

CONSORTIUM MEETING MINUTES

Strengthening of Internationalisation Policies at Universities in Serbia (SIPUS)

544538-TEMPUS-1-2013--1-RS-TEMPUS-SMGR

Venue:	Singidunum University, 261 Kumodraška Street, lecture hall 102, Belgrade, Serbia
Time and date:	19-20 November 2015
Participants:	Blaz Ploj (UniGraz), Delfien Cloet (UGent), Gábor Czéh (UP), Eszter Sándorfi (UP), Prof. Mario Guillo (UA), Mag. Maria Brunnhofer (WUS Austria), Ivana Kovačević (MEST), Prof. Dr. Dalibor Soldatić (UB), Prof. Dr. Vesna Lopičić (UNI), Prof. Dr. Biljana Mišić Ilić (UNI), Prof. Dr. Miladin Kostić (SUNP), Doc. Dr. Edin Dolićanin (SUNP), Prof. Dr. Verka Jovanović (SUB), Dr. Svetlana Stanišić Stojić (SUB), Prof. Nataša Sekulović (SUB), Marina Savković (SUB), Marina Marjanović Jakovljević (SUB), Ana Petrović (SUB), Dušan Borovčanin (SUB), Katarina Vaščić (ESN), Prof. Dr. Pavle Sekeruš (UNS), Helena Hiršenberger (UNS), Ivana Vujkov (UNS), Nemanja Dragičević (NTO).
Apologies:	

SIPUS PROJECT ACRONYMS: UniGraz (University of Graz, Austria), UGent (University of Ghent, Belgium), UP (University of Pécs, Hungary), UA (University of Alicante, Spain), WUS Austria, NCSTD (National Council of Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia), NCHE (National Council for Higher Education of the Republic of Serbia), MEST (Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia), UB (University of Belgrade, Serbia), UNIKG (University of Kragujevac, Serbia), UNI (University of Niš, Serbia), SUNP (State University of Novi Pazar), SUB (Singidunum University, NIS (Petroleum Industry of Serbia), BINS (BalkanIDEA Novi Sad, Serbia), UNS (University of Novi Sad). **Other acronyms:** NTO (National Tempus Office, Serbia)

MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2015

- 9.30 – 10.00** **Registration of participants**
- 10.00 – 10.10** **Welcome and Opening of the meeting**
Prof. dr Verka Jovanović, Sigidunum University
Prof. dr Pavle Sekeruš, University of Novi Sad
- 10.10 – 10.30** **OVERVIEW OF PROJECT PROGRESS**
Organisational, technical and financial, Interim Report and EACEA feedback
Ana Šoti and Helena Hiršenberger, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team

10.30 – 11.00

WP1 (national legislative) – progress, shortcomings, plan for future

- **Study visit to the University of Ghent (WP1 leader)**
Delfien Cloet, International Relations Office (5 min)
- **National strategies** (on academic mobility and recognition of degrees and on internationalisation of Serbian higher education and research), **info service for outgoing mobility and national benchmark for incoming mobility**
Prof. Dr. Zorana Lužanin, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of RS, tbc. (15 min)
 - **(National Council for Higher Education, RS)**
 - **(National Council for Science and Technological Development, RS)**
- **Standards for the accreditation of joint and double degrees in Serbia**
- Guidelines for Joint Degrees
Prof. Dr. Vesna Lopičić, University of Niš (5 min)
- **Summary of future plans and discussion**
(5 min)

11.00 – 11.30

WP2 (institutional legislative) – progress, shortcomings, plan for future

- **University of Niš (WP2 leader)**
Prof. Dr. Vesna Lopičić, University of Niš (10 min)
- **University of Novi Sad (Coordinator)**
Ivana Vujkov, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team (5 min)
- **Guidelines on academic recognition practices and regulations**
Tbc (10 min)
- **Update on ESN activities and role in SIPUS (students in WP2)**
National Representative (5 min)

11.30 – 12.00

Coffee break

12.00 – 13.00

WP3 (building capacity) – progress, shortcomings, plan for future

- **Update on WP3 progress, University of Novi Sad (Coordinator, WP3 leader)**
Ana Šoti, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team (5 min)
- **Student seminar 2015**
Mia Ješić, NIS (10 min)
- **Promoting Open Innovation Ecosystems as part of the Internationalization Strategies in HEIs**
Mario Guilló, University of Alicante (15 min)
- **Recruitment of foreign PhD students, teachers and researchers**
Tbc (10 min)
- **Workshop on best practices in building institutional capacities for participation within ERA and develop an action plan for participation in ERA**
Helena Hiršenberger and Ana Šoti, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS management team (20 min)

13.00 – 13.30

WP4 (QUALITY ISSUES) – progress, shortcomings, plan for future

- **„Progress report on quality issues“, WUS Austria (WP4 leader)**
Maria Brunnhofer, WUS Austria

13.30 – 14.30

Buffet Lunch



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14.30 – 14.50

WP5 (DISSEMINATION) – progress, shortcomings, plan for future

- **SINGIDUNUM University (WP5 leader)**
Doc. Dr. Svetlana StanišićStojić, Singidunum University, tbc. (10 min)
- **University of Novi Sad (Coordinator and joint WP5 leader)**
Website, *Helena Hiršenberger, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team*
EAIE fair, *Ivana Vujkov, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team*

14.50 – 15.30

WP6 (EXPLOITATION) – ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

- **TEMPUS project FUSE – links with SIPUS**
Prof. Dr. Biljana Misić, University of Niš, FUSE Coordinator, tbc
- **Implementation of internationalisation policies and strategies at HEIs**
- **Facilitation of the scope and quality of international projects and strategic partnerships**
- **Support systems for incoming and outgoing mobility of students, teachers and researchers**
Short inputs expected from each Serbian university partners (up to 5 mins each)

15.30 – 16.00

DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS, AND PLAN FOR THE LAST YEAR

16.00 – 16.15

AOB

- **TEMPUS inter coaching TREND 2016**

FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2015

10.00 – 10.30

WP7: SIPUS MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

Ana Šoti and Helena Hiršenberger, University of Novi Sad, SIPUS core management team

10.30 – 11.15

REPORTS FROM PARTNERS

(both the impact and the challenges the project has faced at their institution) (5 min each)

- **University of Belgrade**
- **University of Kragujevac**
- **University of Nis**
- **State University of Novi Pazar**
- **Singidunum University**
- **University of Novi Sad**

Each Serbian university partner should present last year achievements (up to 5 slides)

11.15 – 12.00

SIPUS meeting with media representatives (media conference)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and Opening of the meeting

Prof. Pavle Sekeruš, former Vice-Rector for Science and International Relations, University of Novi Sad (COORDINATOR) and Prof. Verka Jovanović, Singidunum University (HOST), addressed the participants of the SIPUS Consortium Meeting.

In her introductory note, Prof. Verka Jovanović, emphasized successful cooperation with the coordinating institution and other partner institutions from the country and abroad, regarding the share of expertise and know-how in the area of internationalisation at both national and institutional level. Prof. Jovanović suggested using the meeting to discuss previous results of the project, in consortium meetings, workshops, study visits etc. She said that particular attention should be devoted to design and adoption of institutional legislation, double-degree programs and issues related to incoming and outgoing students, accommodation provision, visa regime, etc. Prof. Jovanović also pointed out to the necessity of establishing better cooperation not only among the project partners, but also with other relevant institutions in Serbia (apart from the Ministry of Education, Science and National Council for HE and Technological Development, also with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Finance, etc.) in developing of national internationalisation strategy.

Prof. Sekeruš reiterated the importance of upgrading conditions and opportunities for participating in the internationalization process and strengthening of cooperation at all levels and sectors. He also drew particular attention to the issue of "brain drain" that has been affecting the universities in Serbia and neighbouring countries, due to the unfavourable economic situation. He also proposed to use the meeting not only to discuss the progress of the project, but also possible dilemmas, challenges and objectives within the process of internationalisation.

2. SIPUS project overall organisational, technical and financial progress

Helena Hiršenberger, University of Novi Sad (SIPUS core management team), presented the overall progress of the SIPUS project, by going through all of the work packages.

Important remarks made during the presentation:

- SIPUS initiated the work on the national strategy for internationalization (official letter was sent to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development in a form of a proposal for a joint venture, including the proposal of the structure of the working groups for developing of the national internationalisation strategy). In October 2015, the Ministry contacted all Universities to nominate members



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of the working group and propose topics to be addressed in the national internationalisation strategy. The design of accreditation standards for joint/double degrees is postponed and shall be incorporated in the national strategy. It is observed that both national councils were not sufficiently active regarding this issue.

- Within WP2, which is coordinated by the University of Niš, quite a lot of activities have been carried out in the previous period. The models of internationalisation were transferred; study visit was organized to the University of Pecs in April 2015; workshop on joint and double degrees was held in Novi Sad on 23 March 2015. Also, Guidelines for joint degrees have been prepared by the University of Niš. University strategy for Internationalisation has been adopted by almost all partner institutions. Only University of Kragujevac and University of Novi Sad are still waiting for the adoption of the internationalisation strategy, but this should be concluded in the near future.
- The activities realized within WP3 include the following: the study visit to the University of Alicante in June 2015, workshop organized by NIS in December 2014 in Novi Sad and a very successful workshop on foreign staff recruitment organized in October 2015 at the University of Novi Sad. Not only partners took active role, but the workshop was attended by the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Interior. The conclusion of the workshop was to make a set of recommendations for different key players in the process of foreign academic staff recruitment, and that the new meeting will follow up. An upcoming issue is to organize the workshop on best practices in building institutional capacities for participation in ERA, which will be held in February/March 2016 at the University of Belgrade. As regards exploitation and monitoring results of the outcomes the idea is to have some kind of progress report for all Serbian partner universities by February 1, 2016 (to monitor activities, development, joint initiatives, mobility, incoming and outgoing students). Deadlines for this exercise, which will be repeated at the end of the project, are provided in the presentation posted on the SIPUS website.
- Intermediate report on progress of the project in the first half of the project lifetime has been submitted on time by June 1, 2015 and accepted by the EACEA. The final report is expected 2 months after the eligibility period, meaning by end of January 2017. So far, the project has well-structured coordination and dynamics of internal reporting. An overview of the budget spending is also provided in the presentation. One remark regarding the budget and spending is that not all the partners have uploaded and updated their expenditure to Dropbox, or have provided incomplete information.
- The feedback from EACEA was provided in August 2015. They are pleased with the results produced so far with the SIPUS project. They see the strong commitment of the consortium members and awareness of the demanding project activities and goals. It is recommended to establish better cooperation with the national authorities through regular meetings and communication. There was no feedback on their recommendations following the monitoring visit. Also, the quality control activities conducted so far are not sufficient and there

is no progress report or internal monitoring plan. The website was highly-rated (very informative, regularly updated and well-structured).

- Future activities would include NIS seminars for students in Belgrade (2015) and Niš (2016). Also, it is planned to organize the workshop in February/March 2016 at the University of Belgrade on best practices in building institutional capacities for participation in ERA. In October 2016 the final conference is planned

3. WP1 progress (national legislative)

■ University of Ghent (WP1 leader)

Ms. Delfien Cloet, International Relations Office, University of Ghent, presented the progress of WP1.

Namely, the recent study visit was organized on 15-17 November 2015 at the University of Ghent to assist activities on the drafting of new national law on higher education. It was attended by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and several representatives from the University of Novi Sad and University of Belgrade who are leading the working groups in the process of writing the new Law on HE. Mr Zlatan Buljko, the ministry representative from Bosnia and Herzegovina was also present at the meetings organized at the University of Ghent. The issues discussed were related to the organization and management, funding of HE, quality assurance, human resources and accreditation. Further information was provided on the HE funding system at the University of Ghent, which is regulated by the Flemish community and is not the federal responsibility. There are different streams of funding based on various aspects (education, research and publications, input and output criteria, number of credits, grants from private industries etc). They have recognized the necessity to provide PhD students with extra training and social skills, so as to enable them to find the desired employment outside the university. They have the Chief Academic Coordinator who decides on funding of the University based on the government criteria. As this would place humanities in underprivileged position, the idea is to base the funding model on the strategy (each faculty makes the plan and strategy to identify and mitigate its weaknesses) and they receive funding based on that. Quality assessment and accreditation process is no longer performed at the University, level but at the institutional level (separate faculties). They also discussed the issues of human resources management, staff training, introduction of flexible working system, post-doc talent programs, employability.

■ No reports were provided by:

National Council for Higher Education, RS

National Council for Science and Technological Development, RS

■ Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of RS



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Ivana Kovačević from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development greeted the participants of the SIPUS project on behalf of the Ministry and reiterated that MESTD sees itself as an active and constructive partner in the project. She said that they have sent an official letter to all partner institutions in Serbia and relevant ministries concerning their obligation to nominate representatives of the working group for drafting the national internationalization strategy of HEI. The representatives have been elected and the first meeting of the working group will be held soon, where they will determine the topics to be included in the strategy.

■ Standards for the accreditation of joint and double degrees in Serbia-Guidelines for Joint Degrees

Prof. Vesna Lopičić, Vice-Rector for International Relations presented a draft version of Guidelines for Joint Degrees. She emphasized that the current version is rather general and it is necessary to insert precise procedures for various parts of implementation. Prof. Lopičić drew particular attention to the parts of the Guidelines related to the reasons for development of joint programmes at the institutional and programme level, direct and indirect benefits for the academic staff and students involved in joint programmes, partner selection, mobility structures, joint programme management, and accreditation and quality assurance. This presentation shall be delivered to all SIPUS partners and feedback should be provided by the end of the year (December 30th, 2015).

4. WP2 progress (institutional legislative)

■ University of Niš (WP2 leader)

Prof. Vesna Lopičić, Vice-Rector for International Relations elaborated on the progress of WP2 at each RS university partner, with respect to the obligatory documents, as well as those that are regarded added value in SIPUS. All partners discussed the documentation they have adopted and posted on their official websites and conclusions were made on the remaining documents for each partner institution.

Prof. Lopičić once again emphasized that it is important to synchronise the HEIs work in SIPUS with the work of the Ministry in the process of internationalisation of HE and research and pleaded for all stakeholders to coordinate their activities. RS partners agreed that institutional strategies are more general documents and, as such, they are in line with the Strategy of Development of Education in the Republic of Serbia by 2020. Institutional action plans, that accompany the strategies are, however, more specific and concrete and they need to be close to the national policies (not only educational, but also foreign ones).

WP2 indicators of progress following the last Consortium meeting:

- Guidelines for Joint Degrees have been drafted
- Study visits to EU partner universities.
- Working groups for strategic development of internationalisation in education and research established.



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- Workshop on best practices of academic and administrative support for international students and staff and organization of joint and double degrees
- Guidelines for institutional practices and regulations regarding academic recognition of mobility periods.
- University strategies on internationalisation of HE and research at universities in Serbia.
- University strategies for increasing the quality and scope of academic mobility.

■ ESN activities (students in WP2)

Katarina Vaščić, National Representative of the Erasmus Student Network emphasized the key points regarding the ESN engagement in WP2, cooperation with other SIPUS partners, and ideas for the future.

The activities completed after the previous consortium meeting:

- Study visit to Graz
- Study visit to Niš
- First ESN IRO-meeting
- Visit to Singidunum University
- Accommodation platform

Aside from SIPUS:

- Council of National Representatives - CNR Novi Sad, September 2015
- Promotion of student mobility 'Mobility as a lifestyle', October 2015

Plans for the future:

- Finishing the accommodation platform
- Working group for defining of the national strategy of internationalization
- Establishing collaboration with other SIPUS partners

5. WP3 progress – Building capacity –progress, shortcomings, plan for future

■ Update on WP3 progress, University of Novi Sad (Coordinator, WP3 leader)

Helena Hiršenerger, University of Novi Sad, presented the main information on the activities within WP3 (Enhancement of institutional capacities for participation in large-scale international collaborations):

- Trainings for research and administrative staff from Serbian universities at the University of Ghent and the University of Alicante (Delivery date: June 2015);
- Engagement of foreign academic and research staff in teaching and research in Serbia. UNS legal team developed detailed analysis of national and institutional legal framework provided for recruitment of



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foreign PhD students, teachers and researchers. Workshop was organized at UNS in October 2015 with participation of MFA, MI, etc. Proposal of corrective interventions to support the process on different levels and a new workshop are planned for May 2016;

- Workshop on best practices in building institutional capacities for participation in ERA and advancing the service of international project development and management at university level (Delivery date extended: June 2016).

The Workshop was postponed to 2016 and the provisional date is already set with participating partners for the end of February/beginning of March at the University of Belgrade. The workshop will be open to public. It will involve foreign partners with the presentations of their practices in building institutional capacities and participation in ERA, while Serbian universities will be invited to present one of their best practice examples. The afternoon part will be restricted to SIPUS consortium and organized in form of facilitated discussion on the recommendations for advancing institutional capacities for participation in largescale research projects.

Beside the workshop UNS will make an overview of all study visits conducted under SIPUS project in regard to project management knowledge transfer. UNS will also draft an overview of available funding for university project based collaborations, with special emphasize to non-EU funding schemes (privately owned foundations, foreign countries embassies, etc.).

- University of Novi Sad and NCSTD are expected to develop a Set of recommendations for university research project management and talent development. If NCSTD does not contribute to the project UNS will coordinate this outcome with other partners (Delivery date extended: October 2016);
- Talent Development - NIS will organize two remaining seminars for students focusing on competencies needed for graduates' entry into the labour market from the point of view of internationalization (Delivery dates: Belgrade - October 2015, Niš - October 2016).

■ **Promoting Open Innovation Ecosystems as part of the Internationalization Strategies in HEIs**

Prof. Mario Guillio, the Head of Development of FUTURLAB - the Laboratory of Foresight (University of Alicante), presented their main area of expertise, i.e., applying foresight research methods in different research fields. He also discussed the Finish Futures Research Center and AALTO University. He elaborated on the Gym project that aims at developing a physical space, designed as social innovation laboratory for stimulating synergies and creativity and enabling students to connect with the companies. He elaborated on the Futurlab methodology and the Gym concept and the benefits for students (getting into contact with regional companies operating at international level, internships, job opportunities, being part of the international learning community, exchange of experiences and the chance for enriching professional profile). Their next steps would be to organize International week in March 2016 (exchange of the teaching staff) and encourage networking of universities to develop similar activities.

6. WP4 progress – QUALITY ISSUES

■ REPORT provided by WUS Austria (WP4 leader)

Maria Brunnhofer, WUS Austria, presented a detailed report on the quality issues regarding the study visits as well as the overall progress of the SIPUS project. She emphasized that Quality Management concerns all partners, and that successful coordination of all partners and proper documentation and information sharing are the key to quality management. She informed all representatives from the partner institutions that the draft evaluation reports will be posted on the website after the meeting.

Maria Brunnhofer presented the evaluation methodology, emphasizing the following points:

- Quality review of main knowledge products
- Developments and implementation of specific QA tools
- Evaluation of meetings and trainings.

Evaluation Time plan for all packages is available in the presentation given to SIPUS partners and placed on the SIPUS website.

She also added that the SIPUS team has responded well to the recommendations provided by the national Erasmus+ office. Namely, in July 2015, meeting was held with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development and was followed by the official proposal for formation of a working group. Also, cooperation was established with project FUSE and through WP3 (Enhancement of institutional capacities). WUS Austria developed a progress report on the quality issues and an internal monitoring plan which will be available on the SIPUS project website. The workshop was held on the accreditation standards for joint degrees and a meeting was organized with the Accreditation Commission. The National Council for HE and Accreditation Commission are expected to give more input in the next phase of WP1. She also pointed out that the final questionnaire on the quality issues and work progress will be provided in January 2016.

The upcoming evaluation activities shall include:

- Evaluation of the final consortium meeting in Novi Sad in October 2016
- Financial partner reports as planned
- Further evaluation activities on demand

7. WP5 progress – DISSEMINATION

■ SINGIDUNUM University (WP5 leader)

Prof. Svetlana Stanišić Stojić, Singidunum University, presented the main dissemination activities within the SIPUS project. Besides the development of a very functional website and promotional materials, several dissemination



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events have been organized in the country and abroad and the cooperation was strengthened with the ESN in the advancement of academic mobility. She drew particular attention to the following points:

- In April 2014, the SIPUS website was launched.
- In September 2014, the colleagues from the University of Novi Sad had the opportunity to promote SIPUS project at the 26th Annual Conference of European Association for International Education in Prague.
- In December 2014, a meeting devoted to the Erasmus Student Network, a non-profit international student organisation was held at the University of Novi Sad. Upon their presentations at Singidunum University, Belgrade ESN section welcomed a considerable number of new members.
- In December 2014, the annual seminar on internationally related competencies of graduates relevant to employers was held at the Rectorate Office of the University of Novi Sad.

Prof. Stanišić also highlighted that SIPUS has had a strong impact on the internationalization process at Singidunum University, not only in terms of legislative and relevant documentation and regulations within WP2, but also the establishment of the International Office and institutional capacity building measures. She also said that it is worth noting that the final outcome of this project greatly depends on the involvement and contribution of the relevant Ministry and its representatives, since developing and advancing the national legislative framework determines the ultimate scope of internationalization regardless of the progress made at the institutional level.

8. WP6: EXPLOITATION-ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

■ TEMPUS project FUSE – links with SIPUS

Prof. Biljana Mišić, University of Niš, FUSE project coordinator, presented the main information of the FUSE project and its link with SIPUS project. She distributed the booklet on FUSE project to all participants at the consortium meeting where they could get all relevant information on the project. She highlighted that SIPUS and FUSE belong to the same generation and type of projects, have strong interlinking of project work packages and that the national structure of their consortium is almost identical. She presented the goals and objectives of the FUSE project and emphasized that it is necessary for the SIPUS and FUSE teams to work in cohesion to achieve the desirable results and outcomes that would contribute to the issue of internationalization on both national and institutional level. SIPUS and FUSE are complementary and together can cover all levels (national, institutional (university, faculty, department, student organization) and encompass all areas.

Possible joint activities:

- The spectrum of documents dealing with internationalization, from national to faculty (department) levels
- Putting legislative and other documents in practice
- Overall capacity building for international teaching, mobility, research, international projects



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- Dissemination → for greater visibility and impact
- Exploitation → synergy, greater impact
- Formal interproject coaching and dissemination event(s).

9. WP7 SIPUS MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

A detailed account of financial and documentation issues was provided in a presentation to all SIPUS partners. Through individual consultations, Ivana Vujkov and Helena Hiršenberger, University of Novi Sad, clarified the current situation to each partner. Details are available in the presentation.

10. REPORTS FROM ALL SIPUS PARTNERS

(on both the impact and the challenges the project has faced at their institution)

UB:

Prof. Dalibor Soldatić, vice-rector for international relations presented the situation at the University of Belgrade with regards to the process of internationalization. He emphasized that significant progress has been made in the domain of internationalization, institutional documentation, and control of implementation of international projects, but that there is still a lot segments that should be improved, in particular mobility issues.

UNI:

Prof. Vesna Lopičić drew attention to some internalization documentation adopted at the University (Book of regulations governing the participation of the University of Niš in ERASMUS+ credit mobility, Strategy of Internationalization at the University of Niš, Book of regulations governing joint mentorship and joint doctoral degrees, Strategy of academic mobility at the University of Niš) and establishment of ESN Niš in October 2015.

She also presented plans for the last year of the project:

- To translate the remaining books of rules into English
- To complete the revision of the Bylaw on Academic Mobility and ECTS Recognition adopted in 2011
- To finalize Action Plan for Internationalization Strategy
- To draft Action Plan for Academic Mobility Strategy
 - To sign a contract between UNI and ESN Niš to regulate their partnership
 - To adopt University procedures for signing Erasmus+ Inter-institutional Agreements
 - To finalize and adopt Guidelines for Joint Degrees



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SUNP:

Edin Dolićanin presented the situation at the State University of Novi Pazar with regards to the SIPUS project. He presented information on the internationalization documentation adopted and proudly announced that their International Office has officially got two more members and that they could now more efficiently deal with the previously discussed internationalization and mobility issues.

SUB:

Ana Petrovic from SUB International Office delivered some brief information on their activities and impacts and challenges of the SIPUS project at their University, in particular regarding the internationalization process and academic mobility. Special emphasis was drawn to adoption of necessary internationalization documentation in both Serbian and English, current activity in Erasmus KA1 and KA2, and participation in dissemination activities in the country and abroad. As regards challenges SUB is facing in the internationalization process, special attention is devoted to the following issues: accommodation, insufficient number of study programmes in English, bureaucratic procedures that impede the mobility process, cooperation with the national authorities, better administration preparation at the institutional level, recognition of academic mobility periods.

UNS: Ivana Vujkov from the University of Novi Sad said that their University has so far succeeded in establishing successful communication with all project partners and relevant authorities and in carrying out the expected project activities with minor delays. She also added that UNS has not still adopted all the necessary internationalisation documentation and that it will be done in the foreseeable future. She also pointed out that the given documentation represents the initial step in the internationalisation and mobility process, and that it does not necessarily imply successful implementation.

MEETING CONCLUSIONS

Overview of remaining ongoing and pending activities in the last project year according to WPs:

WP1

A3	Formulate and adopt standards for the accreditation of joint and double degrees in Serbia
A4	Develop a national strategy on academic mobility and recognition of degrees
A5	Develop a national strategy on internationalisation of Serbian higher education and research
A6	Organize information service on all national funding schemes supporting outgoing mobility
A7	Develop national benchmarks for incoming mobility

WP2

B1.3	Conclude guidelines on standards for the accreditation of joint and double degrees
B2	Develop and adopt university internationalisation strategies of HE and research (UNS, UKG)

B3	Develop and adopt university strategies on academic mobility (UNS, UKG)
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WP3

C2	Draft recommendations for the recruitment of foreign PhD students, teachers and researchers (new WS)
C3	Organize workshop on building institutional capacities for participation within ERA, UB, Feb/Mar 2016
C4.1	Make a set of recommendation for university research management and talent development
C4.2	NIS Seminars on internationally related competences of graduates relevant to employers, 2015 and 2016

WP4

Q1	Monitor quality of all project activities – ongoing
Q3	Organize peer review reporting (UGent, UP/PTE)
Q4	Organize fine tuning of procedures

WP5

D1	Organize dissemination conferences and PR (link with activities C3, M1)
D2	Advertise Serbian higher education and research in the country and abroad (EAIE 2016)
D3	Maintain project website
D4	Design, publish and distribute promotional materials

WP6

E1	Monitor implementation of national and institutional internationalisation policies and strategies at HEIs
E2	Facilitate the scope and quality of international projects and strategic partnerships
E3	Manage support systems for both incoming and outgoing mobility of students, teachers and researchers

WP7

M1	Manage Project
M2	Final consortium meeting
M3/M4	Manage project activities, budget and finances

END OF THE MEETING: SIPUS media conference

N.B. All the details are available in the presentation given to SIPUS partners and placed on the SIPUS website.

Minutes written by:
Ana Petrovic

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