

Progress Report No.3

Title of the project

An Industry Oriented Master Program in Telecommunications Engineering-
Towards and EU Approach

T E M P U S I V
(Third Call for proposals EACEA N° 28/2009)
Joint Project

511074

<u>PROGRESS REPORT</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report on implementation of the project	30/8/2012

Submitted by: Project Management Committee

Approved by: YU internal monitoring committee

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Summary Report for Publication

Project title

An industry Oriented MSc Program in Telecommunications Engineering-Towards an EU Approach

Objectives

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the efforts of the Ministry of Higher Education in Jordan to align the outcomes of higher education with the needs of the market in the specific field Wireless Communications Engineering which will contribute to the economic growth and development of the country at large. Specific planned objectives include:

O1. To reform and modernize the existing Yarmouk University Master programme in Wireless Telecommunications including curricula, teaching methodologies, quality control, and to establish new up-to-date tracks in related areas.

O2. To enhance student learning outcomes and skills to meet local market needs and international best practices through the building of technical capacity at YU and local partner institutions.

O3. To converge our study programs with the EU educational system with regard to the Bologna process and achieve academic and professional recognition of YU programmes within the EU (which will also contribute to intercultural interaction).

O4. To help local project partners establish and implement their MSc programs in telecommunications engineering at their institutions.

O5: To help the EU partners to learn more about the needs, capacities and educational approaches of the partner institutions in Jordan, and, to better understand the needs of both local and international industry.

Outcomes

The main outcomes of the project are to develop curricula, course material, teaching methodologies and QC measures for three Masters programs in Telecommunications Engineering which will be operational throughout the life time of the project. These programs will be based on a careful study of the needs of the local telecommunication industry in Jordan through a number of activities such as a review of the existing master program, a competition analysis, a demand analysis, workshop recommendations on market needs and international standards including the Bologna Process.

The project will also contribute to the professional development of JO academic staff and awareness of the EU educational system through a number of training activities conducted by the academic staff of the EU partner institutions. Furthermore, through the various dissemination activities and also the international dimension of the new programs, the project will contribute to enhancing the reputation of the programs offered by Yarmouk University and to promote the university as a center of excellence. In addition, through a number of activities, the project will result in a network of collaboration with a number of EU academic institutions and also a network of collaboration with telecommunications companies in Jordan which will reflect on the sustainability of the project outcomes.

The project will also contribute to building capacity at the Department such as establishing three new modern scientific labs, an information system for management of academic processes at the Department, a QC unit and also a QC information system which will be used to monitor the academic activities and to ensure that student learning outcomes are met.

Activities

The following is a list of all project activities:

WP1:

- 1.1 Discussion group meetings on the existing program
- 1.2 Meetings between project management and local industry
- 1.3 Prepare curriculum review reports

WP2:

- 2.1 Survey of similar programmes in other institutions in Jordan.
- 2.2 Prepare competition report.
- 3.1 Survey of the needs of local industry
- 3.2 Prepare demand report.
- 4.1 Organize and hold a workshop on telecommunication market needs.
- 4.2 Prepare workshop report.

WP3:

- 5.1 Visits of involved teaching staff from YU, to each EU partner university.
- 6.1 Hold seminars at YU by EU academic professionals on EU educational systems.

WP4:

- 7.1 Train staff on curriculum development at EU institutions.
- 7.2 Prepare reports on EU curricula
- 8.1 Meetings of local staff with EU staff
- 8.2 Survey of curricula of similar programs in EU.
- 8.3 Prepare curriculum drafts.
- 9.1 Survey of courses of similar programs in EU.
- 9.2 Collect and Prepare teaching material.
- 10.1 Meetings of academic staff to finalize the curriculum drafts

WP5:

- 11.1 Documentation of curricula and course materials
- 11.2 Assignment of teaching staff of new program
- 12.1 Student evaluation of courses and curriculum.
- 13.1 Teaching of the regular and distance learning courses.

WP6:

- 14.1 Meetings of management of teaching staff
- 14.2 Prepare QC plan reports for the project and program
- 15.1 Develop an information system for quality control of the new program at DCU
- 15.2 Install and maintain the system at YU
- 16.1 Meetings, to discuss the achievement of the outcomes of the program.
- 16.2 Conduct surveys of the outcomes of the program.
- 17.1 Perform an annual internal monitoring by YU administration.
- 17.2 Perform an annual external monitoring by EU partners.

WP7:

- 18.1 Nominate project management committee
- 18.2 Organize roles in activities among partners.
- 19.1 Biannual management meetings and reporting.
- 19.2 Preparation and publishing of biannual progress reports.
- 20.1 Database development and maintenance.

WP8:

- 21.1 Develop an informative website
- 22.1 seminars at local industry and local universities to promote the program
- 22.2 advertisement in the media
- 22.3 Dissemination of brochures, leaflets, etc.
- 23.1 Dissemination of recruitment event
- 23.2 Organize and hold student recruitment event.
- 23.3 Documentation of the event.

WP9:

- 24.1 Prepare curriculum documentation for approval
- 24.2 Curriculum approval by YU
- 24.3 Curriculum approval by MOHE
- 25.1 Meeting with representatives of local industry
- 25.2 Form and legalize joint committees with local industry
- 26.1 Students training at EU institutions.
- 26.2 staff from EU teach at YU.
- 27.1 Establish Quality Control Unit

27.2 legalize Quality Control Unit
28.1 Prepare lab specifications
28.2 Prepare bidding documents
28.3 Purchase new equipments.

Progress to date

Most of the planned activities of the project have been conducted. the curriculum review, the competition analysis, the demand analysis, and the workshop on market needs have all been conducted successfully. These activities are being used by the curriculum development workgroup which is currently working on developing curricula of the new programs. On the other hand, a number of training activities which contribute to awareness of the JO staff of the EU educational system has been conducted such as awareness visits of JO staff to EU partner institutions and also a number of seminars by EU staff at the three JO partner institutions.

With regard to management and QC of the project, a memorandum of understanding among project partners have been signed, an E-data base for project management have been designed and deployed, coordination meetings have been held as scheduled, a QC manual has been developed and is used by project staff and three progress reports and one financial review have been approved by the monitoring committee of the project.

The project has been promoted in many occasions through a number of dissemination activities such as media reports (newspapers and TV), dissemination material such as posters and brochures and the project website.

On the other hand, the main activities of curriculum development have been started where an action plan has been agreed on for the successful development of the curricula of the new programs and course material. The Curriculum Development workgroup have finalized program outcomes and is working on development of the new programs structure and all related aspects.

Future developments

The project staff will continue to work on a number of activities which have a continuous nature such as the coordination meetings, progress reporting, financial reviews, dissemination activities and maintenance of the project website and the E-database. On the other hand, the project staff will continue

Future academic activities within curriculum development of the new Masters programs will include finalizing curriculum drafts of the new programs and the programs structure, approval and accreditation of the new curricula by the Ministry of Higher Education, developing a student selection criteria and a student evaluation process and holding a student recruitment event.

The QC workgroup will be working on developing the information system for QC of programs and establishing a QC unit at YU.

The project team will then be working on a number of activities which will contribute to the sustainability of the project results and the new programs such as building a network of collaboration with local telecom industry and with EU institutions, and procurement of equipment for the new scientific labs.

Other remarks

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