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QUEECA TEMPUS Project: Milestones, Results and Rising Expectations

Elisa Guberti, QUEECA Project Manager

Claudio Borri, QUEECA Coordinator & Legal Representative

Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering

School of Engineering,

University of Florence, Italy

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The tradition of accreditation of EE at Univ. of Florence:

- EUR-ACE and PRO-EAST projects (under LLP and TEMPUS III)
- EUR-ACE IMPLEMENTATION (LLP)
- EUR-ACE SPREAD (LLP)
- QUEECA (TEMPUS IV)

... but also within Thematic/Academic Network in ERASMUS, SOCRATES, LLP,
: E4, TREE, and EUGENE

and eventually ...

TEMPUS project QUEECA

Quality of Engineering Education in Central Asia

530326-TEMPUS-1-2012-1-IT-TEMPUS-SMGR

Eligibility period: 15.10.12 -14.04.16

GA n. 2012 – 2994 / 001 – 001

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Partners



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QUEECA involves 4 out of 5 TEMPUS countries in CA. The three-year QUEECA initiative is led by the University of Firenze, School of Engineering under the leadership of Prof. Claudio Borri.

The QUEECA consortium includes European partners from Italy, Germany, Belgium, Portugal and the United Kingdom and Central Asian partners from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan.



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The Consortium

European Partners:

- P1 Università di Firenze - Facoltà di Ingegneria - Firenze, Italy
- P2 ASIIN e v. - Duesseldorf, Germany
- P3 European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education ENAEE - Bruxelles, Belgium
- P4 Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Lisboa, ISEL Lisboa, Portugal
- P5 Middlesex University - London, United Kingdom
- P6 QUACING Agency - Rome, Italy
- P7 Ruhr University Bochum - Bochum, Germany
- P8 Société Européenne pour la formation des Ingénieurs SEFI, Bruxelles, Belgium
- P9 Sapienza Università di Roma - Roma, Italy
- P10 Università degli Studi di Genova - Genoa, Italy

...





The Consortium

Commonwealth of Independent States - Central Asian States



CA Partners:

P11 Aktobe State University after K. Zhubanov ASU – Aktobe - Kazakhstan

P12 “D.Serikbayev” East Kazakhstan State Technical University – EKSTU -Ust Kamnenogorsk - Kazakhstan

P13 Al Farabi Kazakh National University - KaZNU – Almaty - Kazakhstan

P14 Kazakhstan Society for Engineering Education - KazSEE - Ust-Kamenogorsk - Kazakhstan

P15 Karaganda State Technical University -KSTU KZ – Karaganda - Kazakhstan

P16 Ministry of education and science of Kazakhstan Republic MESKR KZ – Astana - Kazakhstan

P17 M. Auezov South Kazakhstan State University - M-Auezov SKSU - Shymkent City – Kazakhstan

P18 Education Network – EdNet - Bishkek City Kyrgyzstan

P19 Kyrgyz State Technical University - KSTU KG - Bishkek - Kyrgyzstan

P20 Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture named after I. Isanov - KSUCTA Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

P21 Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic - MESKR KG – Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

P22 State Inspection on Licensing and Attestation of Educational Institutions of Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic - SILAEIMESKR- Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

P23 Ministry of Education of Republic of Tajikistan - ME of the RT – Dushanbe , Tajikistan

P24 Mining Metallurgical Institute of Tajikistan – MMIT – Chkalovsk, Tajikistan

P25 Tajik Technical University named after academician M.S. Osimi – TTU – Dushanbe , Tajikistan

P26 Ministry of Higher Education Republic of Uzbekistan – MHSSE – Tashkent , Uzbekistan

P27 Tashkent State Technical University named after Abu Raikhon Beruni – TSTU – Tashkent, Uzbekistan

P28 Tashkent University of Information Technologies - TUIT – Tashkent , Uzbekistan



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Financial Facts



Project Overall Budget

QUEECA

Project Nr. 530326-TEMPUS-1-2012-1-IT-TEMPUS-SMGR

Eligibility Period 15/10/2012 - 14/10/2015

	Proposed Budget	Approved Budget	Reduction	
Staff Costs	437.280,00	437.280,00		
Travel Costs, Costs of Stay	451.080,00	420.000,00	31.080,00	6,89%
Equipment	150.000,00	135.000,00	15.000,00	10,00%
Printing and Publishing	91.000,00	91.000,00		
Other Costs	80.000,00	65.000,00	15.000,00	18,75%
Eligible Direct Costs	1.209.360,00	1.148.280,00		
Indirect Costs	84.655,20	80.379,60	4.275,60	5,05%
Total Eligible Costs	1.294.015,20	1.228.659,60		
Tempus Grant	1.164.613,68	1.105.793,64		
Co-financing	129.401,52	122.865,96	6.535,56	5,05%
Total Project Finance	1.294.015,20	1.228.659,60		



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Project Activities



General Aim

QUEECA is a Tempus project which aims **at setting up and implementing a system of Quality Assurance of Engineering Education (EE) in Central Asia countries, finalized to the pre-professional accreditation of engineering programmes** (i.e. accreditation of educational programmes as entry route to the eng. profession).

The accredited programmes must **satisfy the same prerequisites for the award of the EUR-ACE quality label**, i.e. the EUR-ACE Framework Standards (EAFS) and the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.



Main Actions

1. Create a National EE Society where it does not exist (in Kazakhstan, strengthen the existing KazSEE) and a CA Federation of EE Societies, partnered with SEFI and IFEES.
2. Adapt the EAFS and formulate analogous CA Standards (CAEAS) in Russian and English.
3. Create Accreditation Centers in each CA country (with a Regional coordination); train the relevant "accreditors".
4. Run a series of Trial Accreditations with international teams to test the draft CAEAS and the local accreditors.
5. Taking into account the Trial Accreditations results, formulate the final version of CAEAS.
6. Conduct a first run of pilot accreditation of engineering programmes and award the first EUR-ACE labels in CA.
7. Formulate a self-supporting financial plan for carrying out accreditation after the project closure.



Specific Objectives of the Project

- Set up and start implementing a system of quality assurance (QA) of engineering education in Central Asia (CA) countries, finalized to the pre-professional accreditation of engineering programmes (i.e. accreditation of educational programmes as entry route to the engineering profession).

- The accredited programmes must satisfy the same conditions required for the award of the EUR-ACE quality label, i.e. the EUR-ACE Framework Standards, the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ESG), and all related quality requirements and procedures. The project will take advantage of the experience in the European Higher Education Area (through ENAEE) and current efforts in Central Asia countries.



TEMPUS Objectives addressed by this project

Tempus Programme Specific Objectives addressed by this project:

- To promote the reform and modernisation of higher education in the partner countries
- To enhance the quality and relevance of higher education in the partner countries
- To build up the capacity of higher education institutions in the partner countries and the EU, in particular for international cooperation and for a permanent modernisation process, and to assist them in opening themselves up to society at large
- To foster the reciprocal development of human resources
- To enhance mutual understanding between peoples and cultures of the EU and of the partner countries

Programme themes addressed by this project:

Introduction of quality assurance (QA)



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Themes and Priorities addressed by this project

National and Regional Priorities for 2012 addressed by this application:

- Main priority: Governance reform: introduction of quality assurance (Regional priority for Central Asia);
- National Priority for Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan);
- Secondary priority: Development of international relations (Regional priority for CA),

The above mentioned priorities are addressed by the project in relation to the concerned partner countries as follows:

The need for international recognition of eng. degrees is increasingly felt in CA: several universities are stipulating agreements with accreditation agencies in Europe and the USA. This can be very positive, but a more systematic approach is essential for further developments.

This project aims at setting up in CA a system for pre-professional accreditation of engineering education through a network of National QA/Accreditation Agencies able to accredit engineering programme and be authorized by ENAEE to award the EUR-ACE quality label.



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Project WP and Deliverables



List of Workpackages

WP number	WP type	WP title
WP1	<u>Development</u>	English Intensive Language Courses
WP 2	<u>Development</u>	Elaboration of Central Asia Engineering Accreditation Standards (CAEAS)
WP 3	<u>Development</u>	Setting up National Engineering Societies and a Central Asian Federation of EES
WP 4	<u>Development</u>	Setting up National Engineering Accreditation Centers
WP 5	<u>Development</u>	Accreditation of programmes
WP 6	<u>Management</u>	Project Management Meetings
WP 7	<u>Quality</u>	Quality Control and Monitoring
WP 8	<u>Dissemination</u>	Queeca Dissemination
WP 9	<u>Exploitation</u>	Local Workshops based on the results of first trial accreditation



List of Workpackages (1/2)

Deliv. / Activity Ref. N°	Activities (as indicated in the LFM)
1.1	Intensive English Language Courses
1.2	Technical Intensive English Courses
2.1	Revision of EURACE Framework standards in Russian (UPDATING an EXISTING DOCUMENT)
2.2	First draft of Central Asia Standards (CAEAS)
2.3	Approved Final CA Standards
3.1	Workshops to create National EE Societies in CA
3.2	Draft Statutes of the National EE Societies
3.3	Formalisation of National EE Societies
3.4	Conferences to launch the National Structures
3.5	CA Federation of EE Societies statutes
3.6	Formalization of the CA Federation
4.1	<i>Training Visit to ENAEE (including the training of the accreditors)</i>
4.2	Candidates for "Trial Accreditations"
4.3	Trial Accreditations to test CAEAS
4.4	Accreditation Centre workshop in Central Asia
4.5	Formalization Nat. Eng. Accreditation Centres (<i>deliverable under the responsibility of the CA partners</i>)
4.6	Conferences to launch the Centres (<i>at the occasion of 3.4</i>) <i>Conferences to assess the trial accreditations and launch the accreditation centres</i>
5.1	<i>First actual Accreditation visits in Kazakhstan run according to the rules set within the CAEAS</i>
5.2	<i>First actual Accreditation visits in Kyrgyzstan run according to the rules set within the CAEAS</i>
5.3	<i>First actual Accreditation visits in Uzbekistan run according to the rules set within the CAEAS</i>
5.4	<i>First actual Accreditation visits in Tajikistan run according to the rules set within the CAEAS</i>



List of Workpackages (2/2)

6.1	1st Management Board Meeting
6.2	2nd Management Board Meeting
6.3	3rd Management Board Meeting
6.4	4th Management Board Meeting
6.5	5th Management Board Meeting
6.6	6th Management Board Meeting
6.7	Minutes of internal meetings
6.8	Instruments for the management of the project
6.9	Tempus Representatives Meeting
6.10	1st Project Board and Kick Off-Meeting
6.11	2nd Project Board Meeting
6.12	3rd Project Board Meeting
6.13	Audits
7.1	Quality Evaluation Reports
7.2	Evaluation Questionnaires on Project Activities
8.1	QUEECA Forum
8.2	International Synergies
8.3	QUEECA web site
8.4	Informative Material (<i>leaflet, booklet, posters</i>)
8.5	QUEECA Final Conference
8.6	QUEECA Book
9.1	Kazakhstan workshop based on results of 1° trial (<i>pilot accreditation</i>)
9.2	Kyrgyzstan workshop based on results of 1° trial (<i>pilot accreditation</i>)
9.3	Uzbekistan workshop based on results of 1° trial (<i>pilot accreditation</i>)
9.4	Tajikistan workshop based on results of 1° trial (<i>pilot accreditation</i>)



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Project Milestones



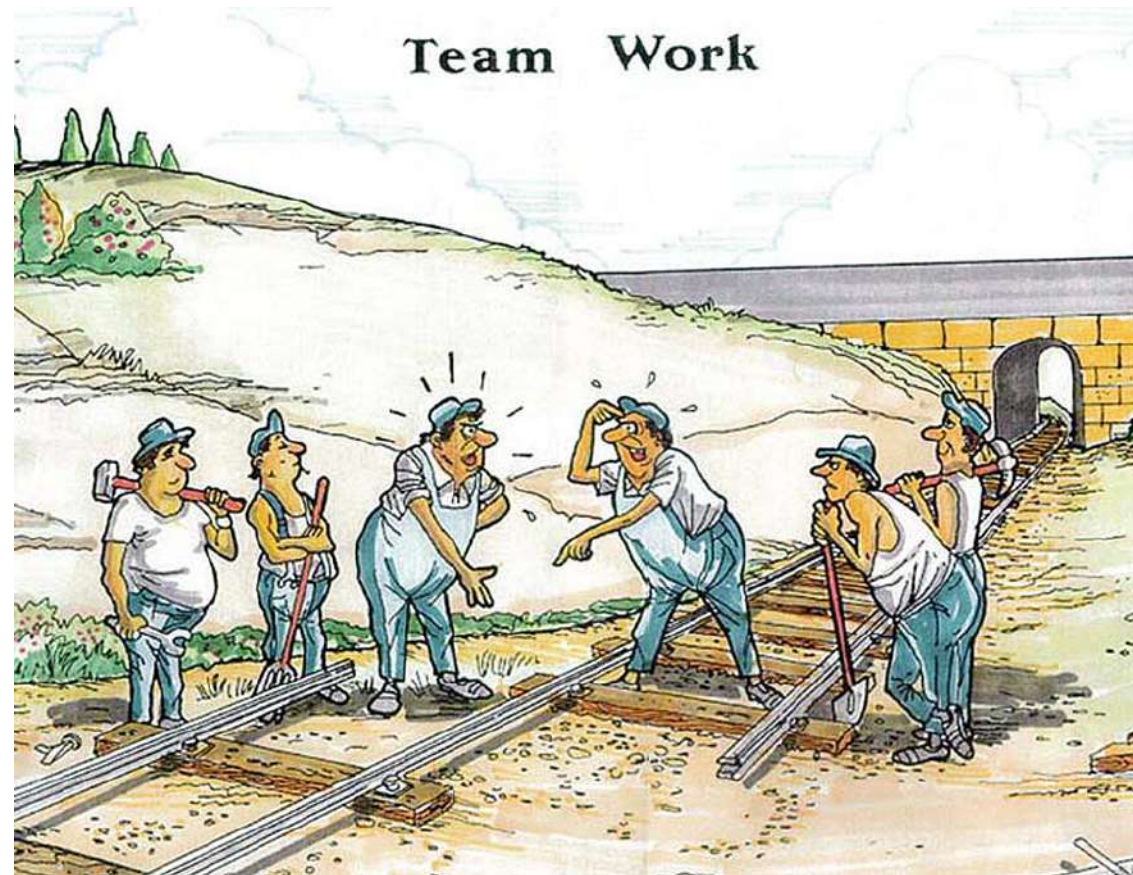
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Project Management

Despite some initial difficulties the partnership appears solid and the participation from the partners active and lively.





Project Management

Money transfer procedures have been standardised (pre-financing to the partners institutions on the basis of partnership agreements).

PC coordinators have been identified: they ensure the best possible communication with the partners.



Project Goals

Practically all WP activities are on time with respect to the initial workprogramme





Project Goals

- ✓ Several partnership meetings took place;
- ✓ Language courses have been completed;
- ✓ Partner Countries workshops have been carried out in Summer 2013
- ✓ Training for perspective accreditors are finished (in TJ just concluded!)
- ✓ KG and UZ association for EE have been formally established;
- ✓ Project dissemination at several international EE events is taking place.



Main Challenges

WP 4 (Setting up National Engineering Accreditation Centers) and WP 5 (Accreditation of Programs), both under the leadership of ENAEE, appear to be the main challenging ones for the project.

Their activities are just started and rising expectations from the concerned parties have to be reported.





Further steps

- Given the excellent and encouraging results in CA, we are doing a feasibility study for a similar project that introduce the EUR-ACE system in the countries of North Africa (NA) and Middle East (ME).
- **From the educational point of view, NA countries of the Mediterranean are very close to the European models and tradition.**
- The geographic/cultural proximity of the NA and ME countries to (continental) Europe, allows to easily introduce the model of the EUR-ACE in their educational schemes ...



Project Dissemination

- Web site
- Papers presented at the occasion of several EE related events (SEFI annual conference, World Engineering Education Forum etc.);
- Participation to the UZ national days of education and contribution to the relevant publications;
- Posters and leaflet





Programme Accreditation

WP 4 - Setting up National Engineering Accreditation Centers Deliverable 4.2: Candidates for "Trial Accreditations"

Country	HEI	Title of the degree programme	Level
KG	Kyrgyz State Technical University	Information and communication technologies and systems in communication.	1 st cycle
KG	Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transportation and Architecture	Constructing	1 st cycle
TJ	Tajik Technical University	Alternative and renewable sources of energy (Energy Department)	2 nd cycle
TJ	Tajik Technical University	Building Design (Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture)	1 st cycle
UZ	TSTU	Electronics and Instrumentation.	1st cycle
UZ	TUIT	Software Engineering	1st cycle
KZ	KAZNU – Kazakh National University	* Bachelor Degree Programme in “Electric Power Engineering”	1st cycle
KZ	KAZNU – Kazakh National University	* Bachelor Degree Programme in “Radioengineering, Electronics and Telecommunications”	1st cycle
KZ	KAZNU – Kazakh National University	* Master Degree Programme in “Radioengineering, Electronics and Telecommunications”	2nd cycle
KZ	KAZNU – Kazakh National University	* Bachelor Degree Programme in “Thermal Power Engineering”	1st cycle
KZ	KAZNU – Kazakh National University	* Master Degree Programme in “Thermal Power Engineering”	2nd cycle



Latest and Forthcoming Events

When	What	Where
2015		
2015 September (exact date to be defined)	QUEECA Closing Conference including QUEECA Project Board (plenary) and Management Board meetings	Firenze, Italy
2015.01.16 (date to be confirmed)	QUEECA Project Board meeting	Portugal (exact location to be confirmed)
2014		
2014.11.19	QUEECA coordination meeting (among EU partners)	Brussels, BE (ENAAE Headquarters)
2014.10.24 (afternoon only)	QUEECA Management Board Meeting	Tadjik Technical University, Dushanbe, Tadjikistan
2014.10.23-24	TJ National Forum	Tadjik Technical University, Dushanbe, Tadjikistan
2014.10.20-22	Trainings for TJ experts	Tadjik Technical University, Dushanbe, Tadjikistan
2014.09.17	QUEECA coordination/dissemination meeting	Middlesex University, UK



Contact Details
and Credits



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Claudio Borri,
Elisa Guberti

Civil and Environmental
Engineering Dept.

University of Firenze
v. S. Marta, 3
50139 Firenze

T. +39.055.2758-859/ -88
cborri@dicea.unifi.it

