

TEMPUS IV PROGRAMME

Leading and Managing Change in Higher
Education
(La MANCHE)

4th PARTNER MEETING

Venue: Yerevan State University

Date: 10th, 11th and 12th June 2014

Participants from Belarus:

- 1) Tamara Kasayeva, VSTU
- 2) Valentina Astafieva, BTEUCC
- 3) Alexander Sychev, O. Suchoi GSTU
- 4) Marina Zaranskaya, BSEU



ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

1. Opening address by Prof. Ruben Markosyan, Vice Rector for student, alumni and public relations affairs at YSU

Prof. Markosyan welcomed the La MANCHE partners at YSU and outlined that the La MANCHE 4th partner meeting is organized during the week of the celebrations dedicated to YSU 95th anniversary.

2. La MANCHE project: progress to date and future developments

Christina Armutlieva outlined the major project results achieved in the period following the previous partner meeting in late October 2013. She provided a detailed account of the Intermediate Report submitted to EACEA on 8th April 2014. She mentioned that this is the first meeting in the project hosted by a Partner Country institution and also one of the last large-scale partner meetings in the project attended by all project partners. The Project Coordinator referred to the importance of the current meeting in the context of the project developments and logic.

3. Work Package 5: Local multiplication trainings in leadership and change management

Anastasiya Makarenko from NTU KhPI, leader of Work Package 5 provided an overall account of the activities completed so far in the consortium. She focused on the objectives achieved in Work Package 5 and the main activities which contributed to this, namely the three-day local multiplication trainings for senior and middle management representatives and the public lectures organized at institutional level for the larger academic community including students and lecturers. Anastasiya also referred to the evidence to be collected, collated and retained with the project accounts.



4. Workshop in networking: Stakeholder management

Rachel Mason from UCB provided an overview of the different entities, communities and individuals a higher education institution should/could share leadership and co-create with. The session aimed among others at identifying the potential within the La MANCHE institutions and at identifying the restraining forces for change.

5. Workshop in networking: Managing and communicating policy changes

Dr Gergana Dimitrova from IUC project team presented in details the four major stages in the process of managing and communicating policy changes. She spoke about how to define the problem and to set the agenda. It is essential to make sure and prove that the problem is a legitimate public concern. A series of essential steps to undertake were outlined such as diagnosing the conditions that

cause the problem, campaigning, problematizing and raising awareness, negotiating the problem definition within teams and with partners and stakeholders etc.

6. Work Package 8: Quality assurance

The workshop in Quality assurance was attended by 14 project team members. The topics discussed at the workshop included Work Package 8 activities implementation with a focus on data to be collected from target users within and outside the consortium over the next 16 months of the project life. The Project Coordinator spoke about the procurement of an external expert team to elaborate the External Evaluation Report in the project.

7. Work Package 6: Dissemination

The workshop was co-organized and co-led by the team of ANAU, Work Package 9 leader and the team of LAC, Ukraine. The ANAU team provided a general overview of the dissemination activities envisaged in the project. The presentation focused on the evidence to be collected, collated and reported in regard with the various dissemination activities organized at institutional level. Examples of good dissemination practices around the consortium were presented.

8. La MANCHE Virtual Think Tank: presentation and validation

The La MANCHE Virtual Think Tank Panel was organized with the aim of giving an official start to the activities on the online platform.

During the session the texts of founding documents including VTT mission and vision statements and the code of conduct and the rules for membership were presented and validated. Special attention was paid to the Consultation Section on the VTT which functions as a blog and provides the major tool for exchange of ideas, opinions and expertise in the field of university governance and change management.

9. Developing the La MANCHE Strategy in the Partner Countries

Vadim Sirkeli from CSU, Moldova, Work Package 7 leader, presented in details the upcoming activities to be completed in Work Package 7. These aim at achieving the project's sixth specific objective, namely to provide a platform for critical dialogue and to promote joint problem solving and interaction among Partner Countries universities and other key stakeholders in higher education.

10. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “EDUCATION IN 21st CENTURY: PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES”

Section 1 Quality Assurance in Higher Education

Section 2 Problems of Higher Education

Section 3 Internationalization, Science and Innovation

11. Programming and planning of upcoming major project events and activities. Debriefing

Christina Armutlieva summarized the results of the discussions during the meeting and listed the major upcoming activities according to Work Packages.

Thank you for your attention!