



Agency for
Quality Assurance
and Accreditation
Austria



Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Quality Assurance

Kick-Off Event, Banja Luka 8th October 2013



Twinning Project

„Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Quality Assurance“

Twinning Reference Number: BA11-IB-OT-02

Duration: 13.9.2013 – September 2015 (24 month + 3 months follow-up)

Expected outcomes of the Twinning partnership

- The **European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance** in Higher Education (ESG) are implemented on all levels, including higher education institutions (HEI), authorities and quality assurance agencies.
- All HEIs have an **internal quality assurance system** developed, upgraded and in implementation.
- A **first cycle of accreditation** of all HEIs and a selected number of study programmes in BiH is done in accordance with the ESG.
- The **accreditation criteria** are revised.
- The **provisions in legislation** as well as procedures of the higher education authorities related to QA in HE were analysed.

Principles of our Twinning Partnership

- Building on existing progress and achievements
- Focus on knowledge transfer and capacity building
- Working with a network of experts
- Oriented toward concrete outcomes and action
- Building ownership

Key actors

- Project Leader in BiH: Husein Nanić (HEA)
- Project Leader in Austria: Alexander Kohler (AQ Austria)
- Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA): Maria E. Weber (AQ Austria)
- RTA Counterpart: Maja Macan (HEA)
- EU Delegation in BiH: Jadranka Mihić
- Steering Committee: PL, RTAs, ...
- Advisory Board
 - the Steering Board of the Agency,
 - the Rector's Conference, students' representatives, private universities, professionals in QA,
 - the Ministry of Civil Affairs,
 - the cantonal ministries of education,
 - the Federal ministry of education,
 - the Ministry of Education and Culture of Republic of Srpska and the Brčko District.

The four components of the partnership

Component 1

Analysis of legal provisions

Component 2

Strengthening the capacities of HEA

Component 3

Implementation of quality management in higher education institutions (HEI)

Component 4

Support in organising reviews of HEI and their programmes

Component 1

Analysis of legal provisions

- Synthesis of the current legal provisions on the basis of documents and interviews
- Analysis based on the following references: the ESG, the reform of the Austrian quality assurance system and examples from comparable systems
- Recommendations concerning reforms and improvements

Component 2

Strengthening the capacities of HEA

- Self-evaluation and critical reflection of HEA's potentials
- Preparation of a medium term strategic plan
- Implementation of an internal quality management system
- Consolidation of the accreditation criteria

Component 3

Implementation of quality management systems in higher education institutions

- Capacity-building workshops with higher education institutions
- Study visits of QM staff to European higher education institutions
- Documentation & knowledge transfer

Component 4

Support in organising reviews of higher education institutions and selected study programmes

- Implementation & realisation of full peer review procedures
- Nomination & preparation of international experts for the review procedures
- Capacity-building for the organisation of peer reviews

Looking forward to a successful
realisation of the project!

Hvala Vam na pažnji!
Хвала Вам на пажњи!