Educa-T project

Emphasis on Developing and Upgrading of Competences for Academic Teaching

Contact person: Marina Crnčić Sokol, Ministry of Science and Education, Croatia (email: marinacrncicsokol@mzo.hr)

The project Educa-T was implemented by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education in the period from June 2016 until June 2018 with a view to creating conditions for improving the quality of learning and teaching in Croatia’s higher education.

The Project received grant co-financing under the EU’s Erasmus+ programme – Key Action 3/KA3/ - Support to the Implementation of EHEA Reforms.

The Ministry of Science and Education designed the project bearing in mind that the success of all reforms in higher education largely depended on the competences and motivation of research/teaching staff in higher education institutions. Therefore the project focused on the activities whose outcomes highlight the importance of investment in the quality of learning and teaching and offer a framework for methodical development of teaching competences in Croatia’s higher education system.

As part of the Project, a Working Group consisting of experts on teaching and learning was appointed to develop the Competence Profile for Higher Education Teachers and the Curriculum for Teaching Competence Enhancement in Higher Education, as well as to set forth the Recommendations for Developing and Enhancing Teaching Competences at Croatian Higher Education Institutions.

These documents were merged into the Handbook for Teaching Competence Enhancement in Higher Education.*

The highlight of the project is the Handbook for Teaching Competence Enhancement in Higher Education which consisted of all project outcomes. The Handbook was presented at the project final conference on 8 May 2018 held in Zagreb, and Croatian academic society showed a great interest and enthusiasm for further implementation of project outputs.

Numerous project activities (workshops, focus groups, PLA’s, study trips, conferences) were organized with the aim to raise awareness and create a positive climate within Croatian higher education to further develop teaching and learning.

The Educa-T project involved a broad range of stakeholders and opened a discussion on the importance of quality teaching and learning in Croatian higher education.

The project showed that one of the important conditions for its success was to involve a greater number of participants in project activities and to focus on the need of academic society and identified problems and needs in higher education. The response to the project activities and outcomes showed that it had a positive impact on further strengthening of academics’ role in Croatian higher education and created positive attitudes towards the enhancement of quality teaching and learning in higher education. The Handbook for Teaching Competence Enhancement in Higher Education will ensure the sustainability of project ideas and aims.