

# VERITAS

STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE THIRD CYCLE BASED ON SALZBURG PRINCIPLES

## TEMPUS 2013-2016

### VERITAS (STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE THIRD CYCLE BASED ON SALZBURG PRINCIPLES)

is a three-year national project, under the priority of Governance Reform, EACEA N° 35/2012, 6th call and Structural Measures action.

The project is coordinated by  
**YEREVAN STATE MEDICAL  
UNIVERSITY**



## ABOUT VERITAS

**VERITAS** is a three-year national project.

The project aims at ameliorating doctoral education in Armenian Higher Education System through alignment with European Qualifications Framework and Salzburg Principles.

The specific objectives target

- ❖ Strengthening human potential in research by building a critical mass of quality researchers through development, integration and efficient management of doctoral education in Armenian HE;
- ❖ Promoting international recognition of the III level study programmes of the ANQF through developing and adopting award criteria that are in line with Salzburg principles and comparable with international ones.
- ❖ Developing a system of quality evaluation and monitoring in scientific research by building and strengthening systems for continual tracking of relevant parameters.
- ❖ Stimulating and strengthening integration of science and research at universities through establishment/revision of university structures which will promote scientific research, network knowledge in education, research and innovation, enhance quality, effectiveness, flexibility, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary of education.

## CONTENT

Project Phases

Project Outcomes and Outputs

Project Partners

Project Workpackages

Project Activities Carried Out



This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## PROJECT PHASES

### PHASE I

will evolve around building institutional capacities of 11 Armenian HEIs for

- (a) enhanced promotion of doctoral education and research and
- (b) accepting and installing new modes of developing and delivering doctoral programme.

### PHASE II

will mostly focus on the conceptualization, formulation and acceptance of quality standards and procedures in doctoral education within the Armenian academic community.

### PHASE III

the final project year will be devoted to “testing” the previously developed methodologies and structures through preparation and external evaluation of 11 new PhD programs.



## PROJECT OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

- Development of university capacities for quality doctoral education: revision/establishment of new Research Units;
- Establishment of preconditions for quality PhD education and research
- Formulation of PhD award criteria and quality standards in Doctoral Education
- Development and launch of 11 new PhD programs in Armenia (11 pilot projects)
- Adoption of the PhD award criteria and quality standards.

## PROJECT PARTNERS

- P1: Yerevan State Medical University –Armenia Grantholder
- P2: World University Service Austria – Austria
- P3: University of Heidelberg - Germany
- P4: Royal Institute of Technology – Sweden
- P5: Universitat de Girona – Spain
- P6: Bath Spa University – the United Kingdom

- P7: Yerevan State Academy of Fine Arts
- P8: Yerevan State University
- P9: Yerevan State Linguistic University named after V. Brusov
- P10: Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction
- P11: Armenian State University of Economics
- P12: Gavar State University
- P13: Vanadzor State Pedagogical Institute after Hovh. Toumanyán
- P14: Northern University
- P15: National Academy of Sciences of Armenia
- P16: Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia
- P17: National Center for Professional Education Quality Assurance
- P18: Education Quality
- P19: Supreme Certifying Commission of the Republic of Armenia
- P20: Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia



# PROJECT WORKPACKAGES

*The project evolves around 8 workpackages.*

WP1: Capacity Building of HEIs to Deliver Quality Doctoral Programmes

WP2: Establishment of pre-conditions for quality PhD education and research

WP3: Formulation of Award Criteria and Quality Standards in Doctoral Education

WP4: Development of 11 PhD Programmes in Armenia

WP5: Quality control and monitoring

WP6: Dissemination

WP7: Sustainability

WP8: Management of the project



## EVENTS

### KICK-OFF MEETING

Dates: 13th-14th of January 2014

Venue: Yerevan State Medical University, Yerevan, Armenia

### TRAINING ON SALZBURG PRINCIPLES

Dates: 05th-07th of May 2014

Venue: WUS, Graz, Austria

### WORKSHOP ON PhD PROMOTION TOOLS

Dates: 16th-17th of June 2014

Venue: Yerevan State Medical University, Yerevan, Armenia

**continued on page 4**

## ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

1. RU staff and working groups established at each AM partner institutions
2. Training kit on Salzburg principles developed by EU partners
3. Questionnaire completed by AM partner institutions on the current state of PhD education in Armenia
4. Post-evaluation on the training conducted by ANQA and completed by training participants
5. SWOT analyses conducted by each AM partner institution on each of Salzburg principles and respective analysis by ANQA
6. Project web-site development – [www.tempusveritas.am](http://www.tempusveritas.am)
7. Project newsletter and dissemination via local media
8. Local meetings and coordination meetings of the consortium

## KICK-OFF MEETING

The «VERITAS» project launched with the kick-off meeting with the participation of all consortium members on 13th-14th of January 2014.

Yerevan State Medical University, as a project coordinating institution, took the lead of overall introduction of the project goals and methodology. The partners engaged in the project took the opportunity and presented their perspectives and contribution to the project activities.

The project Governing Board was set up during the two-day meeting and the first session of the Board took place on 14th of January 2014. Each partner confirmed the nomination of 1 representative and it was agreed to organize GB sessions together with the coordination meetings and/or via mail every six months.

Financial and technical issues were regulated first during the GB session and later were presented to all participants.

All the participants agreed that the kick-off meeting was a good start for further collaboration and implementation of the project goals.



## TRAINING ON SALZBURG PRINCIPLES

The lead partner of WP1 – WUS Austria organized the first event – training on Salzburg Principles in Graz for AM partner institutions and organizations. 2 representatives per institution attended 3-day training which mainly aimed at introducing the Salzburg principles as well as discussing the current state of PhD education in Armenia.

Armenian partner institutions together with EU representatives in small groups discussed the strengths and weaknesses of PhD education at AM institutions and presented brief outline of the findings. The detailed SWOT analyses per institution were asked to present by the workshop in Yerevan.

VERITAS management team had a short session on project technical and financial issues, and presented next steps.

## WORKSHOP ON PhD PROMOTION TOOLS

A workshop on Promotion tools for PhD was conducted in Armenia from 16th to 17th of June 2014.

Two-day workshop brought together consortium members aiming at discussing the major tools to promote PhD at the institutions.

The AM partners also presented their perspectives on PhD promotion and suggested the tools to promote PhD education in Armenia.

Discussions were also evolved around the current situation of PhD education in Armenia and it was agreed to develop further discussions on the issues raised.

A half-day coordination meeting was also planned to go through the next 6-month activities, as well as the technical and financial issues within the project. It also focused on the project activities implementation methodology and the project dissemination tools were also presented during the meeting.



# VERITAS

STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE THIRD CYCLE BASED ON SALZBURG PRINCIPLES

Grantholder: Yerevan State Medical University

Web-site: [www.tempusveritas.am](http://www.tempusveritas.am)

Skype: veritas.project