



EU AND SERBIA AT WORK

FACT SHEET

SUPPORT HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH
- GENERAL EDUCATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Education and training have a most significant role in meeting socio-economic, technological and digital development, influence of new media, democratic citizenship and other challenges imposed by constant changes in modern world. Education must seek and find new solutions, providing for students and teachers to acquire wider knowledge structures and transversal competences, thus enabling young to receive not only fragmented knowledge, but to become capable to accept lifelong learning and find opportunities in changing environment. So far, reforms and projects in education in Serbia have primarily focused on alignment of higher education system while missing on addressing crucial segments such as general education as precondition for further academic studies. Therefore, the project Support Human Capital development and Research – General Education and Human Capital Development has been designed and started in July 2012.

The **three-year Project, known by its Serbian title “Razvionica”**, is focused on supporting human capital development in Serbia. Implementation is carried out through a holistic approach – development of National Curriculum Framework in primary and general secondary education; professional development and building competences for teachers; building up a sustained relationship between research, policy and practice which assists also in monitoring education reforms and in continuously improving education policies; establishing and equipping practice schools as teaching bases for professional development of teachers for pre-service and in-service training. In this way, the project challenges a change in the education system in Serbia. Programmes designed for the project are in line with current EU trends in education, enabling teachers and other practitioners to directly participate in various EU learning and research activities.

The project is being implemented throughout the country; beneficiary institution is Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. The EU has financially supported the project with **€8.5 million**.

Within the project activities, the **National Curriculum Framework** was developed, **trainings for 13,000 teachers** is organised and is ongoing, as well as **online training for 7,500 teachers**. Sustainable relationship between research in education, education policy and practice was established, while 41 Practice Schools set as teaching bases for professional development of teachers were equipped in accordance of expressed needs. Finally, improvement in programmes for mentors was achieved in cooperation with universities, partnering institutions and Ministry of Education.

HOLLISTIC APPROACH IN THE PRACTICE: As an illustrative example showing how all Project components may be put together in order to encourage improvement in education is amended School Program of Svetozar Markovic gymnasium in Novi Sad. The school set the program to express its autonomy and creativity in the process of planning, programming and implementing teaching and learning, and its readiness to respond to the needs of students, parents, local community, higher education institutions and with respect to principles and general goals and outcomes of education. Special attention is paid to work with talented students, research and use of research results is stimulated, team work involving students, as well as creativity and freedom of thinking. The amended program and practice in line with it, shows the manner in which the transformation of the educational process is achieved.

Project contribution will be reflected in creating preconditions for economic development of the country, improvement in society in general, prosperity carried by educated individuals ready to adopt new skills and competences in changing environment. Giving the education that will support young people to become responsible and active citizens within democratic society with productive economy, respectful on human rights and EU values in general.

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