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Fact sheet

Project name:

ENHANCING LIFELONG LEARNING THROUGH MODERNISING THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
AND ADULT EDUCATION SYSTEMS

EuropeAid/135834/IH/SER/MK

Total budget of the contract:

EUR 1.972.500

Implementation period:

22 months (January 2016 – November 2017)

Target groups:

Ministry of Education and Science;
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy;
Centre for Vocational Education and Training;
Vocational Education and Training schools;
Adult Education Centre;
Adult Education providers;
Bureau for Development of Education;
National Examination Centre;
State Educational Inspectorate;
State Statistical Office;
Universities and Higher Educational Institutions;
Local self-government units;
Employers' associations;
Chambers;
Parents and students;
Civil society organisations.

Implementing partners:

British Council in association with DVV International and Lifelong Learning Center

More info: www.dozivotnoucenje.mk



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1. Introduction

In the past two decades, the Republic of Macedonia has undertaken significant steps in advancing its system of technical vocational education and training. In the same way, it paved the way for setting up the system of adult education that has been subject of separate interventions. Much support was received from different international and domestic stakeholders, including social partners. The reform efforts up to date have been organised around the final destination – to build a well-rounded system of lifelong learning aligned with the European principles and standards.

The project ‘Enhancing Lifelong Learning through Modernizing the Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education Systems’ comes at the stage when the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, together with two other key project beneficiaries – the Vocational Education and Training (VET) Centre and the Centre for Adult Education – have a good foundation to build on. Initial legislative and institutional preconditions have been designed, some of the main strategic documents are in place and, today much more than before, there is increased awareness among social partners and end beneficiaries about the critical contribution of education and skills building to the country’s economic prospects and overall wellbeing. The results of a series of projects undertaken in the past two decades constitute the key inputs for the finalization of these reforms.

The project will aim to align and connect results of previous interventions and, in some cases, finalise the reform processes, and to ensure that the system develops mechanisms that will enable it to remain flexible and open for continuous improvements and consolidation, in line with the ever changing economic conditions, future technological advances and social challenges.

2. Objectives of the project

The overall objective of the project of which this contract will be a part is as follows:

To contribute to the strengthening of a comprehensive and integrated Lifelong Learning system, with focus on Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education, by establishing a dynamic correlation between education and the changes of both the social sphere and the labour market.

3. Project activities

The specific activities are the following:

Component 1: Further strengthening of the Vocational Education and Training system in close cooperation with the private sector and social partners in line with the relevant strategies

- 1.1 Needs Analysis for continuation of reform of up to 2- and 3- years vocational education and training programmes according to the labour market needs with regards to each particular occupation;
- 1.2 Support for preparation and implementation of methodology for constant harmonization of vocational education and training according to the labour market needs;



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- 1.3 Continuation of the process of preparation of occupational standards and standards for qualifications for up to 2- and 3- years vocational education and training in close cooperation with all relevant partners and in particular with the private sector and the social partners;
- 1.4 Continuation of reform of the curricula for up to 2- and 3- years vocational education and training in close cooperation with all relevant partners and in particular with the private sector and the social partners;
- 1.5 Support to the development and implementation of a practical training system for up to 2- and 3- years vocational education and training in close cooperation with all relevant partners and in particular with the private sector and the social partners;
- 1.6 Support to the implementation of the reformed curricula for up to 2- and 3- years vocational education and training through development of teaching materials (manuals, scripts, CD applications);
- 1.7 Capacity building with career and professional development for continuation of the reform and implementation of curricula: training of teachers, Directors of VET schools, trainers and other relevant staff;
- 1.8 Strengthening the establishment and/or functioning of career centres in VET schools and the process of career counselling.

Component 2: Further strengthening of the Adult Education system

- 2.1 Support for preparation and implementation of a methodology for identification and preparation of necessary adult education programs according to the labour market needs;
- 2.2 Capacity building of the local self-governments for conducting labour market need analysis on local level and provision of information/conduction of activities according to the Law on Adult Education;
- 2.3 Further support for developing and testing of programmes for Adult Education in close cooperation with the private sector and the social partners;
- 2.4 Adult Education Trainers capacity and teaching abilities enhanced through training and through Training of Trainers Programmes;
- 2.5 Support to the implementation of programmes for Adult Education, including the teaching material;
- 2.6 Support in preparation of models/concepts for establishment and functioning of public adult education institutions on local level;
- 2.7 Preparation of new strategic document in the area of Adult Education;

Component 3: Further strengthening of the overall capacity of national system for lifelong learning with specific attention to VET and AE

- 3.1 Conduction of the needs analysis regarding the institutional set up and the current state of play with training needs assessment;
- 3.2 Building and strengthening the capacity of the national institutions and other relevant stakeholders and actors in developing and managing a national system for Lifelong Learning with particular attention to VET and Adult Education;
- 3.3 Development of a National Strategy for Lifelong Learning.



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Component 4: Preparation of technical specifications and tender dossiers for supply contracts

- 4.1 Preparation of technical specifications and assistance in devising tender dossier for procurement of Monitoring and Evaluation Database and Information Management System for VET and AE, in line with the latest PRAG procurement rules and contracting conditions.
- 4.2 Preparation of technical specifications and assistance in devising tender dossier for procurement of teaching material and teaching equipment for VET schools, as well as equipment for career centres, in line with the latest PRAG procurement rules and contracting conditions

Component 5: Awareness Raising about the importance and opportunities provided by VET and AE

- 5.1 Promotional activities (public events, informational campaigns, promotional materials) for raising public awareness about the attractiveness and the opportunities offered by the programmes for Vocational Education and Training and for Adult Education (and Adult Education providers) conducted.

4. Duration of the project

The project starts on 20 January 2016 and will be implemented within 22 months, but not later than the 20st of November 2017.

5. Project team

The project team is composed of experienced international and local experts:

Name	Function	✉
Stephan John	Team leader	stephan.john@britishcouncil.org.mk
Mariana Matache	Key Expert 2 Field Adult Education and LLL	mariana.matache@britishcouncil.org.mk