

AGENDA – KICK OFF MEETING

Project: Strengthening university autonomy and increasing accountability and transparency of Western Balkans Universities / STAND

Project Number: 618805-EPP-1-2020-1-XK-EPPKA2-CBHE-SP

Dates	03 – 05 March 2021
Time	09:00 – 17:00h
Venue	International Business College of Mitrovica /Riverside Campus (Str. Bislim Bajgora n.n., Mitrovica, Kosovo) Hybrid event - Online and In-person – IBC-M Auditorium
Online link	STAND Conference (Day 1) /Time: Mar 3, 2021 09:00 Mitrovica (Local time) / Meeting ID: 984 1828 0070 /Passcode: 337561 Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/98418280070?pwd=NEI4WFhTQ1g3bUpaN3k3TE95b0lvZz09

Project summary: Higher education governance and its autonomy is strongly enhanced by the effective and convincing accountability, transparency and financial sustainability. Discussions on the university governance and autonomy throughout HEIs in Europe are coming as a response to diverse challenges at the different country's context. As a result, the need for gaining and enhancing public trust in higher education became manifest to develop appropriate forms of transparency and accountability of both public and private institutions. An initiative to form a consortium came as response to address these challenges through the project Strengthening university autonomy and increasing accountability and transparency of Western Balkans Universities /STAND project.

The concept entails investing in the strengthening the mechanisms that ensures the long-term sustainability of university autonomy, transparency and accountability. The project foresees cooperation between HEIs in the WB region, their respective ministries and program country partners and contributes to the increasing of professional capacities of HEI staff in partnering HEIs.

As structural project it will support reflecting on standards at EU partners and enhancing them at WB institutions through intensified regular academic and management exchange of good practice and sustainable networking between EU-WB partners.

mix of bottom-up and top-down approach that will be used in the project, fosters the dialogue between universities and ministries, and thus enables the consortium to contribute more effectively to the project implementation and sustainability to strengthen the autonomy of Western Balkans higher education institutions. The project aims to reach up to 50,000 persons engaged in higher education and other related activities in Kosovo, Albania and Montenegro and abroad through its dissemination activities.

Day 1 – 03. March 2021

Venue: IBCM/Riverside Campus/Auditorium		
09.00-09.30	Participants registration	
First Session – Opening and Partners Presentation (Open for academic public and press) (Auditorium)		Moderator: Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa - College Director
09.30-09.35	Welcome Speech	Mr. Harri Tuomola – IBC-M Executive Director
09.35-09.45	EU Office in Kosovo	Mr. Stergios Tragoudas - EU Office in Kosovo/Program Manager-EU Policies-Education
09.45-09.50	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (Kosovo)	Mr. Xhavit Rexhaj – Deputy Minister of MEST
09.50-09.55	Ministry of Education, Sport, and Youth (Albania)	Mr. Egest Gjokuta – Head of Education Section
09.55-10.00	Ministry of Education (Montenegro)	Mr. Danilo Alagic –Ministry Consultant
10.00-10.05	Welcome Speech from Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)	Mrs. Danielle Picot/Project Officer/European Commission
10.05-10.10	Representative from Rectors Conference	Prof. Dr. Naser Sahiti – Rector of University of Prishtina
10.10-10.20	Project presentation/Project Map	Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli – Project coordinator
Partner presentations with special emphasis on their HE management practices, as well as role in STAND		Moderator: Prof. Dr. Jelena Djokic IBC-M Academic Director
10.20-10.30	International Business College Mitrovica (Kosovo)	
10.30-10.40	University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina” (Kosovo)	
10.40-10.50	University “Kadri Zeka” Gjilan (Kosovo)	
10.50-11.00	University of Applied Science in Ferizaj (Kosovo)	
11.00-11.10	University of Gjakova “Fehmi Agani” (Kosovo)	
11.10-11.20	POLIS University (Albania)	
11.20-11.30	University of Tirana (Albania)	
11.30-11.40	University “Aleksandër Moisiu” Durrës (Albania)	
11.40-11.50	University of Montenegro (Montenegro)	
11.50-12.00	Coffee Break	

12.00-12.10	University of Zagreb (Croatia)	
12.10-12.20	University of Foggia (Italy)	
12.20-12.30	South East European University (North Macedonia)	
12.30-12.40	European University Association (Belgium)	
12.40-12.50	Hamburg University of Technology (Germany)	
12.50-13.00	Erasmus Office Kosovo	Prof. Jehona Lushaku
13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-15.30	<p>WP2: Development of University Autonomy Scorecards</p> <p>Activity 1.3: Workshop on adaptation of methodology for Autonomy Scorecard Assessment in WB partners</p> <p>2.1 University Autonomy Scorecard Assessment in partner countries (data collection and processing)</p> <p>2.2. Three national assessment reports of university autonomy</p> <p>2.3. Roundtables to present the assessment report</p> <p>2.4. Development of three Action Plans and Strategy to enhance university autonomy</p>	<p>Moderator: Mr. Bujar Gallopeni</p> <p>EUA</p>
15.30-16.30	<p>WP3: Enhancement of University governance for promoting autonomy</p> <p>3.1. Workshops with program country institutions for adaptation best practices on university governance</p> <p>3.2. Establishing a regional network on university autonomy</p> <p>3.3. Capacity building training and consultancy sessions for management staff</p>	<p>Moderator: Mr. Rinor Qehaja</p> <p>UNIFG, TUHH, UNIZG, EUA, SEEU</p>
16.30-17.00	Conclusions of the Day	Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa

Day 2 – 04. March 2021

<p>Venue: IBCM/Riverside Campus (Consultation Room/2nd Floor)</p> <p>Project Management</p> <p>Online link: STAND Conference (Day 2) /Time: Mar 4, 2021 09:30 Mitrovica (Local time) / Meeting ID: 971 7642 6573 /Passcode: 515971</p> <p>Zoom Meeting : https://zoom.us/j/97176426573?pwd=d05PekpOVE9ZbDJRektiSnQxT2FNdz09</p>		
<p>Second Session - Introducing project management, monitoring, reporting, financial reporting and technical details (Consultation Room/2nd Floor/Riverside campus)</p>		
9.30-10.30	<p>Establishing of the project management structures:</p> <p>Project Management Team-PMT, Committee for Quality Assurance-CQA</p>	Prof. Dr. Jelena Djokic
10.30-11.00	Project finance and financial reporting, financial documents	Mr. Mirko Topalovic
11.00-11.10	Coffee Break	

11.10-12.00	Project Management, Work Plan, Reporting and monitoring	Mrs. Alfia Urazaeva
12.00-13.30	Lunch	
Third Session - WPs and action: Working groups discussion on Work packages		
13.30-14.30	<p>WP4: Upgrade of national and university regulations</p> <p>4.1. Workshops on university autonomy regulations</p> <p>4.2. Update of statutes of partner country HEIs to comply with new regulations on university autonomy</p> <p>4.3. National/Regional Legal Base update/development to strengthen university autonomy (partner countries)</p>	<p>Moderator: Mr. Agron Hajdari</p> <p>UNIFG, TUHH, UNIZG</p>
14.30-14.45	Coffee Break	
14.45-15.45	<p>WP5: Technical Infrastructure modernization and update.</p> <p>5.1. University Management software features development and procurement</p> <p>5.2. Delivery of guidelines and training on the use of the University Management software</p>	<p>Moderator: Mr. Flamur Abazaj</p> <p>IBC-M, UGJFA, TUHH</p>
15.45-16.15	Summary of Workshops/Conclusions of the day	Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa

Day 3 - 05. March 2021

<p>Venue: IBCM/Riverside Campus (Consultation Room/2nd Floor)</p> <p>Project Management</p> <p>Link: STAND Conference (Day 3) /Time: Mar 5, 2021 09:30 Mitrovica (Local time) / Meeting ID: 963 4888 9142: Passcode: 964240</p> <p>Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/96348889142?pwd=NFIJdTBpNHlzS1Rpb0x3SWtRN1RndzO9</p>		
Fourth Session: Project Management		
9.30-10.00	<p>WP6: Quality Assurance, Risk Management</p> <p>6.1. Development of the Quality Assurance Monitoring Plan</p> <p>6.2. Meetings of the Committee for Quality Assurance</p> <p>6.3. Internal Quality monitoring</p> <p>6.4. External audit and evaluation report</p> <p>6.5. Mid-term quality plan</p> <p>6.6. Final quality plan</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Jelena Djokic</p>
10.00-11.00	<p>WP7: Dissemination and Exploitation (Moderation Harri, Bujar Pira)</p> <p>7.1. Communication strategy development</p> <p>7.2. Project brand and marketing plan development</p> <p>7.3. Online platform development</p> <p>7.4. Organization of promotional events</p> <p>7.5. Organization of conference on university autonomy and transparency</p>	<p>Moderators:</p> <p>Mr. Harri Tuomola</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Bujar Pira</p>

11.00-12.00	<p>WP8: Management</p> <p>8.1. Project working documents</p> <p>8.2. Meetings of the project management team</p> <p>8.3. Project finances and administration reports</p> <p>8.4. Internal management procedures</p>	<p>Moderators:</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa Mr. Mirko Topalovic</p>
12.00-12.15	Coffee Break	
12.15-13.00	<p>Overview of the first project year: work plan, tasks and obligations of partners</p> <p>Project website and project management platform presentation (tools)</p> <p>Project Management Plan, Discussion and approval of the activities and the timeline</p>	<p>Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa Mrs. Alfia Urazaeva</p>
13.00-13.30	Conclusions and event closure	<p>Prof. Dr. Mihone Kerolli Mustafa</p>