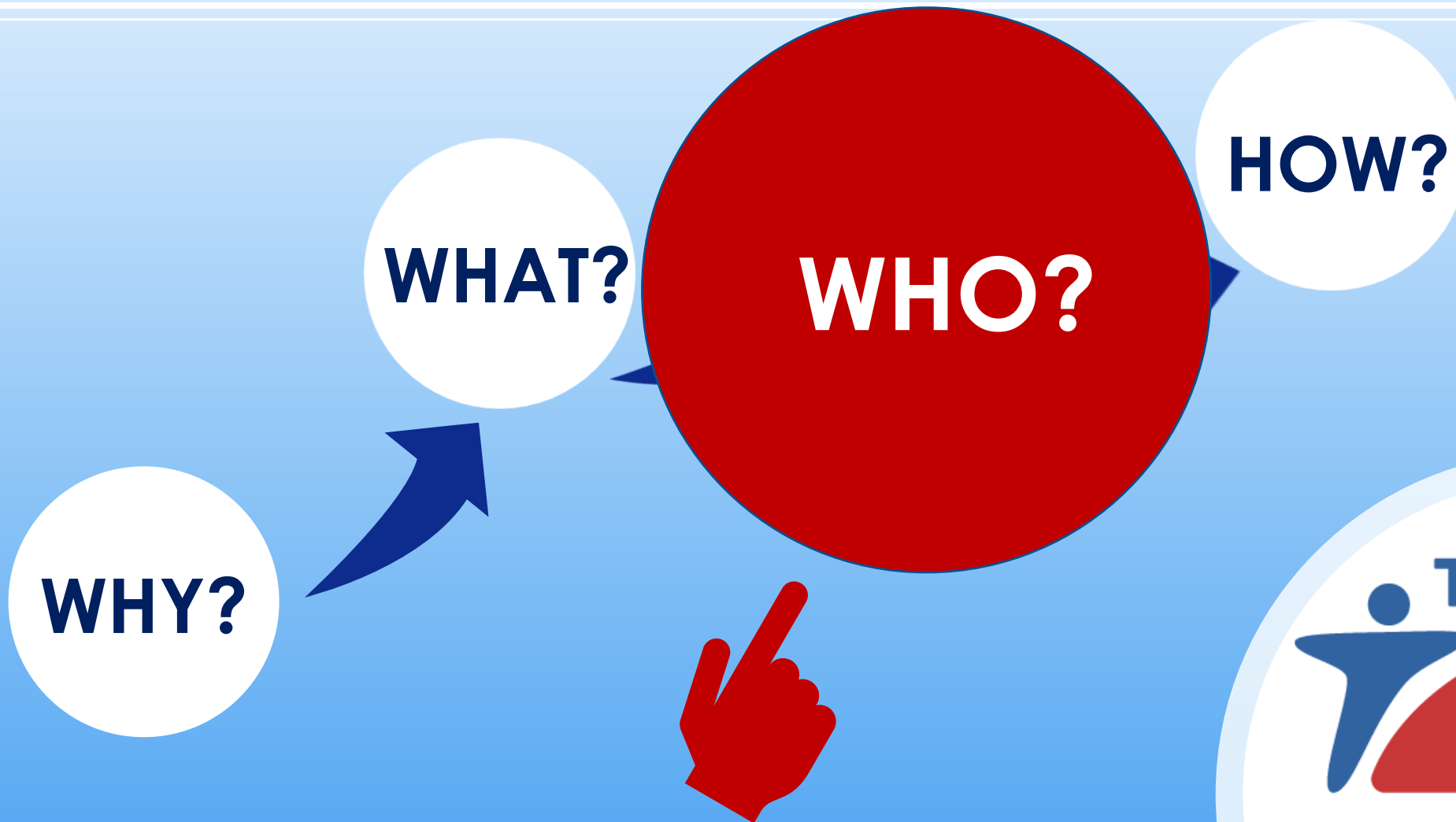
- the transition from a teaching-oriented to learning-oriented approach to the learning process,
- a flexible approach and individualization,
- better communication and interaction between teachers and students.

The target areas at Serbian and Albanian universities that need quality enhancement of T&L processes **will be identified** and a concrete action plan with necessary measures and actions **will be made**.



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Basic questions



Consortium

Partner nr	Partner acronym	University name	Country	
P1	UNI	University of Niš	Serbia	      
P2	UB	University of Belgrade	Serbia	
P2	UNS	University of Novi Sad	Serbia	
P4	UNIKG	University of Kragujevac	Serbia	
P5	ECUG	Eqrem Çabej University Gjirokastër	Albania	
P6	UNIKO	Fan S. Noli University Korçë	Albania	
P7	UNIOVI	University of Oviedo	Spain	
P8	UMB	Matej Bel University in Banska Bystrica	Slovakia	
P9	UGENT	Ghent University	Belgium	
P10	UGR	University of Granada	Spain	
P11	UO	University of Ostrava	Czech Republic	

European added value



European
cooperation



Basic questions

TeComp		Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
WP 2 DEV	Technology-enhanced learning spaces	
	Preparing material for PM training courses	
	Creating material for providing language support	
	Preparing guidelines for the technological enhancement of T&L	
WP 3 DEV	Organising the Workshop	
	PM training of teaching staff	
	Training for using new ET	
	Training for teaching and academic writing in English	
	Development of structure and content of courses	
	A approval/ Accreditation of master study	
	Implementation of approved courses	
WP 4 DEV	The integration of online technologies into traditional courses	
	Developing systems for electronic testing	
	Forming online labs	
	Preliminary analysis of performance indicators	

WHY?

WHAT?

WHO?

HOW?



Project Methodology



How to improve the quality of teaching and learning (T&L) in the field of natural and mathematical sciences at PC HEIs in line with advance EU practices?

Let's describe our future cooperative work!!!



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Work packages

WP1 Preparation for strengthening teaching competences in the field of natural sciences and mathematics at the PC HEIs

WP2 Upgrading educational infrastructure at the PC HEIs

WP3 Professional development of teaching staff

WP4 The formation of online learning environment

WP5 Quality assurance and monitoring

WP6 Dissemination and exploitation

WP7 Management



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WP1 Preparation for strengthening teaching competences in the field of natural sciences and mathematics at the PC HEIs

- The objective -- to identify the necessary institutional measures, activities and documents for the successful implementation of new ways of T&L.
- Analysing the current situation at the PC HEIs from the aspect of the level of education of the teaching staff in the areas of pedagogy and methodology of teaching (PMT), and the level of the use of technological innovations in T&L.
- the experiences of the EU HEIs and forms and models of T&L that they use will be perceived
- a comparative analysis -- performed
- the needs and opportunities of the PC HEIs -- identified
- concrete action plan -- made



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Project activities



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WP2 Upgrading educational infrastructure at the PC HEIs

- The objective -- to harness the potential of new technological developments in the service of high quality higher education in the PC HEIs by upgrading their educational infrastructure
- to purchase equipment that will be used by the PC HEIs for forming videoconferencing rooms and modernizing classrooms and laboratories
- preparing printed and electronic learning material
- preparing guidelines and instructions for the use of ICT in T&L.



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Project activities



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WP3 Professional development of teaching staff

- The objective -- to train and re-train teaching staff in the areas of PPMT and ICT in T&L
- Organising the Workshop
- Organising three series of trainings (two) with the participation of EU experts in the relevant fields
- Organising some of training as distance courses – to potentiate opportunities in technology-enabled learning
- The most active teachers and teaching assistants – an opportunity to visit EU partners and see the best practice models and to accumulate expertise
- The training of teaching staff for teaching and academic writing in English -- an important prerequisite for the internationalisation of the PC HEIs



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Project activities

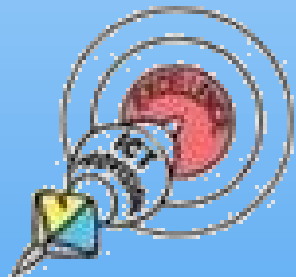


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WP4 The formation of online learning environment

- The objective -- to foster wide integration of ICT in teaching and learning
- Several pilot projects -- launched for the integration online technologies in traditional courses
- Developing the system of electronic testing -- allow students easier access to the learning material and relevant information, better understanding and more efficient learning
- Forming online labs – pilot projects for integration of online technologies into laboratories
 - Realisation of preliminary analysis of performance indicators of pilot projects -- the first step of long-time monitoring



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WP5 Quality assurance and monitoring

- The objective -- to ensure the high quality results of the project
- The internal work quality standards and procedures -- adopted by the CMT
- Establishing a Quality Assurance and Monitoring Board (11 members) at the kick-off meeting
- UNIKO -- responsible for the qualitative reviews conducted to each milestone
- Organising an Inter-project coaching with the project in similar field by UNI
- External monitoring performed



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Project activities



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WP5 QP

- Establishing QAMB
- Establishing internal work quality standards and procedures
- Preparing and analysing quality reports
- Organising inter-project coaching
- Organising external monitoring

WP 6 DISS

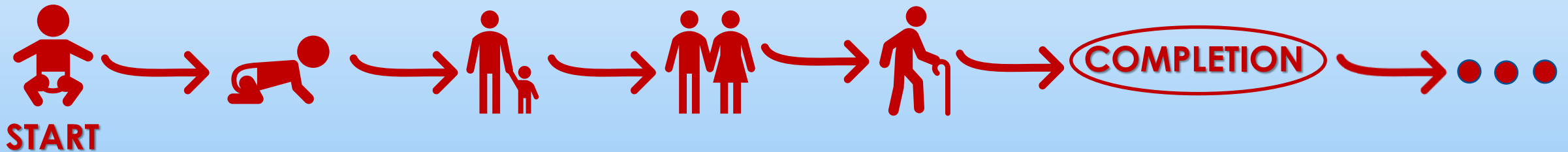
- Creating the project website
- Printing and distributing promotional material
- Disseminating reports on the project achievements
- Organising popularisation lectures
- Developing a Rulebook on CPD of teaching staff
- Developing Strategy for the support and on-going improvement of the quality T&L
- Developing a unified questionnaire

WP 7 MNG

- Setting up PMBs and signing a partnership agreement
- Organising the Kick-off meeting and CMT meetings
- Organising meetings of the LCT
- Creating the PAP
- Preparing interim and final reports
- Performing regular financial administration
- Doing regular coordination activities

WP6 Dissemination and exploitation

- The objective -- to disseminate all project related information, activities and their deliverables



- Creating project website, doing regularly update, presenting all necessary information about the project, about on-going and planned activities, project achievements based on reports
- The project information -- ensured by designing and printing promo materials
- Organising popularization lectures -- information about the project will be given to project stakeholders, other HEIs, academic community and general public.



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WP6 Dissemination and exploitation

- Preparing and submitting a Rulebook on continuing professional development in the field of teaching to the relevant PC HEI's bodies for eventual adoption (even after the project is completed)
- Developing and implementation a strategy for the support and on-going improvement of the quality of T&L
- Preparing proposal of such strategy
- Submitting to the relevant PC HEI's bodies for adoption
- Developing unified questionnaire for evaluating the quality of teaching
- The real picture of teaching competences and quality



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WP7 Management

- both the overall coordination and management of the project and the local management
- The project management bodies:
 - ❖ Central Management Team (CMT) -- deals with general issues of project management and makes decisions that are of vital interest to all the institutions involved in the project
 - ❖ Local Coordinating Team (LCT) -- deals with issues of vital interest only to the PC HEIs
- Creation of an online platform for project administration (Project Administration Platform – PAP) -- the basis both for project implementation and financial administration



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CMT MEMBERS

1.	Jelena Ignjatović	University of Niš, Serbia
2.	Miroslav Ćirić	University of Niš, Serbia
3.	Siniša Đurašević	University of Belgrade, Serbia
4.	Andreja Tepavčević	University of Novi Sad, Serbia
5.	Srećko Trifunović	University of Kragujevac, Serbia
6.	Romeo Mano	Eqrem Çabej University Gjirokastër, Albania
7.	Lorenc Ekonomi	Fan S. Noli University Korçë, Albania
8.	Luis J. Rodríguez Muñiz	University of Oviedo, Spain
9.	Vladimir Janiš	Matej Bel University in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia
10.	Martin Valcke	Ghent University, Belgium
11.	María C. Cañadas Santiago	University of Granada, Spain
12.	Irina Perfilieva	University of Ostrava, Czech Republic



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**THANK YOU FOR
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