



EUROPEAN UNION



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



European Social Fund  
SOP HRD 2007 - 2013



Structural Funds  
2007 - 2013



IBSOPHRD



EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR  
HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH,  
DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

# *Romanian Tracer Study: University Graduates and Labor Market*

*Implemented by*

National Higher Education Funding Council (CNFIS)

The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research,  
Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)

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



## The Main Project Beneficiaries

Romanian Public and Private Universities

Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports – MECTS

Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ARACIS

STUDENTS – SOCIETY

EMPLOYERS - STAKEHOLDERS

## Project Partner

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



## Current needs

- **obtaining information** about the graduates' insertion and their evolution on labor market
- **increasing institutional capacity** to perform national monitoring studies on a permanent basis
- **ensuring support** for the implementation of the national employment policy
- **increasing responsibility** of the social partners in relation with the educational issues
- **making 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 the professional career of university graduates 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***

- one year after graduation (the 2008-2009 cohort)
- five years after graduation (the 2004-2005 cohort)  
*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.*

## Participating universities

55 public and private universities (out of 108 that provide bachelor degree programs) participate in all the stages of study



## Research Activities

- Development of the questionnaires (national and institutional level)
  - Core set of questions (baseline questionnaire)*
  - Some specific items/ questions for the graduates from psychology and law fields (extended questionnaire)*
- The field phase of the questionnaire (online questionnaire)
  - Consolidating and validating the graduates database (before and during the field phase)
  - Pretest (testing both the questionnaire and the process)
  - Applying the questionnaire at institutional level
- Analyzing the results and writing the final report



## Field phase research procedures

Using the online questionnaire and, only at request, the paper version of the questionnaire

Setting up four stages of invitation (first contact and three reminders)

Invitations sent by mail, with e-mails as back-up

Permanent monitoring and reporting of activities through an e-mail group and online report

Daily information concerning the university's graduate participation



## Response progression







## **Main discussion subject**

Critical aspects regarding the publishing of the study results

**Thank you for your attention!**