

MInkluWB: Mentoring-based Inclusion in business and economics study programs with regional focus on Western Balkans

Opening Conference at the University of Niš 27 - 29 March 2017

MInkluWB is a one year project within the DAAD-financed programme for German – Western Balkan Higher Education Dialogue starting 01st of March 2017. The project's target is to promote inclusiveness of study programs in business and economics addressing the needs of student groups still underrepresented in higher education, namely children from non-academic families, socially disadvantaged people, ethnic minorities persons with disabilities and others. By opening higher education for underrepresented groups such as these, universities contribute to wider social and economic development. Furthermore, universities benefit from a more diverse student body and overall growth. For that, MInkluWB brings together members of faculties for business and economics from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia (FYROM) Serbia and Germany supported by NGOs from those countries and additional partners from Slovenia and Croatia. The projects core activity is to train students as peer-mentors for students from underrepresented social groups. The training shall be professionalized by combined efforts of all university partners supported by NGOs. The mentoring concept shall also be fully integrated in the local curricula structure of the respective study program by the end of the project. The opening conference will be the start of this project.

Monday, 27th March 2017

until 18.00 **Arrival of project participants**

Tuesday, 28th March 2017

09.00-09.30 **Welcome and Opening**

Dean of Faculty for Business and Economics, University of Niš

Boban Stojanovic, University of Niš

Ahmet Mehic, University of Paderborn

09.30-10.00 **Creating an Inclusive Environment at Universities**

Bernd Gössling, University of Paderborn

10.00-10.30 **Conceptualization and Implementation of Peer-Mentoring Programs**

Juliane Fuge, University of Paderborn

10.30-11.00 Coffee Break

11.00-13.00 The Situation of Underrepresented Groups in Higher Education

Moderation: Bernd Gössling, University of Paderborn

Students from non-academic backgrounds in Germany

Anika Werner, ArbeiterKind.de e.V.

Disabled Students in Serbia

Dragana Rodic, Uklonimobarijere

Situation of Students in Mazedonien

Ana Alibegova, Association for Education MLADIINFO

Situation of Students in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Lamija Ceremida Shared Society and Values Foundation

13.00-14.00 Break including Snack

14.00-15.30 Challenges and Strategies for the Inclusion of Underrepresented Groups

Moderation: Ahmet Mehic, University of Paderborn

State of the Art University of Niš

Boban Stojanovic

South East European University

Besnik Fetai

University of Sarajevo: School of Economics and Business

Alma Vranic

15.30-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00-17.00 Regional Practices: Mentoring Approaches in Higher Education

Moderation: Juliane Fuge, University of Paderborn

Mentoring at Libertas International University

Kandžija Vinko

Mentoring at University of Ljubljana

Andreja Turman

17.00-18.00 Mentoring-based Inclusion in business and economics study programs

Presentation and Discussion of Project Activities and Time Plan

Ahmet Mehic, Juliane Fuge, Bernd Gössling

19.30 Welcome Dinner

Wednesday, 29th March 2017

09.00-09.30 Training of Students as Peer-Mentors

Juliane Fuge, University of Paderborn

09.30-11.00 Workshop on local action plans

Moderation: Juliane Fuge, University of Paderborn

11.00-11.30 Coffee Break

11.30-12.00 Curricular and Institutional Aspects of Peer-Mentoring Programs

Bernd Gössling, University of Paderborn

12.00-13.00 Workshop on local action plans

Moderation: Bernd Gössling, University of Paderborn

13.00-14.00 Break including Snack

14.00-15.00 Development of Work Packages

Moderation: Ahmet Mehic, University of Paderborn

15.00-16.00 Wrap-up Round Table (all presenters)

16.00-16.30 Closing and departure of local / regional partner

Thursday, 30th March 2017

10.00-16.00 Optional Study Visit in Niš (requested)

University of Niš: Research and Education Excellence

City of Niš (Municipality)

National Labor Market Agency (Niš branch)

School for Students with Special Needs

Center for Social Work

Friday, 31st March 2017

about 08.00 Departure of EU Partners (from Germany)