



ABOUT

Beside high rate of unemployment, Serbia has just about 7% of highly educated population, students on average take twice as long to complete their studies, on average only 15% of students complete their studies, while total number of students who completed studies is about 60%. In this reality framework, high quality education and training, as well as career guidance and counselling services in higher education gain significance. It is indisputable that career guidance contributes to the accomplishing of important goals in higher education – contributes to higher efficiency, higher level and better quality of human resource, addresses shortage of skills, decreases drop out, but also contributes in achieving significant objectives in field of employment – better preparedness and adaptability of work force, greater efficiency and mobility.

Through realization of the project CareerS we will try to contribute to the implementation of certain measures and activities of the National Strategy of career guidance and counseling (CGC), which are primarily related to students. Main objective of the strategy is establishment and development of career guidance and counseling in Serbia. The document itself represents an important strategic framework, and along with Action plan for period 2010-2014 represents a platform for institutionalization, sustainability and further development and promotion of CGC in Serbia. Measures and activities related to HE sector are result of joint process in which all stake holders, including universities and career centers, provided their suggestions taking into consideration current state and perspectives of career guidance in higher education in Serbia

At the operational level of the project Careers, development of practice of CGC in HE, focus is placed on building the system of career guidance at university level, according to the priorities that define the new paradigm of career guidance – lifelong guidance (promoted in numerous EU documents): the centrality of the individual/learner in the provision of career services, the need to refocus provision to develop the skills of individuals to manage their career and learning, widen access to services and improve the quality of the services. Measures and activities represented in the Action Plan of the National Strategy of CGC that directly affect the development of system of career guidance in HE are included, in the elaborated form in the work packages and activities of the project.

Specific objectives of project are:

- Development of Programs of Career Information, Guidance and Education aiming to increase youth employability,
- Enabling wider accessibility and variety of programs in Career guidance at Higher Education Institutions,
- Raising the level of recognizing importance of Career Guidance by the policy makers and other stake holders and
- Development of CGC Programme for Youth and Methodology for CGC centers at Serbian HE institution

Benefit of the project will have students, universities, academic staff, employers and policy makers, since the project will enable students to manage and plan learning and work pathways in accordance with their career goals, relating their competences and interests to education, training and labour market opportunities; assist institutions to have motivated students and better connections with employers; assist employers to have motivated, employable and adaptable staff and better connections with university and encourage policy makers to achieve a wide range of public policy goals.

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Project title:

DEVELOPMENT OF CAREER GUIDANCE AIMED AT IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION IN SERBIA



Duration: 3 years (15.Oct.2011. - 15.Oct.2014)

Scope: NATIONAL / Type: STRUCTURAL MEASURES - GOVERNANCE REFORM

APPROACH:

A coherent approach is planned in addressing this subject. Career Guidance at the higher education institutions will be advanced on both strategic and operational level.

Strategic level:

Measures and activities from the Action plan of the National Strategy for Career Guidance and Counselling of the Republic of Serbia, which are directly related to development of the system of career guidance at the higher education, are present in the more elaborated form in the work packages- groups of activities in this project:

- 1. Professional development and training in career guidance and counselling for teaching staff in universities*
- 2. Training students to master skills for active career management*
- 3. Strengthening existing university centres for career development at universities*
- 4. Monitoring and evaluation of the work of existing university career centres*
- 5. Innovation and modernisation of websites for career guidance and counselling*
- 6. Creation of a part of the National Program / document / for Career Guidance and Counselling and accompanying standards - for the age group 18+*

Operational level:

At the operational level it is expected to ensure advancement of the work of university centres for career development which would correspond to the needs of target groups, that is, of students in the first place, but also of employers and academic community. The focus is on development of larger number and variety of programs of career information, counselling, education and connecting with business community, and on the upgrading resources for career advisers from career services, but also for the members of academic staff and management (student parliament, vice-deans and student-deans). Larger extent of participation of business community and other social partners in creation and implementation of various programs for career education and counselling is also very important component which will be developed.

Development of the mentioned programs (services and activities of career guidance) would enable deepened and extensive information of youth about possibilities to apply knowledge, skills and capabilities gained during their studies as well as about trends and motions on the labour market, perspectives for employment and opportunities for further training and professional development, development of positive attitude towards the lifelong development, gaining over-needed skills necessary for work in the contemporary labour market and business environment, mastering skills for job hunting and skills for one's managing career.

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University of Padova, Italy
University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland

University of Belgrade
University Novi Sad
University of Kragujevac
University of Niš
University Singidunum

Infostud 3, d.o.o.
Public Enterprise for electric energy transmission
Belgrade Open School