



JUNE 8, 2017

PROJECT: “Strategic directions for improving the quality of education and competitiveness of the university” (IQEduU)

WORLD BANK SUPPORTED GRANT

INSTITUTE OF ECONOMY AND TRADE OF TSUC, KHUJAND

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Detailed information about organization

Full legal name: Institute of Economy and Trade of Tajik State University of Commerce in Khujand

Acronym: IET TSUC

Type of organization: Higher Education Institution

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IET TSUC's PROJECT RESUME
**on "Strategic directions for improving the quality of education and
competitiveness of the university" (IQEduU)"**

Current project proposal is developed for call in the Higher Education Project for Tajikistan supported by the World Bank, where the main objective is to develop mechanisms that improve and monitor the quality and labor market relevance of higher education. *"The project comprises of three components. The first component, institutional-level improvements consists of following two sub-components: (i) just-in-time grants to re- and up-skill workforce; and (ii) competitive grant program for universities. The second component, system-level interventions consists of following three sub-components: (i) quality assurance enhancements; (ii) system-wide higher education curriculum reform; and (iii) assessment of higher education financing. The third component will support project management, communication, training, monitoring and evaluation, operating costs, and the project's audits"* (WorldBank, 2015).

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

Project ID	P148291
Country	<u>Tajikistan</u>
Region	<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>
Status	Active
Approval Date (as of board presentation)	June 30, 2015
Closing Date	October 31, 2021
Total Project Cost**	US\$ 15.00 million
Commitment Amount	US\$ 15.00 million
Team Leader	Jason Allen Weaver

Source: <http://projects.worldbank.org/P148291?lang=en>

Project description

The main goal of the project is to improve the quality of education and training of specialists through the development of infrastructure and internationalization of the academic activities of the institute, considering modern innovative technologies, this way ensuring an increase in the level of employment of graduates. The target group of specialties consists of:

- 1) Technology and information system in the economy
- 2) Information Economy
- 3) World economy
- 4) Finance and credit
- 5) Business administration

The main components of the project are:

1. Auditing the quality of education;
2. "Business administration";
3. Internationalization of academic activities;
4. Improvement of the institute's infrastructure, material and technical base and Software;

The total cost of the project is 3,060,000 somoni or 347,730 USD. Financing is carried out at 97% due to the grant, from World Bank and 3% of the institute's funds. The project will be coordinated by the international relations department of the institute in cooperation with all the departments of the institute. In project implementation support from international experts and professor are needed, therefore a team of international expertise from leading universities of CIS countries, Europe and United States will be created. Within the framework of this project IET TSUC is willing to cooperate with University of Cantabria, (Santander, Spain), Varna University of Management (Varna, Bulgaria), Robert Morris University (Pennsylvania, USA), University of Vistula (Vistula, Poland), St. Petersburg State Economic University (St. Petersburg, Russia), Belgorod University of Commerce, Economics and Law (Belgorod, Russia), Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow, Russia), KIMEP (Almaty, Kazakhstan) and more. Close partnership relations with business entities will be improved along the lines of industrial practice and employment (currently there are more than 150 units).

The objectives of the project are:

- improving the quality of education;
- application of foreign HEI's experience in the educational process;
- revision of specialties and updating curricula considering the needs of the labor market;
- training in professional ethics and business communication
- Improvement of the infrastructure;
- upgrading technical equipment;
- increase in the proportion of female students;

The beneficiaries of the project are:

Full-time and part-time students, especially female students; schoolchildren, including those involved in the preparatory courses; parents; teaching staff; employers; partners.

Specific tasks and events:

- Internal and external audit (comparative evaluation of the institute in all respects with universities in foreign countries) and assessment of the quality of education and employment of graduates with the involvement of international experts, scientists and professors (evaluation of curricula, syllabuses, the provision of the Institute with innovative technologies, books and other teaching materials, the quality of teaching and their compliance with the requirements of higher education, assessment of scientific and educational activities, etc.);
- Organization international conference on the topic "Problems of improving the quality of preparing specialists and employment of graduates " and the adoption of relevant resolutions;
- Organization of trainings and seminars for teaching staff in fields of Business and Economics, Information Technology, Teaching Methodologies, etc.
- Invitation of expert, scientists and educators from leading universities to provide methodological assistance to the faculty (in terms of methods of teaching, developing methodological materials, using innovative technologies, scientific activities, exchanges of experiences, etc.);

- an assessment of the suitability of the Institute's specialties in the labor market and the study of the country's needs in new specialties (Specialization);
- employment opportunities abroad by increasing the specialties studying in Russian and English;
- improving the work of the international relations department;
- improving the efficiency of teaching information technology and related courses
- strengthening of the information system of management and quality control of education
- organization of seminars and training directed for attraction female students and their future support till graduation.

Partnership:

IET TSUC is expressing its willingness to invite leading universities and their staff (experts) for assistance in implementation of project and achievement of objectives of the project.

Thus, interested universities and their personal should provide their acceptance in participation and supporting this project. This could be done through signing bilateral agreement on cooperation between universities or by sending official letter expressing willingness and readiness for working within framework of current project.

IET TSUC is interested in inviting experts and professors* in field of: quality assessment and monitoring, academic affairs, curricula reviewer, international relations, internships and relations with alumni. And following fields of study: Economics, World Economy, International Finance, Business Administration, Technology and Information Systems in economics, Business informatics, Information Technology, International Marketing, Marketing.

Duration:

Project planned to start after its successful acceptance by commission of Ministry of Education of Republic of Tajikistan and relevant state departments.

Approximate date of launch is December 2017 and lasts 24 months.

Note*. All invited experts, professors and staff are flexible with date within project time frame.

Terms and Financing:

IET TSUC will facilitate with travel issues and supports during VISA issue and documentation.

Normally experts and professors can be invited for a period 1-2 weeks.

All the costs, including roundtrip at economic class and accommodation will be covered. In addition, experts and professors which will provide consultancy services, conducting trainings and seminars will be paid daily remuneration of - 200-210USD