

TEMPUS PARTNER SEARCH FORM

General information	
Partner country:	Serbia
Name of the University/College of Applied Science:	College of Applied Technical Studies, Nis, Serbia -grantholder Partners from Serbia: College of Applied Technical studies, Kragujevac University of Kragujevac, Faculty of Engineering Studies Agency for Traffic Safety of the Republic of Serbia Centre for Motor Vehicles –AMSS, Belgrade Association of Secondary Technical Schools, Serbia (tbc)
Web site:	www.vtsnis.edu.rs
Brief description of institution(<i>maximum 100 words</i>):	College of Applied Technical Studies is situated in the town of Niš (Southern Serbia). It is established in 1976 and it currently provides higher education through first level (3-year applied bachelor studies) and second level studies (1-year specialist applied studies). Bachelor studies taught at the College are: - Industrial Engineering, - Road Traffic, - Communication Technologies, - Modern Computer Technologies, - Civil Engineering, - Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning Specialist applied studies taught at the College are: - Industrial Ecology, - Road Traffic Safety, - Communication Technologies, - Modern Computer Technologies, - Communal Engineering.
Contacts of responsible person: (<i>name, title, position, telephone, fax, e-mail</i>)	Dejan Blagojevic, director of the College kleyntruck@EUnet.rs Aleksandra Boricic, deputy Director of the College aleksandraboricic@gmail.com
Project description	
Type of the project: (<i>choose one answer – double click desired box at choose the option Checked</i>)	☒ Joint Project (JP) ☐ Structural Measure (SM)
Area of the project:	☒ Curricular Reform (CR)

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(choose one answer – double click desired box at choose the option Checked)	☐ Governance Reform (GR) ☐ Higher Education and Society (HES)
Relevant to: (choose one answer – double click desired box at choose the option Checked)	☒ National priorities ☐ Regional priorities
Specific priority/priorities addressed by project proposal: (according to the text of the official Call for Proposals published at EACEA web site – Annex 7, pages 57-66 of the Document)	Curricular Reform – Transport services
Working title of the project proposal:	<i>Modernization of Transport and Logistics curricula to be in line with contemporary EU trends</i>
Main objectives of the project:	Development of Transport and Logistic study programmes in Serbia Organization of training courses for the professionals working in the field of traffic safety
Short description of main activities:	• Analysis of the situation with road traffic and transport in the country and needs of the labour market; • Analysis of the current situation with transport and logistics curricula in professional higher education in Serbia and comparison with the situation in the EU partner counties; • Improvement/ modernization of the existing and development of new programmes and modules at I and II level of studies; • Introduction of measures to monitor employment of graduates and trainee probation; • Development of training materials for teachers in secondary schools; • Training of teachers of VET schools and trainers (courses on safety of road traffic and Transportation and Logistics); • Development of a set of lectures intended for instructors in driving schools, transport and logistics companies (on road safety, safe driving, transport of passengers and goods, respecting EU procedures and standards); • Activities related to logistics centre and quality management;
Target groups and stakeholders:	• College and university students; • Teaching staff of higher education institutions; • Teaching staff in VET schools;

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	• Local government and councils for road safety; • The employees of driving schools, Association of driving schools in Serbia and Association of technical inspection agencies and transport companies.
Preferred EU countries or/and Partner countries for cooperation:	-
Short description of EU/Partner country institution role:	• Institutions that have well functioning study programmes in this field, experienced in Logistics and Transport curricula design and reform; • Partners that have well-structured cooperation with non-academic institutions in their country relevant for this topic; • Colleges/ Academies of applied studies and universities are both welcome.

Project rationale- draft

Modernization of Transport and Logistics curricula to be in line with contemporary EU trends

The reform of the system of higher education in the Republic of Serbia in the past eight years has brought many innovations in respect to **structure**, **content** and **mechanisms** of teaching. Defining goals and outcomes of study programs and courses is encouraging teachers' creativity and helping to determine the level of competency that the students attain by mastering program contents, which is all based on the real needs of the economy and the modern trends in a certain field. Harmonization of the legal and technical acts in the fields of transport with the corresponding documents in EU, imposed a need for additional schooling of graduate students, engineers, entrepreneurs and educators.

After conducting a re-accreditation in 2012, by summarizing the experiences from the previous five-year cycle in the Republic of Serbia, conditions were created for a realistic insight in the weaknesses of the work done so far. Despite the changes in the content of the three-year long specialised-bachelor programs and their harmonization with the Bologna principles, it is clear that the majority of programs has not fully met the realistic demands of the market. Therefore, as one of the priorities in the period to come is the harmonization of the study programs with the realistic needs of the work-field and the improvement of the level of competencies in graduate students.

Transport industry and the entire sector of services that goes together with it, contribute to the economic growth of the country year after year, representing one of the strategic development areas in the Republic of Serbia. Geostrategic position of the Republic of Serbia (Corridors 10 and 11, waterway and rail transport), as well as a series of defined priorities of the development strategy of the Republic of Serbia, which are in compliance with the development strategy of the EU, indicate great opportunities for development in this area.

Modern vehicles, their control systems, monitoring and navigation systems, economical consumption, efforts made to protect the environment by reducing emission of exhaust gases, service support, planning of traffic infrastructure, planning and organisation of all types of city, intercity, regional, republic and international transport, traffic safety issues, all demand an adequate high level of competences of employees and involved persons who should develop their capacities all the time.

In general, the transportation area has got an important dimension in our economic, scientific and technical development, since from the stated it can be clearly seen that the transport is characterized by a highly multi-disciplinary dimension, where transport is importantly perceived as an applicative field to other scientific fields, therefore becoming an area for new job positions, qualified and highly qualified work force.

Having this in mind, a special but not full attention has been given to this area in the Republic of Serbia in the last few decades.

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The distribution of responsibilities between the local and the republic government where there is no continuity in jurisdiction from the top to the base, on the one hand, and the Ministry of internal affairs, where there is jurisdiction, on the other hand, impose a need that the system of the Agency jurisdiction transfer be complemented through the local centre activities. In this regard, specialised and university education in this area must integrate in their activities the focus on issues on competencies and qualifications of the work force with the issue of jurisdiction improvement.

A new Law on Road safety adopted in 2009, brought a number of innovations which, among other things, as a condition for successful implementation of the law, stress the importance of education of all road users. This law is harmonized with the current EU regulations and to a great extent it envisions the principles of prevention to directly enable efficient transportation system functioning and the development and improvement of the life quality in each aspect as a consequence.

However, as stated above, successful implementation of the above mentioned, requires education, improvement of the existing and acquisition of new competencies of employees and involved persons who work in this field, but all the road users as well.

Potential target groups significant for the quality improvement are

1. Students of professional and academic studies in the field of transportation engineering and logistics
2. Teaching staff in transportation high schools
3. Local government and councils for road safety
4. Employed in driving schools and technical inspection- Association of driving schools in Serbia and Association of technical inspection
5. Persons in charge of transport organisation in companies

Training and education of students in the field of traffic, transport and logistics in the Republic of Serbia is currently being carried out at two transportation faculties, whereas programs in logistics are conducted at four faculties of mechanical engineering. Also, study programs in these fields are carried out in several higher education institutions of professional and university studies.

However, for all potential target groups there is no integrated system of education. Existing education is rare, sporadic, often incomplete and insufficient for the real needs.

In terms of enforcement and implementation of the Law on road safety from the point of upgrading the attained education, the Agency for road safety plays an important role. Having in mind the scope of activities and responsibilities of the Agency on the one hand, goals and outcomes of the study programs in the field of road transport and logistics in the sector of higher education on the other hand, it is clear that there is room for mutual cooperation and the distribution of responsibilities involving appropriate conditions. These conditions can be reduced to the level of competencies for graduate students and the adequate law regulations with the accompanying technical rulebooks, which is possible to achieve by permanent improvement of study programs, adaptations to the existing programs at the level of

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modules, and the accreditation of new curriculum. Defined and prepared contents in this way must provide future engineers with high- quality knowledge applicable in their future jobs.

In order to present crucial problems in this field to a greater number of road users of different profiles it is necessary to put emphasis on the teacher training- sector of high school education and driving school instructors in order to enable them to pass this knowledge to their students, trainees and entrepreneurs.

Employers expect from engineers and high school graduates to possess a certain level of competencies in order to take on a series of responsibilities as soon as possible in some of these areas of organisation and implementation of work.

The fact that the Republic of Serbia set as one of its priorities the finishing of the Corridors 10 and 11, implies opportunities for development of a wide range of sector services by establishing modern logistics centres, improving the existing companies for passenger and food transport and companies for testing security in new, as well as re-designed or imported vehicles. Modern logistics centres, regardless of their position on a micro or macro-level, their network as well as business effectiveness are stipulated by introduction and implementation of appropriate procedures and standards. Preparation processes require a great dedication of management and a qualified work force which can contribute with their adequate training and knowledge. All of this has to be integrated with the responsibilities of the existing centres that would be beneficiaries of such services. Also, it should be anticipated that some new centres with complex activities will be opened too, which would be supported by the university and colleges inside Serbia, at the level of geographic regions, leading to a much more efficient performance of multiple tasks related to transport and motor vehicles. This can be achieved by a number of courses and certificates which would be implemented by lecturers with licences and qualifications. This way, through high-quality company management training, the training of responsible persons in companies as well as the work force, conditions will be created to improve the work and business efficiency.

Also, through the implementation of this project, conditions for the continual professional development of employees will be provided, which can lead to obtaining non-university qualifications regardless of the previous educational attainment, thus ensuring the sustainability of the system structure of this project.