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BSUN Joint Master Degree Study Program
on the Management of Renewable Energy Sources – ARGOS

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In 2008 OUC INAES, with the support of the Romanian Government initiated a project for Regional Master Degree Programme on the Management of Renewable Energy Sources. After the preparatory works, the project, with the acronym ARGOS, has been granted with the financial support under the third priority of the call of the Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme 2007-2013.

The aim of the ARGOS project was to achieve stronger regional partnership and cooperation in the field of higher education focusing on Renewable Energy Sources which is a subject of common interest with a direct impact on a stronger and more sustainable economic and social development of the region of the Black Sea Basin.
Objectives

Overall objective: To achieve stronger regional partnership and cooperation between the universities from the Black Sea Basin by the implementation of a joint Master Degree Program on the Management of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and sustainable development of the region.

Specific objectives:
Curricula evaluation and harmonization of the Master Degree Programs dedicated to the management of renewable energy sources, which are developed by the universities from the Black Sea Basin.
Development of courses based on Cross border teams of professors.
To facilitate the information exchange regarding the potential of renewable sources, regulations, environmental issues and best practices through joint courses, seminars and case studies.
Objectives

- Sharing e-learning resources and IT&C facilities dedicated to the educational process.
- Promoting research and innovation in the field of renewable energy sources by joint teams of students.
- Improving the quality in education by the exchange of best practices and external peer review process.
- Facilitating joint recognition of diplomas in the countries of the region for improved mobility of the qualified personnel.
The ARGOS project associated the efforts of 5 universities:

- “Ovidius” University of Constantza – Constantza, Romania;
- Technical University of Moldova – Chisinau, Republic of Moldova;
- Technical University of Varna – Varna, Bulgaria;
- Taurida National University – Simferopol, Ukraine - Republic of Crimea;
- Istanbul Technical University – Istanbul, Turkey;


The partners worked together for addressing common challenges related to eco-friendly energy conversion technologies. The students and the professors that were involved in the project had direct ties with their colleagues from Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Ukraine and Moldavia, promoting local people to people cooperative activities that are expected to be continued after graduation and contributing to a significant shift in the mentality.
Outcomes

Detailed understanding of the regulatory frame and specific requirements regarding the Master degree programs in the field of RES, within the countries from the Black Sea Basin: Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine

Raising the interest of the high profile students for participation in the proposed Master degree program. In this context, a BSUN-ARGOS project students team won the 1st prize at the 1st UNAI Collegian Research Competition and Global Development Conference "Assessment of UN Millenium development Goals (MDGs) and Prospect of Post-2015 Framework", August 23rd, 2013, Seoul (South Korea) (Olesea CARABINOVICI, Technical University of Moldova, Dan IOACHIM, "Ovidius" University of Constantza and Nikita SHUMSKYKH, Taurida National University). Also, the cooperative teaching activities using e-seminars contributed to the awareness of students and interested specialists regarding the benefits of the Master degree study program on Renewable Energy Sources. The partners had worked towards the finalization of the reference model for a joint teaching program that can be replicated in other universities that can be replicated in other areas.
Outcomes

Gathering students from Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine in order to facilitate people to people cooperative partnerships; upgrading of the subjects on RES with the involvement of worldwide known experts as distinguished Professor Enrico Sciubba, UniRoma, Italy, Dr. Angelo Moreno, ENEA Italy, Prof. Astan Shahverdyiev, Azerbaijan Technical University, Azerbaijan, Dr. Suha Yazici, UNIDO ICHET, Turkey etc. that were presented at the Summer School in Constanta, Romania, the Autumn School in Simferopol, Ukraine or during the on-line meetings.

Students mobility by all the partners in order to facilitate people to people cooperative partnerships and cross border individual experiences of the students consisting on a comprehensive knowledge on a specific subject and a success track record in developing a project jointly with another colleague from another country from the Black Sea Region based on the match making process developed during the Summer School in Constanta. The joint developed research project was targeted towards a possible implementation by the industry or local authorities in order to build the trust on possible future environmental and RES projects with a cross border relevance and impact.
Outcomes

The web portal www.bsun.org/argos is continuously updated and improved and has internet visibility of the project using the website and registration on search engines – target hints.

The activities realized in the frame of the project, as the development of standard module courses and the organization of very useful e-seminars contributed to the promotion of the model of cooperation within the BSUN by knowledge sharing on cross border joint projects in the field of RES.

In the last phase of the project, it has been developed a Massive Open Online Course Platform of the project (MOOC).
ARGOS Project

Joint Operational Programme “BLACK SEA BASIN 2007-2013”
financed by
Romanian Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism

Title of the Action and acronym: BSUN JOINT MASTER DEGREE STUDY PROGRAM ON THE MANAGEMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES – ARGOS

Locations of the Action:
Romania - Constantza - “Ovidius” University of Constantza;
Republic of Moldova – Chisinau - Technical University of Moldova;
Bulgaria - Varna - Technical University of Varna;
Ukraine - Republic of Crimea – Simferopol - Taurida National University;
Turkey - Istanbul - Istanbul Technical University – IPA Partner;

International School on “Advantages, Concepts and Perspectives on Management of Renewable Energy Sources” (August 2012)
Colloquium on the “Geo information technology in energetics” (May 2012)
Colloquium on the “Pumping System (Drinking Water System) and Energy Efficient Public and Residential Buildings” (April 2012)
Colloquium on the “The role and place of renewable energy sources in a holistic power system of a country” (March 2012)
Colloquium on the “Solar PV – Practical Application” (December 9, 2011)
Colloquium on the “Energy Efficiency” (November 25, 2011)
Strategic initiatives