



Support to strengthening the higher education system in Azerbaijan



Twinning project ENI/2018/395-401

Mission Report

Short-Term Mission on Activity 1.5. Provide recommendations for improvement of education standards for qualification for programmes in the priority areas (incl. legislative arrangements) with a view to describing achievements based on competences and skills, considering the AzQF

(November 19 – 23, 2018)

1. Name and Function of the Expert:

Full name of expert

Mr. Jean-Marc Planeix, France

Signature

Full name of expert

Mrs. Inga Juknytė-Petreikienė, Lithuania

Signature



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2. Objective and Tasks of the Mission:

The mission is carried out within the framework of:

COMPONENT 1: **SELECTED NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS ARE ALIGNED TO INCLUDE A COMPETENCE-BASED FOCUS**

Activity 1.5. Provide recommendations for improvement of education standards for qualification for programmes in the priority areas (incl. legislative arrangements) with a view to describing achievements based on competences and skills, considering the AzQF

Benchmarks for this activity are:

- Stakeholders are willing to participate and are involved in working groups
- MoE supports and provides relevant feedback for the activity
- MS STEs are willing to adapt methodologies and relevant practices in MS to the specific context of the BC



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3. Time schedule of mission:

Date and Time	Activity
Monday 19 November 2018	<p>10:00-12:00 The STEs discuss the agenda of the mission week with the Twinning team.</p> <p>13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH</p> <p>14:00-16:30 Deskwork</p>
Tuesday 20 November 2018	<p>10:00-12:45</p> <p>Meeting with the Working Group on Natural Sciences to revise national study programmes in physics on how to shift from current disciplinary-based national standards into competence-based ones</p> <p>Stakeholders:</p> <p>Sungait State University Mr. Mahammad Zarbaliyev – Chair of the Department Mr. Fuad Mammadov – Chair of the Department</p> <p>Baku State University Mr. Eldar Alakbarov - Associate Professor at the Chair for General Physics and Methodology of Physics Teaching Ms. Vusala Dadashova - Senior Teacher at the Chair for General Physics and Methodology of Physics Teaching Mr. Arif Orujov - Senior Teacher at the Chair for General Physics and Methodology of Physics Teaching</p> <p>12:45 – 13:45 LUNCH</p> <p>13:45-16:00 The workshop continues after the lunch</p>
Wednesday 21 November 2018	<p>10:00-12:45</p> <p>Meeting with the Working Group on Technical and Technological Sciences to revise national study programmes in chemical engineering on how to shift from current disciplinary-based national standards into competence-based ones</p> <p>Stakeholders:</p> <p>Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University</p>



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	<p>Ms. Sevinj Mammadkhanova– Dean Mr. Yunis Gahramanli– Chair of the Department Mr. Alakbar Hasanov– Chair of the Department</p> <p>Baku State University Mr. Ibrahim Mammadov–Professor at the Petroleum Chemistry and Chemical Technology Chair Ms. Ofelia Javadova – Teacher at the Petroleum Chemistry and Chemical Technology Chair</p> <p>Baku Engineering University Mr. Yusif Abdullayev– Chair of the Department Mr. Javanshir Salmanov – Teacher</p> <p>12:45 – 13:45 LUNCH</p> <p>13:45-16:30 The workshop continues after the lunch</p>
<p>Thursday 22 November 2018</p>	<p>10:00-12:45 Meeting with the Working Group on Educational Sciences to revise national study programmes in physics teacher and chemistry teacher on how to shift from current disciplinary-based national standards into competence-based ones</p> <p>Stakeholders: Baku State University Mr. Eldar Alakbarov - Associate Professor at the Chair for General Physics and Methodology of Physics Teaching Mr. Arif Orujov - Senior Teacher at the Chair for General Physics and Methodology of Physics Teaching Mr. Fuad Karimli – Associate Professor at Physical and Colloidal Chemistry Chair Ms. Arzu Pashayeva –Teacher at the Chair for Chemistry Teaching Methodology</p> <p>Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University Mr. Jahangir Huseynov – Head of General Physics Chair, PhD in Physics, Associate Professor Ms. Sevinj Jalilova, Head of the Chair for the Physics Teaching Methodology, PhD in Pedagogy, Associate Professor</p> <p>Sumgait State University Mr. Fuad Mammadov – Chair of the Department</p> <p>12:45 – 13:45 LUNCH</p>



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	<p>13:45-15:30 The workshop continues after the lunch</p>
Friday 23 November 2018	<p>10:00-13:00 The STEs work on mission deliverables</p> <p>13:00-14:00 LUNCH</p> <p>14:00-16:30 The STEs work on mission deliverables</p>



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4. Mission report:

4.1 Suggested revised version of national standards for the selected study programmes are attached to this report: State Standard for Physics - Annex I; State Standard for Chemical Engineering - Annex II; State Standard for Chemistry teacher - Annex III; State Standard for Chemistry teacher - Annex IV.

4.2. Recommendations on how to further reinforce competence-based approach in the selected study programmes

The main challenge is competence-based curricula implementation in practice. In order to reach the real change in higher education, support must be provided to help HEIs' communities to achieve transition to competence-based higher education standards.

The quality of competence-based curricula development and implementation as well as student-centered teaching and learning mostly depends on the academic staff of the HEI. Therefore, the most important measure is the system for the enhancement of competences of academic staff for the capacity building in competence-based curricula.

Workshops at all universities of the country how to (re-)design, develop, implement, evaluate and enhance quality of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd cycle degree programmes should be held periodically, by foreign and national experts.

Based on the already existing competences enhancement systems of the teaching staff at the HEIs, support for teaching staff should be launched at the HEIs on the differences between teacher-centered and student-centered learning, on what is learning outcomes, on how to write the learning outcomes, because generic descriptors of Bologna cycles NQF are not specific enough to be used as programme learning outcomes. Also, there should be provided courses on important issue within the ECTS, e.g. student's workload and how the academic staff should estimate it correctly. Courses should be provided on the most critical differences between student-centered and teacher-centered assessment, because the developing assessment that supports learning and motivation is essential to the success of competence-based curricula implementation.

Investment into development of academic staff competences is essential success factor in implementing competence-based studies on the ground. The hardest is transforming the mindset. Therefore, such courses or measures should be constantly provided, not only in the framework of this project.

4.3. Acknowledgments

The experts express their gratitude to the representative of Ministry of Education Mrs Vusala Qurbanova and representatives of universities for their contribution to the revision of national state standards in Physics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry Teacher and Physics Teacher.



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Annexes:

Annex 1: New suggested format for Bachelor and Master Programmes in Physics teacher

Annex 2: General and professional competences for Bachelor and Master Degrees of Chemical Engineering; Physics and Chemistry Teacher; Physics



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