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Financial autonomy and accountability of the Public Higher Education Institutions: Lessons learned from the FAITH project

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Trainings for the staff of the 1st group of faculties

Project name: Increasing the Financial Autonomy and accountability at public higher education institutions in
Kosova

Types of autonomy

- Academic autonomy (deciding on degree supply, curriculum and methods of teaching, deciding on areas, scope, aims and methods of research);
- Financial autonomy (acquiring and allocating funding, deciding on tuition fees, accumulating surplus);
- Organisational autonomy (setting university structures and statutes, making contracts, electing decision-making bodies and persons);
- Staffing autonomy (responsibility for recruitment, salaries and promotions).
- ***Financial autonomy is crucial for universities to achieve their strategic aims***

- There are general interdependencies between government policy and strategic goals and the HE funding system
- The specialized universities in particular need the flexibility as well as the ability to respond quickly to changing market conditions
- Republic of Kosovo in its current economic situation requires academically and practically trained professionals to carry new application-oriented knowledge into the local economy

Financing public Higher Education System – Lessons Learned from

- An adequate model has to be drawn up for Kosovo, which appears to achieve the national targets most helpful
- *“Funding of TEACHING” - Per capita funding models based on output-oriented indicators*
- Transparency and objectivity very important principles
- An output-oriented model
- Profilisation of the public HEIs

- Budget allocations should be made according to the cost of the study fields
- **University Place Management**
 - The first step for implementing a system for managing study places would be the determination of the student capacities that Kosovan HEIs are able to provide with the given human resources (teaching staff)
- **unit price per student* x Number of students**
- * unit price per student depends on the equipment required. The cost of the study places can be distinguished according to seven groups of subjects:

Group 1	includes the "cheap" book sciences such as law, economics or humanities	100%
Group 2	includes less laboratory intensive studies of science, technology or foreign languages	140%
Group 3	includes laboratory intensive and complex studies in science, technology or Pharmacy	180%
Group 4	medicine and dentistry	380%
Group 5	veterinary medicine (cost of the veterinary hospital proportionately included)	460%
Group 6	fine arts	300%
Group 7	performing arts and music	450%

Examples of Indicators for a Governmental performance-based funding model (needs to be developed to strategic aspects):

- Number of degrees awarded by the University (Average of past two years)
- Number of students who have gained more than x study credits
- Number of employed graduates
- Drop Out Rate