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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COLLABORATIVE GROUP
UNDER THE PROJECT
“Career Paths to Youth Labor Mobility”
Project code 16.4.2.021,e-MS-ROBG 156**

Under activity A.2. Encouraging integration and cooperation among the stakeholders - 5 meetings of a Collaborative Working Group on 20th and 21st June 2017, the first meeting was held in Silistra according to the enclosed schedule.

After welcoming the participants, Mrs. Director of Silistra Branch, Ph.D. professor Temenuzhka Bogdanova briefly presented this project, focusing on the medium and long term objectives of the project. The project aims on medium and long term to build a strong cross-border partnership between the institutions, the local stakeholders (from Romania and Bulgaria) to lead to a cross-border insertion of youth labor force.

The welcome message of Mr. Rector of the University of Ruse, Anghel Kanchev, was sent by PhD Professor Ivan Evstatiev.

The Vice Mayor Mrs. Denka Mihaylova, welcomed the implementation of the project in Călărași-Silistra cross-border area, wishing success to the members of the partnership and assuring the project team of the entire support of Silistra Town Hall.

Missis Coordinator of the Collaborative Group, PhD Professor Galina Lecheva, in her presentation emphasized the objectives and the commitments of the collaborative group established within the project for Călărași-Silistra cross-border area.

PhD Professor Ivan Evstatiev, the coordinator of the Center for Career Development within Anghel Kanchev University, presented the material on

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labor mobility and information support provided to the students of the University of Ruse, material developed at the Center for Career Development for in Ruse.

The main issue highlighted by the Center for Career Development in Ruse was to ensure the information of all students and to provide information support for the insertion on the labor market of the students and graduates of the University. The basic information flows between users and the University of Ruse are achieved by:

- Making contacts with companies: personal contacts, collaboration contracts, organizing presentations at the headquarters of the companies, students visits in the companies, organizing meetings between the management of the employers and the University of Ruse
- Collaboration with the Russian Labor Force Office
- organizing internships for students
- seminars
- WEB system for linking with the users of the University Information Portal and business partners: introducing vacancies on the university site;
- Introducing information about the achievements of the university specialists.
- Annual organization of the Career Forum;
- Organizing the First Trainee Day;
- Employers Month.

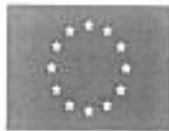
Other important activities held for the students support are: The Career Forum, The presentations of the companies, (the Center for career development organizes weekly presentations of the companies in the University of Ruse or at the headquarters of the companies. The students find out about the companies activitis, submit letters of intention and CVs to the companies representatives).

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Important IT services: information portal of the University for business partners - site, schedule and data base "student career".

Particular attention is paid by the Center for Career Development in Ruse to provide information support to the employers, in 2016, with over 3000 job advertisements and internships being registered.

Mr. Todor Dinkov, Director of the Administrative Control, Regional Development Department, Silistra Prefecture, presented the prefect's duties as a regional authority, being directly responsible for employment. At the level of Silistra Prefecture there is a commission formed of county institutions with attributions in the field of employment. Legislative issues were highlighted in the Bulgarian legislation on the attributions in the elaboration and approval/endorsement of the local-regional policies and their harmonization with the national policies and strategies. Finally, he welcomed the presence of the project in Călărași-Silistra implementation area, assuring the management and implementation team of Silistra Prefecture support.

Missis director of Silistra branch asked whether one of the members of this collaborative group made under this project could be part of this commission and what steps the Collaborative Group should take. The reply of the representative of Silistra Prefecture was related to the legal provisions for setting up this commission and the obligation to issue a decision of Silistra Prefect.

Missis Milena Perchemlieva, Silistra Employment Office presented the employment policies among young people in Bulgaria. The results of the office activity are reflected in the statistical data provided for the year 2017:

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- Specialized job scholarships for young people up to 29 years age (30 employers, 60 established jobs, 78 young people present, 60 young people who have a job)

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- Employment programs and training programs (Career Start Program, National Program Empowerment of Inactive People, NP Labor force Employment and Disability Training)
- The Project “ New Opportunities for Youth Labor force Employment”
- The project “Training and Employment for Young People”
- Scheme “Training and employment for young people up to 29 years”

The representative of the employment office enumerated also other programs and projects developed, having as target group the young people in Silistra.

Missis project manager, PhD professor Crețu Daniela asked about the percent of young high education graduates without a job and the percent of young people working in other activity field than the field they were trained for.

The expert answer within the Employment Office was “about 1% graduates without a job, and most of the graduates work in the field for which they have been trained or areas close to the field of study.”

The second day of the meeting was opened by Mrs. Nadia Deneva, Center for Career at the Ruse Regional School Inspectorate. There are currently 28 such centers in Bulgaria, set up at the initiative of the Bulgarian business sector and supported by the Ministry of Education. In her presentation Mrs. Nadia Deneva referred to the projects implemented at the center level, having as target group the students in the pre-university education as well as activities carried out in collaboration with the University of Ruse, having as target group the students or pupils and students. An important activity of the center is the organization of the Youth Scholarship event, having as target group the students of the 12th forms.

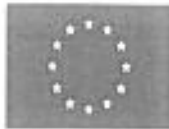
This event enjoys the presence of the local employers who have vacancies, and so young graduates are helped to find a job, even a seasonal one. Other activities are organized in collaboration with the Employment

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МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО И НАУКАТА



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Office in Ruse, Liben Karavelo Regional Library. IT support is provided on a SITE SYSTEM FOR CAREER GUIDANCE IN THE EDUCATION UNITS, site on which all forms and the network of pre-university and university education are presented.

Missis Năstase Mariana, asked if these Centers are public institutions, NGOs or are financed by the business sector and what specific instruments they use in the activity of pupil career orientation? The answer was that these centers are financed from the budget of the Ministry of Education and the instruments used are taken from the American model of counseling and from the counseling manual/guide elaborated by the Ministry of Education.

The policies of Silistra Town Hall on labor force employment and youth unemployment were presented by Mr. STANISLAV TODOROV, main expert on employment from Silistra Town Hall. Legislative issues were presented on local employment policies. Missis Vasile Mariana, representative of AJOFM Călărași (Călărași County Agency for labor Force Employment) asked who supports financially the training/qualification of the young people identified as target group. The answer was from the budget of the national Agency of Employment.

The representative of the Chamber of Commerce in Ruse, Stela Dionisieva, presented the material on the ECONOMY OF COLLABORATION AND NEW FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT. The evolution of the present concept, the situation in Bulgaria regarding the knowledge of the concept of economy of collaboration and the use of the levers provided by this new form of income were presented. Sites that use this job offer principle were presented. There are jobs that do not require physical presence but there are jobs where physical presence is absolutely necessary. It is a relatively new concept, the economy of collaboration being experienced by the above-mentioned institution in a project with European funding.

The end of the meeting was dedicated to the conclusions of this meeting, noting that there are many similarities and differences between the

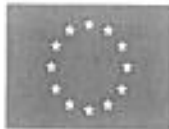
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two cross-border areas, the next meeting will continue to present the situation in Romania in order to identify joint solutions leading to the elaboration of joint strategies for labor force employment represented by the graduates with higher education in the cross-border area. The members of the Collaborative Group expressed their will to collaborate with the cross-border public institutions with attributions in this field, in order to develop joint directions of action taking into account the specificity of the two areas, Călărași and Silistra.

Thanks were given to the organizers and participants.

Project Manager,
PhD Professor Crețu Daniela

Manager Assistant,
Mariana Năstase

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