



EUROPEAN UNION



GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR, FAMILY AND
SOCIAL PROTECTION
MASOPHRD



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SOP HRD 2007 - 2013



Structural Funds
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IBSOPHRD



EXECUTIVE AGENCY
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH FUNDING

Romanian Tracer Study: University Graduates and Labor Market

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Employability and mobility of bachelor graduates in Europe
*International Conference CUM workshop, Berlin,
september 30 – october 1, 2010*

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

Investing in
PEOPLE



**University Graduates
and Labor Market**

Romanian Tracer Study



Strategic projects
for Romanian Higher Education

Project co-financed through European Social Fund by Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development 2007-2013



Project Beneficiaries

Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports – MECTS

National Higher Education Funding Council – CNFIS

**The Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding -
UEFISCSU**

Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education - ARACIS

UNIVERSITIES - STUDENTS – SOCIETY

EMPLOYERS - STAKEHOLDERS

Project Partner

**Kassel University, Germany – International Higher Education
Research Center (INCHER)**



National context : self- critical presentation

- **missing information** regarding graduate insertion on labor market
- **no long term monitoring** of graduates' social and professional insertion
- **low institutional capacity** to perform national monitoring on a permanent basis
- **insufficient assistance** for the implementation of the national employment policy
- **insufficient implication** of employers on education issues
- **low investment** in human resources (graduates)



Current needs



Scope, starting from current needs

- **information** about the graduates' insertion and their evolution on labor market
- **higher institutional capacity** to perform national monitoring studies on a permanent basis
- **support** for the implementation of the national employment policy
- **responsibility** of the social partners in relation with the educational issues
- **more efficient investment** in human resources

➔ **Project objectives and purpose**



Project purpose and objectives

Main purpose

Development of tools, at national level, for “tracer studies” - to follow-up of university graduates’ professional career in relation with the labor market

General objective

Consolidate the role of universities in evaluating how the acquired knowledge, competences and abilities enable HE graduates to enter the labor market or to continue their studies



Project target group

graduates of public and private HE institutions in Romania

- 1 year after graduation (the 2008-2009 graduates)
- 5 years after graduation (the 2004-2005 graduates)
a period of time considered sufficient to let them attain a certain professional status and obtain their individual perception regarding their own professional and employment needs.



Project Activities

Project Management

- Establish the collaborative framework with the universities
- Develop the questionnaires at national and institutional level
- **Consolidate and validate the graduates database**
- **Implement the questionnaires at institutional level**
- Centralize database at national level
- Analyse the results and elaborate the final report

Project Communication



Project outcome (1)

- **Information required to improve correlation between university development strategy and a dynamic labor market**
- **institutional capacity to perform national monitoring studies on a permanent basis**



Project outcome (2)

- Enhancement of the **higher education relevance** for the labor market and the knowledge-based society
- Reshaping the **educational offer** taking into account the labor market evolution
- Identifying **transversal key competences** enhancing employability
- Orienting the education towards the development of necessary **competences, abilities and skills**
- Increasing the **responsibility and interest** of the social partners/employers for higher education
- Development of **tools for effective application of quality indicators** aiming to evaluate the output/outcome performance level of HE
- Contributing to the improvement **higher education graduates' insertion** level on the labor market



Discussion subjects

1. The general needs to develop and implement the monitoring policies at national level through studies on graduates' career
2. Ways to increase the level of graduates' participation to national monitoring studies
3. Coverage of a national monitoring study: role of media to increase the response rate of the graduates
4. Ways to ensure cost efficiently the national survey permanence
- increase institution interest and capacity: best practices - examples
5. Other critical elements in applying a national survey: lessons learned from other countries