



1st Regional Forum

“Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship”

March 10th & 11th 2016

Bukhara State University



Co-funded by the
Tempus Programme
of the European Union

Project Ref. Number 544126-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-ES-TEMPUS-JPHES

Introduction:

Currently, youth unemployment is among the primarily important issues in all countries, as we are witnessing dynamic growth of working-age population in parallel with the development of economies. As a result, as well as due to lack of appropriate entrepreneurial skills among youth, graduates of higher education institutes face several difficulties in finding quality employment. This fact highlights the top importance of enhancing youth employment opportunities within agendas of governmental policies.

In this context, *National Forums on Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship* were organized in each of the Central Asian countries in the framework of the UNIWORK project. In each the current situation of youth employment and entrepreneurship in that country was analyzed, experiences and success stories in this field were shared and the role of university Career Centers was determined. As a result, recommendations on national strategies to improve youth employment and promote entrepreneurship, as well as to stimulate ties between higher education and industry were elaborated.

This **1st Regional Forum on Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship** brings together experts and participants from universities, ministries of education, chambers of commerce and the business sector from all five countries in Central Asia, as well as from the European Union, to discuss the above-mentioned issues at a regional level. Finding a job is one of the most important questions graduating students come across. Together with theoretical base, they need a strong practical preparation and entrepreneurship skills. Lack of particular skills, mismatch between the chosen specialization and needs in labor market, lack of self- confidence, lack of self-esteem create definite difficulties. What can young people do to increase their employability? How are they going to find a job? How should they effectively present themselves in the labor market and succeed? These are some of the questions, for which *Regional Forum on Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship* will try to find solutions.

The Regional Forum is structured around two themes, with one day dedicated to each:

- Youth Entrepreneurship
- Youth Employability

About UNIWORK:

UNIWORK '*Strengthening Career Centres in Central Asia Higher Education Institutions to empower graduates in obtaining and creating quality employment*' (Project Ref. Number 544126-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-ES-TEMPUS-JPHES) is a 3-year Higher Education Capacity Building project running from December 2013 to November 2016, funded by the European Commission under the Tempus programme. It brings together a total of 25 partners including 15 Higher Education Institutions – 3 in the EU (Spain, Austria, UK), 2 in Kazakhstan, 3 in Kyrgyzstan, 2 in Tajikistan, 2 in Turkmenistan and 3 in Uzbekistan – as well as the Ministry of Education in each of the five Central Asian countries and a Chamber of Commerce in each.

UNIWORK aims to boost the links between universities and the business sector in order to foster sustainable socio-economic development in Central Asia by enhancing the capacities of partner Higher Education Institutions and their Career Centres to effectively improve graduates' employability and stimulate an entrepreneurship culture among their students.

For more information on Tempus project UNIWORK please visit our website www.uniwork-project.eu or "like" us on Facebook www.facebook.com/UNIWORKproject/

All materials will be available on the UNIWORK website after the Regional Forum.

AGENDA DAY 1

Thur. March 10 TH	YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP
08.30 – 9.00	Arrival to Forum Venue & Registration
09.00 – 09.30	Regional Forum Inauguration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof.Dr. Abdukabil Tulaganov, Rector, Bukhara State University • Abror Juraev, Head of International Office, Bukhara State University • Ministry of Higher Education Uzbekistan
09.30 – 09.45	Project UNIWORK & Regional Forum Objectives Cristina Beans, Senior Project Manager & UNIWORK Coordinator, International Project Management Office, University of Alicante (Spain).
09.45 – 10.00	Latest developments of Erasmus+ and Tempus programmes in Uzbekistan Aziza Abdurakhmanova, NEO Coordinator Uzbekistan
10.00 – 10.40	Keynote speech: Skills for Employability: How to deliver skills needed by employers in Vocational Education. Experience of British Council Skills for Tourism work in Uzbekistan – Shukhrat Amanov, British Council Uzbekistan
10.40 – 11.10	Coffee Break
11.10 – 12.30	Round Table: "Enhancing interactions between businesses and education to promote entrepreneurship among HEI students and graduates" <u>Chair:</u> Shukhrat Amanov, British Council Uzbekistan <u>Participants:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junko Ishikawa – Uzbekistan-Japan Centre • Shara Akylbayeva – Association of Commercial and Industrial Enterprises (Kazakhstan) • Burul Faridinova – Bishkek Business Club (Kyrgyzstan) • Manzura Rustamova – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan • Altyn Mamedova – Turkmenbaha (TB) Economic Society (Turkmenistan) • Oleg Rijichenko – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 14.45	Entrepreneurship Success stories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vinetka.uz</i> – Akhadkhon Mukhamedjanov, Bukhara State University • <i>Storm Eindhoven</i> – Daan Kempenaar, Eindhoven University of Technology (Netherlands) • <i>Hospitality Development Project</i> – Jurabek Babaev, Tashkent State Institute of Economics
14.45 – 15.55	UNIWORK Enterprising Ideas Competition – Elevator pitch session Elevator pitches by winners of UNIWORK Enterprising Ideas

	<p>Competition from 12 Central Asian universities. Competition to choose “Grand Jury Award” winner.</p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Gary Wood – University of Sheffield Enterprise (U.K.)</p> <p><u>Jury:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shara Akylbayeva – Association of Commercial and Industrial Enterprises (Kazakhstan) • Burul Faridinova – Bishkek Business Club (Kyrgyzstan) • Manzura Rustamova – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan • Altyn Mamedova – Turkmenbaha (TB) Economic Society (Turkmenistan) • Oleg Rijichenko – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan • Shukhrat Amanov – British Council Uzbekistan • Junko Ishikawa – Uzbekistan-Japan Centre
15.55 – 16.10	<p>Conclusions of National Fora and presentation of Policy White Paper draft – Kazakhstan</p> <p>Bayan Sapargaliyeva, New Economic University</p>
16.10 – 16.25	<p>Conclusions of National Fora and presentation of Policy White Paper draft – Kyrgyzstan</p> <p>Lyudmila Maslova, Bishkek Academy of Finance and Economics</p>
16.25 – 16.40	<p>Conclusions of National Fora and presentation of Policy White Paper draft– Tajikistan</p> <p>Sangin Boboev, Technological University of Tajikistan</p>
16.40	<p>Coffee Break</p>
16.40 – 17.40	<p>UNIWORK Enterprising Ideas Competition – Poster session</p> <p>Poster presentations by winners of UNIWORK Enterprising Ideas Competition from 12 Central Asian universities.</p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Rene Wenzel – FH Joanneum (Austria)</p> <p><u>Jury:</u> Regional Forum public vote to select “People’s Choice Award” winner.</p>

AGENDA DAY 2

“Topical Issues in Preparation of Highly Qualified Graduates” International Conference

Fri. March 11TH	
09.00 – 09.15	Participation in opening ceremony in Bukhara State University Main building
09.15 – 09.45	Registration in the Conference
09.45 – 11.45	Inauguration & Plenary Session of the Conference
11.45 – 12.30	Keynote speech: <i>“The role of Higher Education in improving employability”</i> – Prof. José Ginés Mora, University of Alicante (Spain) expert & visiting professor at Institute of Education, University College London (U.K.)
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
Conference Session on Youth Employability – Project UNIWORK	
14.00 – 15.15	Round Table: “How can the Government support Higher Education in order to improve graduates’ employability?” <u>Chair:</u> Prof. José Ginés Mora, University of Alicante (Spain) expert & visiting professor at Institute of Education, University College London (U.K.) <u>Participants:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zarina Chickibayeva – Ministry of Higher Education of Kazakhstan • Aibek Upenov – Rector of Talas State University, Kyrgyzstan • Obidjon Mahmudzoda – Ministry of Higher Education of Tajikistan • Altyn Mamedova – Turkmenbaha (TB) Economic Society, Turkmenistan • Irgash Karimov – Ministry of Higher Education of Uzbekistan
15.15 – 15.45	Career Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Importance of Career Centres in HEIs for graduates’ employability</i> – Cristina Beans, University of Alicante • <i>Software for on-line monitoring of graduates’ employment</i> – Bakhtiyor Adizov, Bukhara State University
15.45 – 16.00	Conclusions of National Fora and presentation of Policy White Paper draft – Turkmenistan Sapargul Valiyeva, Turkmen State Institute of Transport and Communication
16.00 – 16.15	Conclusions of National Fora and presentation of Policy White Paper draft – Uzbekistan Obidjon Khamidov, Tashkent State University of Economics
16.15 – 16.30	Closing Session - Enterprising Ideas Awards Ceremony
16.30 – 17.00	CONFERENCE CLOSING CEREMONY
19.00 – 21.00	CONCERT & DINNER ORGANISED BY BUKHARA STATE UNIVERSITY

REGIONAL FORUM ENTERPRISING IDEAS COMPETITION

Student Guidelines: 5 Minute Elevator Pitch + Poster session

Description

An elevator pitch is a short summary used to quickly and simply define a process, product, service, organisation or event.

The Jury will judge the 5-minute elevator pitch and the winner shall receive the **GRAND JURY AWARD**.

Requirements

Five minutes will be allowed for each pitch – in this time, you will be required to present your idea to a panel of judges.

The pitches will be delivered in a face-to-face setting in front of other individuals and judges.

Each pitch must clearly demonstrate:

- The intended business or service to be provided
- Business aims and objectives
- Market Research and Risks
- Target Audience
- Financial Information

Hints and tips on pitching

- Introduce yourselves – tell your audience who you are and what your business is called.
- *Practice, practice, practice!* You need to be slick to have credibility.
- Have a 'hook' – something that grabs your audience's attention in the first 30 seconds and makes them want to listen to your full pitch.
- A strong pitch often ends on a question to the audience.
- Be prepared! Try to think through the possible questions that your presentation might prompt and try to have some model answers prepared.
- Listen. The questions your audience has or the comments they give will contain useful help in guiding you to further develop your business idea.

Your pitch should be:

- **Concise** – you only have 5 minutes.
- **Clear** – if it's not obvious what your idea is then it will be hard to mark it high.
- **Compelling** – if you don't sound excited about it, why should your audience?
- **Credible** – don't make claims you can't substantiate.
- **Conceptual** – you do not have time for nitty gritty detail.
- **Concrete** – be definite about your idea, and try not to be vague.
- **Customised** – think about your audience and how much they will or will not know about your market.
- **Consistent** – make sure the basic message does not change from that of the poster you submitted.
- **Conversational** – don't be too formal; try to engage your audience. If it sounds as if you're being informative rather than obviously promotional, you will come across as more sincere.

A1 Poster

You must also present your plan as an informative A1 poster (594 x 840mm). This is a separate evaluation and will be displayed separately in a designated area. The poster will be marked separately by public vote and the winner shall receive the **PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD**.

UNIWORK Project is co-financed by the European Commission on the framework of the TEMPUS Co-operation Programme, with Project Reference Number 544126-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-ESTEMPUS-JPHES

ENTERPRISING IDEAS COMPETITION PARTICIPANTS

UNIVERSITY		HEI WINNERS	IDEA
Bishkek Academy of Finance and Economics	BAFE (KG)	Angelika Limareva & Angelina Bondareva	<i>"Creation of hydroponic greenhouses"</i>
Turar Ryskulov New Economic University	NEU (KZ)	Inayat Tursunov	<i>"Bilim.media" (Creation of an information portal)</i>
Technological University of Tajikistan	TUT (TJ)	Akobir Majidov	<i>"Centre of online learning"</i>
Talas State University	TalSU (KG)	Dastan Mamatbekov	<i>"Kyrgyz Travel – travel agency"</i>
Turkmen State Institute of Transport and Communication	TSITC (TM)	Suleyman Nokerov	<i>"Marketing of telecommunication services"</i>
Osh Technological University	OshTU (KG)	Edil Sharapov	<i>"Opening of internet shop for students"</i>
Kokshetau State University	KokSU (KZ)	Darkhan Manapov	<i>"Development of the training automated system "Ecocity""</i>
Samarkand State University	SamSU (UZ)	Dilnur Azamov	<i>"Online store services"</i>
Tashkent State University of Economics	TSUE (UZ)	Alisher Saidamir Salikhov	<i>"Organizing of technology to make Ice Coffees"</i>
Turkmen State Institute of Economics and Management	TSIEM (TM)	Begench Atayev	<i>" The Silk Road: A Journey to The Heart of Asia"</i>
Khujand Polytechnic Institute of Tajik Technical University	KPITTU (TJ)	Abdusamad Fayzulloev	<i>"Secure House"</i>
Bukhara State University	BSU (UZ)	Jamshit Normurodov	<i>"Shoes production, based on local resources"</i>