Report for the Meeting on March 30th, 2018

EACEA, 59, rue Joseph II, 1000 - Bruxelles

Preface;

Dr. Piia Heinämäki, TechReh Project Adviser, in order to prepare the discussions for the meeting to be held on March 30th, 2018, asked to receive a written contribution from the coordinator including a statement covering the following points:

- Main difficulties or obstacles in project implementation so far (in terms of project *management and financial management)*
- Suggestions to solve the above mentioned difficulties
- Brief update on the implementation of project activities for the project as a whole
- Work plan for the remaining project period (and possible extension if needed)
- Any other comments.

This report deals with the above mentioned topics.

Prof. Pasquale Daponte

TechReh Coordinator

March 27th, 2018 Benevento,











First of all we wish to thank Dr. Piia Heinämäki, *TechReh* Project Adviser and EACEA for the opportunity offered to solve some difficulties born in the execution of the project.

We think that this meeting may clarify the state of art of the project and fix some milestone for its successful conclusion.

Main difficulties or obstacles in project implementation so far (in terms of project management and financial management)

According to our experience in the management of projects, the main difficulties for managing *TechReh* project were related to;

1 - Not clear financial rules in Uzbekistan.

It worth to note that, due to National Uzbek limitations in receiving money from abroad to local Institutions, there was at beginning of the project an agreement for transfer money to ALL Uzbekistan Partners in a transparent way and according to our National Laws and rules of our University. The documents concerning this step were sent to Dr. P.Heinamaki for revision and approval, after that we signed this agreement. This procedure works and it has been used until now to transfer to Uzbek Partners the Staff Costs and expenses for mobility. All the money transfer operations made by this procedure had success!

Although the defined procedure was active for the other partners, it seems to be not accepted by the *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute*. For further details about this issue, please refer to the *Report on the state of art of TechReh project*, requested from Dr José Gutiérrez Fernández, December 2017.

2 - WP2 activities, the changes in this WP were not clearly understood.

The submitted and approved project included a master course on the use and development of advanced ICT solutions in the field of rehabilitation, pursuing the goals of development of human resources set in the Public Health Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan 2010-2020.

Due to some comments and suggestions submitted by our Uzbek Partners, we asked and obtain from Dr. P.Heinamaki a change of the objectives of the project. So, the resources for organizing the original master were devoted to the following three objectives;

- The existing Master programmes in Medical Rehabilitation offered at the medical HEIs involved in the project (Nukus and Tashkent) will be modernised in the framework of the project activities.



- In addition, a two-year Master "Computer Systems for Medicine" will be developed by the project, to be implemented at the Tashkent University of Information Technologies.
- Moreover, short courses for medical and technical professionals will be developed in the framework of the project.

Until now efforts from the Consortium were mainly devoted to design the two-year Master "Computer Systems for Medicine" to be implemented at the Tashkent University of Information Technologies.

The accreditation of the Master "Computer Systems for Medicine" seems has been submitted to Uzbek Ministry responsible for this authorization. We asked official documentation concerning this accreditation process, without success. So, we cannot document this step.

It seems to us that the other two actions:

- The existing Master programmes in Medical Rehabilitation offered at the medical HEIs involved in the project (Nukus and Tashkent) will be modernised in the framework of the project activities.
- Moreover, short courses for medical and technical professionals will be developed in the framework of the project

have been underestimated from the Consortium.

3 – Communications with Prof. Veronique Perdereau, WP2 and WP5 leader.

Due to its long experience in the main field of the project, during the project designing, we assigned to UNIPEMC the management of two important WPs.

Lead Organisation	UNIPEMC will coordinate the activities of WP.2. UNIPEMC will supervise the design of master program structure and content (D 2.1) and will be engaged in the production of teaching material for the master (D 2.3) and in the selection and coordination of teachers (D 2.4). It will also join the master deployment activities and frontal lessons (D 2.6) and will make its laboratories available to host interns from Plan B.
Lead Organisation	UNIPEMC will take advantage of its experience to supervise WP.5 activities, in particular the design of the quality system (D 5.1) along with VILNUNI and MEDUPLO. UNIPEMC, as all of the partners, will contribute to quality monitoring (D 5.3), project documentation maintenance and analysis (D 5.4) and final evaluation of the master program (D 5.5). It will cooperate with UNISANN to allow for external audit (D 5.6).

Unfortunately, the personal communications with Prof Veronique Perdereau were often very rude see e.g. Annex I. This created a lot of lively discussions











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4 – The behaviour of the Uzbek Partner "Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute", already mentioned in the report sent on December 15 2018.

In each meeting we had always discussed the position of the *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute*. A continuous exchange of information was kept on this topic with Dr. Igor Vichrov and Dr. Sherzod Ashirbaev, Uzbek coordinators of the *TechReh* project.

As clearly written in the *Report on the state of art of TechReh project*, and shared with all the Partners, we followed the rules agreed with the Uzbek Partners coordinated by Dr. I.Vichrov and Dr. S.Ashirbaev, and approved by Dr. Piia Heinämäki.

Anyway, now the level of misunderstanding is overcoming for us an acceptable threshold for a civil and friendly discussion.

We are deeply negative impressed and very disappointed by the offensive words used by Prof. Oral Ataniyazova, Rector of the *Nukus branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute* in her email ".... *criminal condition*", ".. *can we trust to the coordinator*? ..." !!! See Annex II.

The activities carried out until now by the Coordinator and the Administrative Staff of University of Sannio, in managing not only the project but the whole budget for all the Uzbek Partners, sharing always all the information and proceeding always with the consensus of all the Partners, is a proof of the commitment and sacrifices made for the success of the project.

The use of words as ".... criminal condition" and ".. can we trust to the coordinator? ..." are offensive to our honour, our reputation and our University.

We hope that Prof. O.Ataniyazova, Rector of *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute* will reconsider her words and will retire these very offensive words.

About Prof. O. Ataniyazova's comments on the financial management of the budget of *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute* by Coordinator, we kindly ask her if she considered the missing flights and corresponding costs. (Annex III).

It is worth to note that University of Sannio, as it is easily understandable from the Annex VIII (*Evaluation of the difference about amount of the Grant spent for Uzbek partners in order to determine the amount from first and second prepayment to be transferred – file TransfersV2.xlsx*), paid in advance part of the expenses of the Uzbek Partners for supporting the progress of the project activities.



branch - Computerization Center

Suggestions to solve the above mentioned difficulties

1 - Not clear financial rules in Uzbekistan.

Due to the information we received in Uzbekistan in November 2017 about changes in the national laws and a successive written information received from Dr. I.Vikhrov, one of the two Uzbek coordinators, on February 6th 2018 (see Annex IV), we hope to transfer as soon as possible the rest of the grant that University of Sannio is managing for the Uzbek Partners. In order to accelerate this procedure actions were already token, see *Brief update on the implementation of project activities for the project as a whole*. In particular, we prepared an amendment to the partnership agreement of the Uzbek institutions, that defines the new policies of grant management according to the above mentioned National rules. In this way, Uzbek Partners would be able to directly manage their grant according to their laws and rules.

We think that this will avoid misunderstandings for the last part of the project activities.

2 – WP2 activities, the changes in this WP were not clearly understand.

The main open issues are:

- the modernization of the existing Master programmes in Medical Rehabilitation offered at the medical HEIs involved in the project (Nukus and Tashkent). Although it was kindly asked (e.g. Annex I), currently a detailed workplan about such activities has not yet provided.

The contemporaneous presence of the WP2 leader and the Rector of *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute* is a great opportunity to clarify how to proceed about the modernization of the existing Master programmes in Medical Rehabilitation.

- short courses for medical and technical professionals to be developed in the framework of the project. The Coordinator with the cooperation of the two Uzbek national coordinators, PLUX, the Portuguese Partner, and BTS the Company furnishing the equipment, organized and installed in the e-learning system some short courses. Although it was kindly asked (e. g. Annex I), currently a detailed workplan about such activities has not yet provided.
- We hope to receive from the WP2 leader a planning of the next activities of this WP.

3 – Communications with Prof. Veronique Perdereau, WP2 and WP5 leader.

We hope that this meeting could contribute to clarify the roles and the tasks of the different actors of the project.

We regret in not having succeeded in this activity!



In the case that this meeting was not successful from this point of view, we would suggest the change of the WP2 and WP5 leader.

4 - The behaviour of the Uzbek Partner "Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute", already mentioned in the report sent on December 15th 2018.

We are open in a civil and friendly framework to discuss with Prof. Oral Ataniyazova, Rector of *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute* the detailed list of the expenses made for her Institution, line by line. It is our duty towards a Partner for which we managed the budget, to clarify doubts, it is duty of our Partners to use a civil and friendly approach to us.

We hope that this meeting could better clarify the collaboration with *Nukus Branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute*. We regret in not having succeeded in this activity!

Brief update on the implementation of project activities for the project as a whole

The activities carried out until December 15th, 2017, were described and commented in the <u>Report</u> on the state of art of TechReh project, requested from Dr José Gutiérrez Fernández and shared with all the Partners.

Since December 15th, 2017, we managed the following activities;

- 1) Payment of the equipment for the four laboratories installed in Uzbekistan.
- TUIT held the opening ceremony of the laboratory "Computer systems in medicine", December 26th, 2017.
- 3) Preparation of the second financial statement and request for payment of the second prepayment (Annex V *financial statement file TechReh financial statement second.xlsm*)
- 4) Preparation of the technical report on the implementation of the project (Annex VI *technical report cbhe_2016_-_annex_vi_-_technical_implementation_report2_v4.docx*)
- 5) Review and breakdown per Partner of the expenses for the Karshi meeting (Annex VII *KarshiMeeting.xlsx*)
- 6) Evaluation of the difference about amount of the Grant spent for Uzbek partners in order to determine the amount from first and second prepayment to be transferred (Annex VIII *TransfersV2.xlsx*)
- 7) Preparation of the amendment to the partnership agreement for the Uzbek partners (Annex IX *AmendmentUzbekPAV2.doc*)
- 8) Management of the Partnership Agreement with the new French University "Sorbonne University" established on January 1st, 2018, following the merger between the Paris-



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Sorbonne University and the Pierre and Marie Curie University, this last one a TechRech Partner. Activity in progress.

9) Preparation of the amounts of the second prefinancing to be transferred to the European partners (Annex VIII *TransfersV2.xlsx*)

- 10) Transfer and testing of the *TechReh* website and LMS to Uzbekistan. Website and LMS are now properly running from <u>http://www.techreh.uz</u>
- 11) Preparation and sending of the request to EACEA for changes of internship. Waiting information from the Uzbek Partners involved in this internship activity. Activity in progress.
- 12) Organization and support for Dr. I.Vikhrov for allowing him to attend the meeting in Brussels, March 30th, 2018.

Work plan for the remaining project period (and possible extension if needed)

The main activities of the project are now related to WP2 tasks.

It is fundamental to have official and sure information from Uzbek Partners about the date of starting of the activities for the master.

The WP2 leader (old or new one!) has to provide a planning of the activities according to the tasks reported in the project. It is not possible to wait face to face meetings for writing or deciding something.

A sustainable program on short courses and a planning for the modernization of the existing Master programmes in Medical Rehabilitation offered at the medical HEIs involved in the project (Nukus and Tashkent) has to be carried out in a short time.

We consider necessary an extension of the project. How long should be the extension? This is related to the accreditation of the two-year Master "*Computer Systems for Medicine*". Our estimation is a further period ranging from 6 to 12 months. We hope that more and clear information may be received during the meeting from Dr I.Vikhrov.

Any other comments.

During our last visit in Uzbekistan, we met Mrs Aziza Abdurakhmanova, NEO coordinator. She informed us about the changes in the Uzbekistan law concerning the management of grants from EU. At that time there were no practical information how to apply this new legislation.



After this visit, by considering the importance of this topic, we periodically visited the web page of Uzbekistan NCO, http://www.erasmusplus.uz, until now, neither information concerning how to manage EU grants are reported, nor information about the new law and its application.

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We suggest to offer this type of information from NCO, this could help EU coordinators operating in Uzbekistan.



Associate Partners











Annex I

Oggetto:Re: TechReh Project rules

Data:Fri, 7 Jul 2017 14:26:32 +0200

Mittente: Véronique Perdereau <veronique.perdereau@upmc.fr>

A:Pasquale Daponte <daponte@unisannio.it>

CC:Marat Rakhmatullaev <marat56@mail.ru>, Maria Riccio <riccio@unisannio.it>, Giustini Alessandro <alessandro.giustini@ntc.it>, Luca De Vito <devito@unisannio.it>, Alvydas Juocevicius <alvydas.juocevicius@santa.lt>, Barno Ganieva <barno_1972@mail.ru>, Carlos Azevedo <cazevedo@plux.info>, Elena Ilieva <elena_md@yahoo.com>, Gerard Sou <gerard.sou@upmc.fr>, Hugo Silva <hugo.silva@lx.it.pt>, Igor Vichrov <igorvichrov@yandex.com>, Kadir Muminov <muminov1963@mail.ru>, Oral Ataniyazova <atoral@yandex.ru>, Ozodjon Haydarov <haydarov@edu.uz>, Roza Narimbertova <roza_n@list.ru>, Ruslan Kurbanov <krk@edu.uz>, Sherbek Nomatov <sherbek.n@umail.uz>, Sherzod Ashirbaev <uzasp@yandex.com>, techreh@unisannio.it

It is definitely offending.

Would you like me to summarize your tasks and responsibilities ? I like to state that I am not the only partner involved in those WPs nor the person less involved in the project. Anyway, as I told you, I will no further discuss but take advice. I deserve more respect. Véronique

Le 7 juil. 2017 à 14:18, Pasquale Daponte <<u>daponte@unisannio.it</u>> a écrit :

Dear Veronique,

In order to overcame possible misundestindings in the project development and management, I was only summarizing your tasks as WP leader.

I hope that this is not considered an offense for you. If you considered this an offense for you, please, accept my apologizes!

Ciao Pasquale

Il 07/07/2017 14:02, Véronique Perdereau ha scritto:

Do I understand correctly that you charging my responsibility ?? Before I elaborate further my answer, I will meet the persons in charge at UPMC and probably will reconsider UPMC involvement in the project. Best regards

Véronique Perdereau, Ph.D., Professor Institute for Intelligent Systems and Robotics (ISIR) University Pierre and Marie Curie (UPMC), Sorbonne universités, Paris













Le 7 juil. 2017 à 13:54, Pasquale Daponte <<u>daponte@unisannio.it</u>> a écrit :

Dear Veronique.

according to your well known experience in the field you was appointed as WP2 and WP5 leader.

You are in charge to manage these WPs and to produce the deliverables according to the approved project.

Attached some notes from the official documents managing the project.

WP2 is a fundamental WP for our project, you has to provide a time table of the activities, internship, educational material, deliverables, and so on.

For WP5 we discussed in Benevento, Usbekistan and Paris, we agree that you has to provide a skeleton of the Ouality Manual and all of us will help you to fill it.

Anyway, if you need help for these tasks, UNISANNIO team, of course, is ready for supporting you. If you wish to have a conversation by phone/Skype/IMO/Whatsup, please, be so kind to contact us..... Ciao

Pasquale

Il 06/07/2017 19:55, Véronique Perdereau ha scritto:

Did you ask for such kind of document?

Le 6 juil. 2017 à 19:47, Pasquale Daponte <daponte@unisannio.it> a écrit :

Dears,

in order to procede with the internship of your teachers and students at the European Institutions, partners of TechReh project, as Project Coordinator and Responsible of the grants of the Uzbek Partners, I need the list of people to be involved in the mobility, the duration of the mobility and the scope of the mobility.

Due to the fact that this activity is included in WP2, I am still waiting from Veronique a document concerning the organization of the internship.

I wish to underline that we need time for preparing the payment of the flight tickets and accomodation expenses. Best Regards

Pasquale

Prof. Pasquale Daponte, Dr. h.c. FIEEE Chair of Italian Association for Electrical and Electronic Measurements Immediate Past President of IMEKO University of Sannio Department of Engineering P.zzo Bosco-Lucarelli Piazza Roma 82100 Benevento, Italy Ph: 0039 0824 305817 Fax: 0039 0824 305840 Mob.: 0039 346 080 31 98 http://web.ing.unisannio.it/daponte



Associate Partners













Annex II

Oggetto:NEED CLARIFICATION AND DECISION Data:Tue, 06 Feb 2018 09:16:56 +0300

Mittente:Нукусский филиал ТашПМИ <<u>nukusmed@mail.ru></u>

Rispondi-a:Нукусский филиал ТашПМИ <nukusmed@mail.ru>

A:<u>Piia.HEINAMAKI@ec.europa.eu</u> <<u>piia.heinamaki@ec.europa.eu></u>, Aziza Abdurakhmanova <<u>coordinator@erasmusplus.uz></u>

CC:Pasquale Daponte , atoral atoral@yandex.ru

Dear Piia,

Greetings and very sorry for this very strange and confusing situation in management of Tech-Reh project. I worked during last 20 years with European and USA funds and never have that kind of situation.

I think that project management in critical condition. It is not a question of money difference - though it is almost a criminal condition actually!

More important question - can we trust to the coordinator? Question is on status and prestige of the Donor and partners.

I would like kindly ask you - help us to clarify situation - how our budget was managed by the Coordinator for 2016 and 2017?

Where they transfered our money - how much and for what budget line?

What is th the rest of funding for our Institute?

Could we get salary for period 2016 - 2017? Could we manage rest of funding by ourselves?

I would much appreciate your help in solution of this chronic problem. Without clarification of our condition in the project we could not be a real partner for Tech-Reh project. So it is mean we will not able to continue participation in this project. It is the principal question.

The same not clear condition with Mobility Project.

If there is need I can travel to Brussels or Benevento after 25 March 2018.

With warmest regards,

Oral Ataniyazova

Rector of Nukus branch of Tashkent Pediatric medical institute

Nukusskiy filial TashPMI



branch - Computerization Center

Annex III

Oggetto:missing flights

Data:Fri, 23 Mar 2018 12:57:53 +0100

Mittente:Pasquale Daponte <daponte@unisannio.it>

A:SherZoD Ashirbaev <uzasp@yandex.com>, Игор Петрович <igorvichrov@yandex.com> CC:techreh@unisannio.it <techreh@unisannio.it>, Luca De Vito <devito@unisannio.it>

Dears,

in order to avoid misundestunding and errors may you be so kind to send the correct names of the people for which we bought flight tickets for caming to Benevento and Paris, and they do not used those tickets? Thank you!

Pasquale

Oggetto:Re: missing flights

Data:Fri, 23 Mar 2018 17:38:58 +0500

Mittente:Igor Vikhrov <igorvichrov@yandex.ru>

A:Pasquale Daponte <daponte@unisannio.it>

CC:SherZoD Ashirbaev <uzasp@yandex.com>, techreh@unisannio.it <techreh@unisannio.it>, Luca De Vito <devito@unisannio.it>

Dear Pasquale

Please find below the names of the people for whom the air tickets were purchased but they weren't attended the meeting in Benevento.

1	Khurshid Bobomuradov	Tashkent University of Information Technologies	First Vice-rector of Educational affairs		AA9301280	08/04/2015 07/04/2025	
2	Oral Ataniyazova	Nukus branch of Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute	Rector	18/05/1956	AA4447551	24/02/2014 13/02/2024	Single
3	Bakhromkhon Alyavi	Republican specialized scientific-practical medical centre of therapy and medical rehabilitation			KA0184351	19/04/2014 18/04/2024	Single

In Paris all Uzbek Colleagues were able to participate in the meeting. Best regards

Igor













Annex IV

 Oggetto: Re: The Estimates

 Data:
 Tue, 06 Feb 2018 11:08:14 +0500

 Mittente:Igor Vikhrov <igorvichrov@yandex.com>

 A:
 Pasquale Daponte <daponte@unisannio.it>, Sherbek Normatov <shb.normatov@gmail.com>, Luca De Vito <devito@unisannio.it>

 CC:
 Sara Furno <sara.furno@unisannio.it>, Francesco Lamonaca <flamonaca@unisannio.it>, SherZoD Ashirbaev <uzasp@yandex.com>, Aziza Abdurakhmanova <coordinator@erasmusplus.uz>

Dear Pasquale,

Please be informed that beginning from 5th of September 2017 there is no any problem with official bank Uzbek University Bank accounts. It is not feasible anymore to use private Italian bank accounts. We have very good and positive meetings with MHSSE officials, Uzbek banks and Ministry of Finance and they confirm that it will be no any problem.

So I kindly ask all Uzbek partners to follow Uzbek rules and use University bank accounts.

Best regards,

Igor

Igor Vikhrov, Innovation Centre, Lead expert on medical education, Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Skype: igorvikhrov Tel., Fax - (99871) 2623422 Tel. Mobile - (99897) 1556642











