

MID-TERM INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORT

(a short description and evaluation of the activity of the ULCB between October 15, 2016 – March 15, 2018)

1. Main functions of the Uzbek Local Coordination Board (ULCB)

ULCB is the Uzbek coordinating body for key activities performed in Uzbekistan. It provides better communication, coordination and monitoring of the work being performed at Uzbek partner HIEs. Project related issues are communicated during ULCB meetings.

2. Meetings of the ULCB between October 15, 2016 – March 15, 2018

One ULCB meeting was held at Financial Institute in Tashkent on 3 December, 2017.

3. Key issues discussed at the Meetings of the ULCB and results of these discussions

Recent developments in doctoral education in Uzbekistan:

It was proposed that referenced journal committee within the project should be established.

Evaluation and feedback on the knowledge sharing event in Turin:

In overall, the job shadowing week gave the chances to establish network with colleagues in host university and to learn more detail about organization the doctoral education in Italy. Taking account the participants feedbacks It was proposed to increase the number of participants and number of days for the job shadowing week at the University of Granada.

Planning of UZDOC 2.0 activities in Tashkent (Tashkent Chemical-Technological Institute, 5-9 February 2018):

- The programme of the meeting was developed;
- To ensure a high participation of governmental bodies, external stakeholders and other Higher Education Institutions at the Quality Assurance Conference it was concluded that NEO office in Tashkent, representatives from the Innovative Ministry, representatives from the Ministry of Higher Education, representatives from the recently established government body "Agency of Quality Assurance in education" can be involved in the process.
- To ensure a good selection of doctoral supervisors and doctoral candidates for the trainings on Thursday/Friday, 8-9 February it was decided to involve participants with enough knowledge of English language.
- Specific topics decided to be addressed during the training for doctoral supervisors doctoral candidates are:
 - a) European structure of doctoral education
 - b) Education, sciences and Industry relations
 - c) Start-up establishment

- To ensure a wide dissemination of the events in Uzbekistan (media) it was decided that TCTI will send the official letter to Central TV office, Publication in local newspapers. Other partner also will publish some articles in local newspapers and each HEI's web sites (e. g. NamSU can submit analytical article to the Pedagogika journal). Also Official letter will be sent to Ministry of Higher Education.

Equipment purchase

- possible changes with regard to Namangan State University request:

Decision was made to establish doctoral study Centre at Namangan State University and Tashkent Chemical-Technological Institute.

- launching the Equipment purchase procedure:

NamSU can be responsible for the tendering process in Uzbek side.

Planning of 2018 activities:

- 1-day Knowledge-sharing event on collaboration with business and industry sector at Polytechnic University of Turin, May 2018:

The number of days should be increased. Board proposes at least two participates from each partners will be feasible.

- 2nd Uzbek Local Coordination Board meeting in Nukus:

Dates will be decided by the Local Coordinator & Contact Persons

- Job shadowing week in Granada:

The number of days should be increased. Board proposes at least two participates from each partners will be feasible.

- 2-day parallel training for doctoral candidates and doctoral supervisors:

Approximately October 2018 at NamSU.

- *Particular aspects of Collaborative Doctoral Education to be addressed at the Knowledge-sharing event in Turin:*

Doctoral thesis discussion process would be interesting to visit. The partnership between doctoral school and industry also interesting.

Also interesting to know how researchers can defense the thesis or conducts research by not disconnecting with the work position.

- *Specific activities/operations of the Postgraduate/Doctoral Office of the University of Granada to be explored during the job shadowing week in Granada:*

Exploring the Doctoral centers, activities, in different faculties, Dissertation discussion must be observed if possible. Writing and publishing scientific articles in peer reviewed journals. Developing the research proposals for calls, applying for international donor organizations, Marie Curie proposals, Horizon 2020.

- institution willing to host the 2-day parallel training for doctoral candidates and doctoral supervisors:

NamSU, approximately time is October 2018 at NamSU.

4. According to your opinion, to what extent the ULCB has been able to fulfil the role envisaged in the UZDOC2.0 Project Description?

The degree of fulfilment of the role may be considered as full enough considering that the work was carried out also by means of contacting through the Internet.

5. What have been the factors (if any) hindering the activity of the ULCB?

There were no factors considerably hindering the activity of the ULCB.

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