

We (Baku State University, the department of international relations) are working on a proposal for Tempus IV. We are in the process of searching for EU partners therefore we would like to ask you to disseminate the brief concept letter of our proposal among EU university partners. Please find below the information regarding the collaboration:

Baku State University is developing a Tempus proposal for Joint project on a national level focusing on higher education and society. Please let us know whether your university would be interested in being a partner university in this project.

The current proposal will aim at enhancing research capability in social sciences (social work & psychology as two pilot disciplines) in Azerbaijani higher education institutions. Proposal has a major goal of developing a programme of integrated capacity-building in applied social research through the creation of research centers in three higher education institutions in Azerbaijan and developing a network between these centers responsible for capacity-building in the sphere of research.

The aim of the proposal:

- to improve the infrastructure of the applied social research across Azerbaijani HEIs, and by improving the infrastructure to enhance universities' capability to support the country's long-term social needs

By research infrastructure we mean:

- knowledge in the sphere of the organization of applied social research
- theoretical and methodological tools to implement research activities
- collaboration between universities/networking opportunities

During the implementation of the proposal, a network between three HEIs from Azerbaijan and three HEIs from EU will be established. This network will take the responsibility for capacity-building activities, including the development and provision of research training opportunities.

The main target group for capacity building thus comprises staff who are already working in Azerbaijani HEIs, PhD candidates and senior master level students.

In order to conduct needs assessment of HEIs in Azerbaijan as well as develop relevant training modules and deliver following trainings in the sphere of applied social research academic staff from EU universities will be invited to take part in this process and share their expertise in this sphere.

My best regards,

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