

DRIVE

DEVELOPING RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION CAPACITIES IN ALBANIA AND KOSOVO

INTERIM DISSEMINATION REPORT

July 2021

Project Acronym:	DRIVE
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Task Leader:	UET
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Abbreviations

- EU – European Union
- GIZ – German Corporation for International Cooperation GmbH
- HEIs – Higher Education Institutions
- KW – Calendar Week

Countries & Regions

- AL – Albania
- KS – Kosovo
- GE – Germany
- DE - Denmark
- IT – Italy
- WBC – Western Balkan Countries

Universities & Institutions

- U- POLIS – POLIS University
- UGJFA – University of Gjakova
- UET - European University of Tirana
- UP – University of Prishtina
- UC - Universum College
- UPT – Polytechnic University of Tirana
- FIEK, UP – Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Prishtina
- AAU – Aalborg University
- UHH – University of Hamburg
- POLIMI – Politecnico di Milano
- EACEA - European Education and Culture Executive Agency

Introduction

DRIVE Consortium partners organized meetings, trainings and workshops in the framework of the dissemination of the project.

Besides projects partners, DRIVE Kick-off meeting gathered representatives from EU Delegation, Ministry of Education, etc.

Project's activities are grouped in three main categories:

- Management/Partners Meetings
- Info Days for the DRIVE project
- Workshops and Trainings

Meetings and Trainings were held using face-to-face and online modalities.

Info days were organized by UET in December 2020. The impact added values and connection to labor market was stressed during this event. In June 2021, Info Days were organized by UC, in Prishtina.

The first Training Workshop on "Teaching Methodologies" was held in Gjakova in UGJFA and the second one online using "Microsoft Teams" platform focused on "Mentoring Research Students".

As part of different Working Packages reports/research/products were published/designed accordingly, which are summarized in the last section of this report.

1. Kick-off Meeting and Pre-Implementation Project Activities

1.1 Pre-Implementation Project Activities

Although the DRIVE kick-off meeting was held in February 2020, starting from October 2019 it was possible to present the project in a series of activities organized by the project partners and meetings with EU representatives. Following are highlighted the main events:

- **Regional Meeting “Impact in The Western Balkans of The Higher Education Capacity Building Projects”** - On October 22-23, 2019, the Regional Meeting “Impact in the Western Balkans of the Higher Education Capacity Building Projects” took place in Durrës, with over 100 participants, actors of the “Increasing Capacities in HEI” projects, representatives of the European Union in Tirana and representatives of the Erasmus + Offices. Meanwhile, on October 24-25, in Tirana, “Erasmus + Seminar Contact” took place with WBC. POLIS staff engaged with DRIVE project participated in these two meetings.
- **Meeting Between EACEA and Albanian Coordinators** - On October 24, 2019, the 2019 Call, granted Albanian Coordinators at the “Capacity Building” program, met with the representatives of EACEA, Anila TROSHANI and Inmaculada RODRIGUEZ. The meeting served as a fruitful training for the coordinators and the sharing of experiences between the coordinators with more experience was very important element.
- **Drive Success Story** - In the premises of Europe House Tirana, a National Erasmus + Information Day was held on December 17, 2019. During this Info Day a CBHE Session was dedicated to KA2 Projects, and DRIVE project was presented as a success story. Mrs. Flora Krasniqi, Project Manager of DRIVE, introduced the audience to the purpose and objectives of DRIVE as well as the main activities foreseen to be conducted during its implementation.
- **CBHE Grant Holder Meeting 2020** - CBHE Grant Holder Meeting was organized for the beneficiaries of the Erasmus + CBHE 2019 Call, on 27-28 January 2020, where DRIVE project was one of them. During this meeting, representatives from higher education institutions from Europe, and not only, were introduced by the EACEA agency on management, budget and innovation guidelines.

1.2 Kick- Off Meeting

Kick-off Meeting of DRIVE Project took place on February 20-21, 2020. The event was organized by Polis University, on their premises. In the first day were invited representatives from local institutions and EU Delegation in Albania.

Project coordinator Ms. Flora Krasniqi and the Rector of Polis University Mr. Besnik Aliaj opened the

meeting with a welcome speech addressing all the participants. Then, Mr. Olti Rrumbullaku, Vice Minister Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Mrs. Xheni Sinakoli representative of EU delegation in Albania held short speeches. Ms. Valbona Koci from GIZ Albania introduced “The EU for Innovation Program” and its aimed impact on Albanian HEIs.

Project consortium partners had an hour round of presentations, and after that Dr. Elona Karafili presented the project’s objectives and intended results.

In the second day partners established the following “Project Committees”:

- Project Steering Committee
- Project Management Committee
- Project Quality Committee

Also, in the meeting partners validated the workplan for the first year and the dissemination strategy. During the second half of the day, partners had one on one meetings. Moderator of the meeting was Valerio Perna, Coordinator of Innovation Factory at POLIS University. For all the participants was distributed the DRIVE Info Kit. *(Annex 1) Participants in this meeting were all project partners, namely:*

- Polytechnic University of Tirana (AL)
- European University of Tirana (AL)
- University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina” (KS)
- University of Gjakova “Fehmi Agani” (KS)
- Universum College (KS)
- Hamburg University of Technology (GE)
- Politecnico di Milano (IT)
- Aalborg University (DE)

Following there is the detailed agenda of the meeting, invitation and photos from the event. *(Next page)*

Detailed Agenda of the Kick – off Meeting

Agenda	Agenda
Kick - off Meeting	Kick - off Meeting
February 20 - 21, 2020 Tirana, Albania Venue: POLIS University, Aula C1	February 20 - 21, 2020 Tirana, Albania Venue: POLIS University, Aula C1
<p>Participants: POLIS University- Coordinator of the Project (AL)</p> <p>Partners: Polytechnic University of Tirana (AL) European University of Tirana (AL) University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" (KS) University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" (KS) Universum College (KS) Hamburg University of Technology (GE) Politecnico di Milano (IT) Aalborg University (DE)</p> <p>February 20, Thursday</p> <p>9:30-10:00 Registration of the participants</p> <p>10:00-10:10 Prof. Dr. Besnik Aliaj, Rector of POLIS University - welcoming speech</p> <p>10:10-10:15 Mr. Olli Rumbullaku, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (tbc)</p> <p>10:15- 10:20 Mrs. Xheni Sinakoli, EU delegation in Albania</p> <p>10:20- 10:25 Erasmus Office in Albania</p> <p>10:25- 10:30 Mrs. Mirela Muço, National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation</p> <p>10:30- 11:00 Coffee break</p> <p>11:00- 12:00 Round of presentations from project consortium partners</p> <p>12:00-12:30 Dr. Elona Karafili: Overview of the project objectives and intended results of the project</p> <p>12:30- 14:00 Lunch break</p>	<p>14:00- 14:15 Ms. Valbona Koci, GIZ: Introduction of EU for Innovation program and its aimed impact on Albanian HEIs (tbc)</p> <p>14:15 - 15:00 Discussion</p> <p>15:00- 16:00 Closing remarks of the 1st day</p> <p>Moderator: Flora Krasniqi, IRO at POLIS University, Coordinator of the Project DRIVE</p> <p>February 21, Friday</p> <p>10:00- 10:30 Establish Project Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Steering Committee - Project Management Committee - Project Quality Committee <p>10:30- 11:00 Validation of the workplan for the first year of the project</p> <p>11:00- 12:00 Dissemination strategy of the project</p> <p>12:00-13:00 Closing remarks and discussion for the upcoming meeting of the project</p> <p>13:00- 14:30 Lunch</p> <p>14:30- 16:00 One on one meetings among the Project Coordinator and project partners (Partnership Agreements, financial and logistic issues etc)</p> <p>Moderator: Valerio Perna, Coordinator of Innovation Factory at POLIS University</p>

Invitation sent to External Stakeholders

Invitation

**Developing Research and Innovation Capacities in Albania and Kosovo/ DRIVE
610307-EPP-1-2019-AL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP**

Kick of the meeting at POLIS University, on Thursday, February 20, 10:00h

Dear Mrs. Sinakoli

We request the pleasure of your company to the Kick of Meeting for Erasmus+ funded project led by an Albanian Higher Education Institution, POLIS University. The project "Developing Research and Innovation Capacities in Albania and Kosovo/ DRIVE" brings together 9 partners from Albania, Kosovo and EU countries, in an effort to improve capacities for research and innovation.

We would like to thank you for your participation on behalf of the project partners: Politecnico University of Tirana, European University of Tirana, University of Pristina, University of Gjakova, Universum College, Hamburg University of Technology, Politecnico di Milano, Aalborg University

We look forward to you joining us on this occasion.

Cordially,
Prof. Dr. Besnik ALIAJ
Rector
POLIS University

Pictures from the First Day of the meeting



Pictures from the Second Day of the meeting



2. Training workshops on teaching methodologies and mentoring

2.1 Training workshop on teaching methodologies - Gjakova

On 22-24 September, 2020 blended training on "Training Workshop on Teaching Methodologies" was organized in Gjakova, on UGJFA premises. Four participants from each partner country of the project participated in the training. The training consisted in enhancing institutional capacities, staff skills and also networking. Learning and teaching methodology presented from AAU Engineers, Politecnico di Milano and Hamburg University of Technology.

Drive partners held discussions and presentations during the workshop about teaching methodologies applied in the current study programs and how can the PBL (Problem Based Learning) approach be applied in the courses structure.

POLIMI presented "Learning by doing a methodology and teamwork": Presentation of the learning concept using the example of the study program for Bachelor students. All participants were divided into work groups. The teamwork and theory-practice combination led to fantastic project development.

For all the EU participants was prepared the information kit, regarding visa issues, accommodation, transportation, etc. (Annex 2).

Table 1. List of Participants in Gjakova Workshop

No	Participant Name	Organization
1.	Eriola Hida	UPT
2.	Elda Maraj	UPT
3.	Saimir Kristo	U-POLIS
4.	Malvina Istrefaj	U-POLIS
5.	Blerim Nika	U-POLIS
6.	Albina Toçilla	U-POLIS
7.	Doriana Musaj	U-POLIS
8.	Lorina Pervorfi	UGJFA
9.	Elsa Vula	UGJFA
10.	Enida Sheme	UPT
11.	Kleona Binjaku	UPT
12.	Besjana Muraku	UPT
13.	Bylbyl Kadrijaj	UGJFA
14.	Kebjana Haka	UET
15.	Vahidiye Kadiu	UET
16.	Fatri Morina	UET

No	Participant Name	Organization
17.		
18.		
19.	Klajdi Logu	UET
20.	Drita Kruja	UET
21.	Hadis Karatashi	UC
22.	Gentiana Berisha	UC
23.	Djellza Kadriu	UC
24.	Qendresa Kukaj	UC
25.	Atdhe Zogaj	UC
26.	Flora Krasniqi	U-POLIS
27.	Denis Spahija	UGJFA
28.	Kushtrim Grezda	UGJFA
29.	Freskina Mula	UGJFA
30.	Alma Stuja	UGJFA
31.	Alba Macula	UGJFA
32.	Zana Rudi	UGJFA
33.	Arnisa Jaka	UGJFA
34.	Zana Limani	UP
35.	Nuri Berisha	UP
36.	Shkelzen Shabani	UP
37.	Jeta Dobruna	UP
38.	Halil Demolli	UP

Attendance List

Event	Training workshop on teaching methodologies
Venue	University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
Date	22.09.2020
Organiser (s)	POLIS University & University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"

No	Name and Surname	Institution	Position	Signature
1.	EREDGA HEDRA	UPT	Lektor	[Signature]
2.	Elda Haraj	UPT	Lektore	[Signature]
3.	Saimir Kristo	U-POLIS	Zv/Deheni	[Signature]
4.	Mahmire Kaka-Premaj	U-POLIS	Lektor	[Signature]
5.	BLERIM NIKA	U-POLIS	LEKTOR	[Signature]
6.	Albina Tazilla	U-POLIS	Lektor	[Signature]
7.	Doriana Musaj	U-POLIS	Lektor	[Signature]
8.	Jorina Perovci	UGJFA	Asistente	[Signature]
9.	Elsa Vula	UGJFA	Asistente	[Signature]
10.	Ende Sheme	UPT	Lektore	[Signature]
11.	Kleona Bigjaku	UPT	Asistente	[Signature]
12.	Resjana Huxhari	UPT	Lektor	[Signature]
13.	Bylbyl KADRIJA	UGJFA	Asistent	[Signature]
14.	Kajana Hake	UET	P.manager	[Signature]
15.	Vendyt Kadi	UET	Lektor	[Signature]
16.	Fatir Merim	UET	Lektor	[Signature]

17.	Khajoli Logu	UET	Lecturer	[Signature]
18.	Drita Kufu	UET	Vice Rect.	[Signature]
19.	Haris Karasani	Universum	Conduc	[Signature]
20.	Gentiana Rendi	UNIVERSUM	Lecturer	[Signature]
21.	Dellza Kadriu	UNIVERSUM	Assistant Manager	[Signature]
22.	Qendresa Kuleci	UNIVERSUM	LECTURER	[Signature]
23.	Atelhe Zogaj	UNIVERSUM	LECTURER	[Signature]
24.	Dennis Spanaj	UGJFA	IPO	[Signature]
25.	Alma Stafa	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
26.	Lama Rudi	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
27.	Alba Musala	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
28.	Feridina Mula	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
29.	Xhavitina Gashi	UGJFA	LECTURER	[Signature]
30.	Alma Rendi	U-POLIS	P. Manager	[Signature]
31.	ENNA ZIMANI	UP		ONLINE
32.	RIKEL BEKISHA	UP		ONLINE
33.	SHKELZEN SHABANI	UP		ONLINE
34.	JETA DOBRIVA	UP		ONLINE
35.	HAZIR DEMOLLI	UP		ONLINE

Attendance List

Event	Training workshop on teaching methodologies
Venue	University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
Date	23.09.2020
Organiser (s)	POLIS University & University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"

No	Name and Surname	Institution	Position	Signature
1.	Flora Shkurtaj	U-POLIS	P. Maraj	
2.	ERDOLA HEDRA	UPT	Lektore	
3.	Elda Maraj	UPT	Lektore	
4.	Begona Musata	UPT	As. Lektore	
5.	Enida Sheme	UPT	Lektore	
6.	Kleona Binjaku	UPT	As. Lektore	
7.	Lorina Perovski	UGJFA	Asistende	
8.	BLEPIM NIKET	U-POLIS	LEKTOR	
9.	Albina Toskullu	U-POLIS	Lektore	
10.	Martina Kuci (Gimfaj)	U-POLIS	Lektor	
11.	Haris Karabashi	Universiteti	P. koordinat	
12.	Olga Vula	UGJFA	Asistente	
13.	QAIMIR KRISTO	U-POLIS	Zn. Dekan	
14.	Inde Kuyt	UET	zv. Rektor	
15.	Shkurtaj Kati	UET	Lektore	
16.	Blendi Lopa	UET	Lektor	

17.	Fatri Morina	UET	Lecturer	
18.	Doriana Musaj	U-POLIS	Lecturer	
19.	Doriana Musaj	UGJFA	ILO	
20.	Lana Rudi	UGJFA	ILO	
21.	Freshina Ludi	UGJFA	ILO	
22.	Kebiana Halim	UET	Manager Project	
23.	Aliza Mavula	UGJFA	ILO	
24.	Bylbyl KADRIAN	UGJFA	Teaching assistant	
25.	Alma Stupa	UGJFA	ILO	
26.	KUSHTERIM CEMETI	UGJFA	LECTURER	
27.				

Attendance List

Event	Training workshop on teaching methodologies
Venue	University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
Date	24.09.2020
Organiser (s)	POLIS University & University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"

No	Name and Surname	Institution	Position	Signature
1.	Roza Lleskazi	U-POLIS	P. Manager	[Signature]
2.	Enida Therme	UPT	Lecturer	[Signature]
3.	Kleona Binjaku	UPT	Ass. Lecturer	[Signature]
4.	Elda Haraj	UPT	Lecturer	[Signature]
5.	Enale Hoxh	UPT	Lecturer	[Signature]
6.	Besiana Myrskaj	UPT	As. Lecturer	[Signature]
7.	Devis Spahiu	UGJFA	PRO	[Signature]
8.	SHMIR KRISTO	U-POLIS	Zr. Peshan	[Signature]
9.	Alhena Tocellu	U-POLIS	Lektor	[Signature]
10.	Elsa Vula	UGJFA	ASSISTANT	[Signature]
11.	BLERIM NIKA	U-POLIS	LEKTOR	[Signature]
12.	Doriana Musaj	U-POLIS	Lecturer	[Signature]
13.	Hadis Kordoshi	UNIVERSITY	PROFESSOR	[Signature]
14.	Freshina Mula	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
15.	Alma Gjuja	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
16.	Lana Rudi	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]

17.	Malina Koci (Kishiti)	U-POLIS	Lecturer	[Signature]
18.	Alba Mucika	UGJFA	ILO	[Signature]
19.	Klaudio Logaj	UET	Lecturer	[Signature]
20.	Vahidije Keshi	UET	Lecturer	[Signature]
21.	Fatyr Marive	UET	Lecturer	[Signature]
22.	Inte Kuyaj	UET	Vice Rect	[Signature]
23.	Kesjane Alia	UET	Project Manager	[Signature]
24.				
25.				

Detailed Agenda of Gjakova Workshop

AGENDA		
1 Working Day		
Link to the online session: https://meet.google.com/koa-aezi-sio?hs=122&authuser=0		

09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants	All participants
09:30 – 09:40 <i>online session</i>	Introduction to the training (objectives, format and structure)	POLIS University University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"
09:40 – 10:00 <i>online session</i>	Introduction round (one representative of each partner university)	POLIS University, All participants
<i>Best practices examples on teaching methodology at the EU universities: Block A (TUHH)- 10:00h, Block B (AAU)- 11:30h, Block C (POLIMI) – 15:30h</i>		
10:00 – 10:30 <i>online session</i>	Block A: Presentation of the complex interdisciplinary course module using the example of the study programme for Bachelor students (Module: Foundations of management)	TUHH All participants
10:30 – 10:45	Short café break	All participants
10:45 – 11:15 <i>online session</i>	Block A (continuation): Presentation of the collaborative seminar concept using the examples of the study programme for Master students	TUHH All participants
11:15 – 11:30	Short break	All participants

09:30 – 11:30 <i>blended session</i>	Workshop 1: Teaching methodologies applied in the current study programmes (included 15 min café break)	AAU All participants
11:30 – 12:00 <i>online session</i>	Short presentations and discussion of the workshop results (3 minutes for each group)	AAU All participants

11:30 – 12:30 <i>online session</i>	Block B: Introduction to Problem based learning (PBL) as a main concept of learning and teaching methodology at the Aalborg University	AAU All participants
	Organisation and structure of the PBL educational program	AAU All participants
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break	All participants
14:00 – 15:15 <i>online session</i>	Block B (continuation): Educational program for the Bachelor and Master education in Material and Production (a detailed example)	AAU All participants
	Supervision and facilitation in PBL leaning. From teaching to learning	AAU All participants
15:15 – 15:30	Short café break	All participants
15:30 – 16:30 <i>online session</i>	Block C: Learning by doing a methodology and teamwork: Presentation of the learning concept using the example of the study programme for Bachelor students (Course: Business Process Reengineering)	POLIMI All participants
	Building a study program in collaboration with companies: the case of Food Engineering Master of Science (Master level)	POLIMI All participants

III Working Day

Link to the online session: <https://meet.google.com/koa-aezi-sio?hs=122&authuser=0>



12:00 – 13:00	Lunch break	All participants
13:00 – 15:00 <i>blended session</i>	Workshop 2: Brainstorming on teaching methodology (included 15 min café break)	POLIMI All participants
15:00 – 15:30 <i>online session</i>	Short presentations and discussion of the workshop results (3 minutes for each group)	POLIMI All participants
15:30 – 16:30 <i>online session</i>	Launch of activities for the next day (Introduction to the Workshop 3)	TUHH All participants

09:30 – 12:30 <i>blended session</i>	Workshop 3: Roadmap for implementation. Final presentations of the participants and group discussion of the training results (included 15 min café break)	TUHH All participants
12:30 – 13:00	Closing remarks	POLIS University University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" All participants

Please note

Lunch and café expenses are covered by participants

Pictures from Gjakova Workshop



Pictures from Gjakova Workshop



2.2 Training workshop on mentoring research students- Online

Three days' workshop was held online with all DRIVE project partners on 7-14-15 December 2020. The purpose of the workshop was to identify competence gaps needed for the mentoring of Masters and PhD students and to facilitate the mentoring and knowledge transfer processes by presenting and discussing the real-life mentoring case studies of EU partner universities.

The workshop was coordinated by U-Polis. The training started with a gap analysis (Workshop 1) to identify the current mentoring practices at the partner universities and their deficiencies (competences, resources, etc.).

On the second and third day, the case studies at POLIMI and AAU was presented and the possible adaptation of the mentoring practices offered by the partner universities has been identified (Workshop 2 and 3). The training was held in digital form (all participants take part in online sessions, combining asynchronous and synchronous modes).

The training days have been split and covered in KW 50 and 51 to ensure continuity and efficient transfer of the training results. The training included the presentations and small group discussions (one group of each single university).

The training activities were concluded with an in-depth self-examination of the existing mentoring practices and processes at the partner universities, which will form the basic framework for the development of the " Guidelines for the research mentoring ". The results of the training, including gap analysis, were submitted to the project coordinator by 20 Dec. 2020.

Key questions/topics addressed:

- **Workshop 1**

- What are the current practices for the mentoring of Master's and PhD thesis (at individual, faculty and university level)?
- What practices, procedures, approaches, structures need to be improved in the guidance of Master's and PhD students at partner universities?
- What resources, capacities, etc. are required for the faculty/university staff for mentoring the Master's and PhD students;
- Which competences the faculty/university staff involved in the mentoring process already have and which are missing?

- **Workshop 2**

- What resources are needed to introduce new mentoring processes at the partner universities and to facilitate the knowledge transfer?
- How can the new mentoring practices and processes be adapted to the existing university structures at the partner universities?

- What time frame (long-term, short-term) can be set for the introduction of the new mentoring practices?

- **Workshop 3**

- What are the problems in mentoring relationships?

- How can these problems be tackled and what capabilities are needed?

Training agenda proposal

Day 1: December 07, 2020

09:00 – 09:05	Registration of participants	All participants
09:05 – 09:15	Introduction to the training (objectives, format and structure)	POLIS University University of Tirana
09:15 – 09:30	Introduction round (one representative of each partner university)	University of Tirana All participants
09:30 – 10:30	Presentation of the mentoring practices	TUHH All participants
10:30 – 10:40	Break	All participants
10:40 – 10:50	Launch of workshop activities (Introduction to the Workshop 1)	TUHH All participants
10:50 – 12:00	Workshop 1: Gap analysis of existing mentoring practices and processes at partner universities	TUHH All participants
12:00 – 12:45	Presentation of the workshop results, group discussion	TUHH All participants
12:45 – 13:00	Closing the first training day, launch of activities for the next training days	TUHH All participants

Day 2: December 14, 2020

09:00 – 09:05	Registration of participants	All participants
09:05 – 10:00	Presentation of the mentoring practices and case studies	POLIMI All participants
10:00 – 10:10	Break	All participants
10:10 – 10:20	Launch of workshop activities (Introduction to the Workshop 2)	POLIMI All participants
10:20 – 12:00	Workshop 2: Case studies on adaptation of the mentoring practices and processes	POLIMI All participants
12:00 – 12:45	Presentation of the workshop results, group discussion	POLIMI All participants
12:45 – 13:00	Closing the second training day	POLIMI All participants

Day 3: December 15, 2020

09:00 – 09:05	Registration of participants	All participants
09:05 – 10:00	Presentation of the mentoring practices and case studies	AAU All participants
10:00 – 10:10	Break	All participants
10:10 – 10:20	Launch of workshop activities (Introduction to the Workshop 3)	AAU All participants

3. Info Days – DRIVE

3.1 Info Days – UET

In the framework of Erasmus Days 2020 DRIVE team presented the project in a series of activities organized in these 3 days, sharing the project to different audiences and stakeholders. Kickoff event of Erasmus Days 2020 organized by the European University of Tirana in cooperation with project partners, stakeholders and relevant national and international institutions. During the 2nd day of the Erasmus Days 2020 at UET, representatives of the Erasmus Office in Albania, European Union Delegation, Ministry of Education attended the organized dissemination events. The impact added values and connection to labor market is stressed during this event. Specific emphasis was given to Teaching Methodologies and their importance in enhancing institutional capacities, staff skills and also networking, developed by EU partners and implemented in all WBC Universities.

Pictures from UET Info Days



Detailed Agenda of UET Info Days



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



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3.2 Info Days Prishtina - UC

UC in Prishtina organized the DRIVE Info Day with key actors and stakeholders for the presentation of the Project and its objectives.

This project aims to increase research capacity in Kosovo and Albania. Participants from various organizations were informed about the objectives, activities, findings and achievements that are expected to be achieved through this project.

UC has also established a center for research and innovation which will help academic staff as well as students to produce research in various fields.

Table 2. List of Participants in Prishtina Info Day

No.	Participants Name	No.	Participants Name
1	Mejremi Ymeri	13	Atdhe Zogaj
2	Jusuf Muastafai	14	Meriton Kabashi
3	Fadil Berisha	15	Agron Bislimi
4	Enver Gërguli	16	Gersi Mirashi
5	Dora Shabani	17	Muhamet Hajoari
6	Kujtim Zylfijaj	18	Edib Abazi
7	Fejzullah Beka	19	Alban Maliqi
8	Hekuran Syla	20	Nevila Muka
9	Hazbi Kadriu	21	Diellza Kadriu
10	Nexhmedin Bardhi	22	Mirjeta Hoxha
11	Bilal Lutfiu	23	Medina Mustafa
12	Artan Aliu	24	Flora Lutfiu

List of Participants in Prishtina Info Days Screenshot

Nr	Name	Surname	Organization	e-mail	Phone Number	Signature
1	MEJREMI	YMERI	UC	mejremi.ymeri@univsum-kos.org	044-320-759	
2	JUSUF	MUSTAFAI	Kolegi "Universum"	jusuf.mustafai@univsum-kos.org	044-529-288	
3	FADIL	BERISHA	FORCA E SIGURTES SE TOP	fadil.berisha@univsum-kos.org	044-247-034	
4	ENVER	GËRGULI	Shtetli "Frydriku"	enver.gerguli@univsum-kos.org	044-167-134	
5	DORA	SHABANI	FORCEN	dora.shabani@univsum-kos.org	044219 904	
6	KUJTIM	ZYLFIJAJ	IPKO 102 ECO-INNOVATION	kujtim.zylfijaj@gmail.com	049700841	
7	FEJZULLA	BEKA	NABA TRADE	fejzullabeka@gmail.com	044501856	
8	HEKURAN	SYLA	UC	hekuran.syla@univsum-kos.org	049-339-274	
9	HABZI	KADRIU		habzi.kadriu@univsum-kos.org	044-186224	
10	NEXHMEIN	BARDHI		nexhbardhi@gmail.com	044 142110	
11	BILAL	LUTFIU	S.H.A. INTERPRETET -	bilal.lutfiu@univsum-kos.org	0038722209663	
12	ARTAN	ALIU	Univsum	-	044 131 350	
13	Atdhe	Zogaj	Univsum	atdhe.zogaj@univsum-kos.org		
14	MERITON	KABASHI	S.H.M.T. "S. LUARASI"	mkabashi1983@gmail.com	044713 447	
15	AGRON	BISLIMI	S.H.M.T. "MEHMET ISAI"	agronbislimi@gmail.com	049806090	
16	MUHAMET	HABOARI	RAIFFEISEN BANK	muhamet.hajoari@univsum-kos.org	048-199-079	
17	EDIB	ABAZI	Kolegi UNIVERSUM	edib.abazi@univsum-kos.org	049-728112	
18	ARTAN	ALI	Kolegi Univsum	artan.maliqi@univsum-kos.org	066883524	

Nr	Name	Surname	Organization	e-mail	Phone Number	Signature
19	Nevila	Muka	Univsum	nevila.muka@univsum-kos.org	+38345 935324	
20	Diellza	Kadriu	UC	diellza.kadriu@univsum-kos.org	+383 45353 942	
21	Mirjeta	Hoxha	Univsum	mirjetahoxha@univsum-kos.org	+38345551485	
22	Medina	Mustafa	Univsum	medina.mustafa@univsum-kos.org	049 322-382	
23	Flora	Lutfiu	Univsum	flora.lutfiu@univsum-kos.org	043714630	
24						

Poster of Prishtina Info Days in UC



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DRIVE Project

Info Day

Tuesday, 29
UNIVERSUM College



Pictures from Prishtina Info Days

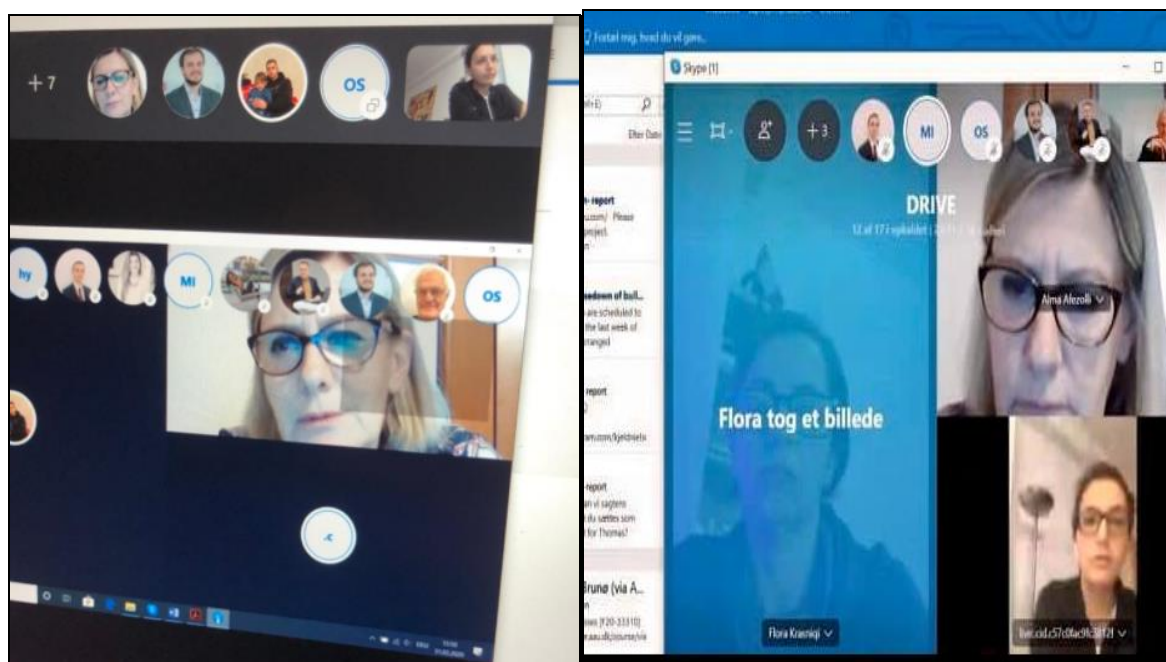


4. Partners Meeting

4.1 Management Meeting Online – March 2020

Drive project continued their work in planning future steps and activities even during the Pandemic. On March 31, 2020 Drive Partners had an online management meeting discussing project implementation state of arts and coordinate on the ways to address the impact of the pandemic situation on the progress of the activities. Participants in this online meeting were DRIVE representatives from partner universities and Erasmus+ Office.

Screenshots and Pictures from March Management Meeting



4.2 Partners Meeting Prishtina – June 2021

On 9-11 June, 2021 DRIVE team members met at University of Prishtina FIEK and had a fruitful management meeting, where they discussed the upcoming activities of the project, the project supporting documents and project financial report for the first period of the project.

On the second day Ms. Flora Krasniqi presented a mid- term follow- up of the status of the Project DRIVE. Status of each WP and Deliverable. Also, a presentation of finalized activities and ongoing and initiated activities. In addition, she presented the task division for each partner for the Mid- term reporting (progress report) and financial situation of each partner and financial mid – term reporting.

On the final day, Quality Management Strategy of the Project and Quality Mid- Term Reporting were presented by Mr. Armend Berisha. Issues regarding the Dissemination of the Project were introduced by Mrs. Kebjana Haka.

Ms. Mimoza Ibrani and Ms. Hena Maloku gave a brief explanation of WP5. Establishment of research and innovation network and the starting point of this Work Package from the establishing of Roadmap to the Virtual Platform.

Table 3. List of Participants in Partners Meeting

No.	Participants Name	Organization Name
1	Hyrjana Mocka	UPT
2	Alma Fejzolli	UPT
3	Gabriela Ukaj	UC
4	Isah Shabani	UP - FIEK
5	Mimoza Ibrani	UP - FIEK
6	Flora Krasniqi	PU
7	Kebjana Haka	UET
8	Hëna Maloku	FIEK
9	Jeta Dobruna	UGJFA
10	Renis Spahija	UGJFA

List of Participants in Prishtina Partners Meeting schreeshot

Developing Research and Innovation Capacities in Albania and Kosovo/ DRIVE

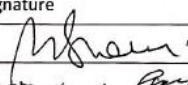
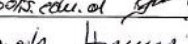
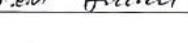
610307-EPP-1-2019-AL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

June 9, 2021 Prishtina, Kosovo

Venue: University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina"

Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering

PARTICIPANTS

No.	Name	Institution	E-mail	Signature
1	Mumtaz Ibrahim	UP	mumtaz.ibrahim@uni-pr.edu	
2	Flore Krasniqi	U-POLIS	flore.krasniqi@univ-pr.edu	
3	Isak Shabani	UP-FIEC	isak.shabani@uni-pr.edu	

Developing Research and Innovation Capacities in Albania and Kosovo/ DRIVE



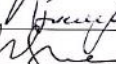
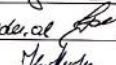
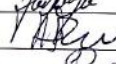




610307-EPP-1-2019-AL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP


June 10, 2021 Prishtina, Kosovo

Venue: University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina"

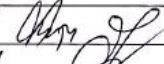

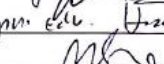
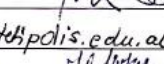
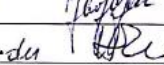
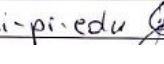
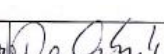


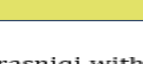
Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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4	Isak Shabani	UP-FIEC	isak.shabani@uni-pr.edu	
5	Mumtaz Ibrahim	UP-FIEC	mumtaz.ibrahim@uni-pr.edu	
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11				

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7	Kebir Haka	UET (Tirana)	kebir.haka@uet.edu.al	
8	Heri Haka	FIEC	heri.haka@uni-pr.edu	
9	Jeta Dobrun	FIEC	jeta.dobrun@uni-pr.edu	
10	DENIS SPANJA	UGJFA	denis.spanja@uni-pr.edu	

Detailed Agenda of Prishtina Partners Meeting

June 09, Wednesday, Meeting with University of Prishtina

Venue: Rectorate of UP

14:00- 16:00 Meeting of the Project Coordinator of DRIVE Project, Flora Krasniqi with senior management of University and UP project coordinator. Discussion about the delays for the purchase of equipment, and other reporting issues

June 10, Thursday, Managerial and Quality Meeting

Venue: Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Meeting Room 440

Google Meet link meet.google.com/drn-dabi-hia/

9:30-10:00	Registration of the participants
10:00-10:10	University of Prishtina: Welcoming speech <u>Prof.asoc.dr. Isak Shabani</u> , Dean of Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering
10:10-11:30	Flora Krasniqi: Mid- term follow- up of the status of the Project DRIVE. Status of each WP and Deliverable. Finalized activities/ ongoing and initiated activities
11:30- 11:45	Coffee break
11:45- 13:00	Flora Krasniqi: Scrolling the Mid- Term template. Task division for each partner for the Mid- term reporting (progress report)
13:00- 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-15:00	Flora Krasniqi: Financial situation of each partner and financial mid - term reporting
15:00-16:00	Discussion and Wrap up of the first working day

June 11, Friday, Continuation of first day of the Meeting & Initiation of WP5

Venue: Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Meeting Room 440

Google Meet link meet.google.com/drn-dabi-hja

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 10:00- 10:30 | Armend Berisha, <u>Universum College</u> : Quality Management Strategy of the Project/ Quality Mid- Term Reporting. Issues and comments for the Quality WP |
| 10: 30- 11:00 | Kebjana Haka: Dissemination of the Project. Situation up to now. |
| 11:00- 11:30 | Coffee break |
| 11:30- 13:00 | Discussion among partners. Q&A especially about the Mid Term Report |
| 13:00- 14:00 | Lunch break |
| 14:00- 15:00 | Mimoza <u>Ibrani</u> , Hena <u>Maloku</u> : Brief explanation of WP5. Establish research and innovation network. Starting point of this Work Package from the establishing of Roadmap to the Virtual Platform |
| 15:00- 16:00 | Individual meeting with partners |
| 15:00- 16:00 | Mimoza <u>Ibrani</u> : Closing and recommendations |

CONCLUSIONS

Pictures from Prishtina Partners Meeting



5. Reports

As part of the DRIVE project, were published the following reports:

5.1 WP1: Define project structures and their responsibilities

<https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/WP1- Deliverable-1 2 3 final-30.06.2021.pdf>

The objective of the WP1 is to define the project structures to be established through the following tasks:

- Kick Off meeting: Overview of the project objectives and intended results of the project;
- Presentations of project consortium partners; Introduction of EU for Innovation program and its aimed impact on Albanian HEIs;
- Establish Project Committees - Project Steering Committee, Managerial Committee, and Project Quality Committee.
- Validate the Work Plan and Calendar of the Activities for the First year of the Project

5.2 WP2: Develop new teaching and mentoring methodologies that enhance students' research skills

The objective of this Work Package is to strengthen the students' research skills for conducting independent research and for making critical reviews of others' research, in order to contribute creatively in solving problems based on research. In order to reach this, the initial activities are related with academic capacities, such as strengthen research capacities and develop teaching methodologies. Then comes the evaluation of research capacities through the development of quality assurance indicators.

D. 2.1. Training workshop on teaching methodologies

The first training for teaching methodology was actually the first activity under the Project Development Package. The training took place at University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani" and was attended by 5 academic staff from each of the Partner Universities, while 2 staff from the Universities of European countries were have select the most appropriate methodologies for them. After the selection of the methodologies, the new methodologies were approved by the relevant structures in each of the Partner Universities to be in the role of the trainer to give their expertise. After introducing the case study from Partner Universities regarding the methodologies used by them, the participating Universities implemented in the upcoming academic year. Developing new teaching methods is the best way to

develop academic capacities at universities and with a direct impact on the quality of students, especially MSc and PhD.

D. 2.2. Training workshop on mentoring research students

https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/DRIVE_Deliverable-D2.2-Analysis-results.pdf

Analysis of current needs for new practices in research mentoring is based on the results of the workshops (D2.2) conducted in the first year of the DRIVE project. For the purpose of the institution-specific analysis, the existing mentoring practices for the different study levels (PhD, Master's and Bachelor's) as well as the existing processes and ongoing practices at each partner university were identified and analyzed. Each university was also asked to prepare a self-assessment analysis to answer the following questions in connection with research mentoring/supervision practices.

D. 2.3. Publish guideline for research mentoring

https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/DRIVE_Deliverable-D-2.3-Guideline_vFinal.pdf

The objective of this Guideline is to facilitate the work of individuals involved in the supervision of student theses and PhD dissertations, especially junior academics, PhD candidates who act as supervisors of student theses, as well as experts from the Doctoral (PhD) Offices, the Student Office and other relevant university units. This Guideline also aims to identify the supervisor's characteristics, capacities and capabilities to stimulate an attractive research and supervision setting and to achieve appropriate supervision outcomes in the form of research results. The principal actors who may be directly or indirectly involved in the supervision processes are defined in Section 2. Section 3 derives generic and institution-specific recommendations that can guide academic staff with less experience in supervision processes to achieve the effectiveness and high quality of supervision outcomes. The focus is also on supervisor-student relationships, which are an important element of the supervision process for successful supervision experiences. This Guideline also creates a wide dialogue for mutual understanding at the partner universities on the improvement of university practices and supervision processes.

D. 2.4. Validation of new methodologies by students' evaluation

https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/WP2_Del.2.4-Validation-of-New-Methodologies-by-students-evaluation-.pdf

In the framework of the Drive project, as part of WP2. Development; Del 2.4. "Validation of new methodologies by students' evaluation" a questionnaire was developed which had to do with the evaluation of teaching courses delivered during the academic year 2020-2021. Teaching courses were part of piloting of the new teaching methodologies; after the conduction of "2.1. Training workshop on teaching methodologies" in September 2020 Each university piloted their own courses which were in

different fields such as: technical, informatics, programming, mechatronics, scientific research methodology, engineering etc. These course evaluations have enabled the partner universities in this project to receive productive feedback regarding courses on whether they are qualitative in achieving the skills(abilities) of students in the labor market.

5.3 WP6: Quality Monitoring and Control

WP6, led by UC, is dedicated to ensuring the highest quality during the project implementation. The WP6 implies utilizing internal and external mechanisms to produce deliverables that indicate the quality of the project implementation.

D. 6.1. Develop a quality action plan

PASTE LINK AFTER PUBLICATION IN WEB

The QA plan (hereinafter the Plan) contains the criteria for internal assessment, the templates of questionnaires and online surveys that will be used in trainings, workshops and dissemination activities, and performance indications that derive from the Logical Framework. The QA plan uses Balanced Scorecard tool to assess project performance and efficiency. UC has prepared the Quality Action Plan which will be forwarded to the QPC for approval and adoption.

The Plan is outlined to serve as a quality control manual defining the procedures and guidelines for securing quality of the DRIVE project management and deliverables. The quality control and monitoring are predicted to consist of three components, two internal and one external. The combination of internal and external view on the project is expected to provide a useful input in the process of securing quality of the DRIVE project.

D. 6.3. Mid-term monitoring reports and recommendations

https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/QA-Annual-Report-1_DRIVE-WP-Leaders.pdf

This report is a part of the DRIVE project Quality Plan and Monitoring Work Package 6. Respectively this report represents activity 6.3 Mid-term report. As described in the QA Plan, the overall aim of Quality Assurance is to monitor and evaluate all project activities. To do this, a number of tools have been developed. This mid-term report aims to provide a detailed overview of the progress and processes of each WP in the first half of the project (November 2019 – June 2021).

In order to track the progress and achievements of all project activities, we have asked all of the consortium partners who are leaders of WPs of the DRIVE project to fill out a dedicated questionnaire (a shorter questionnaire) in order to evaluate the WP implementation, progress, and drawbacks. With this questionnaire UC aimed to collect the necessary feedback from WP leaders because they are directly in

charge in implementing the work packages dedicated to them upon the initial planning and design of the project proposal.

5.4 WP7: Dissemination and Exploitation

This WP aims to gather key stakeholders around DRIVE agenda and ensure that all project outputs and results are transferred outside the partnership and disseminated and used in the most effective way. In order to achieve such objective, transparent instruments of communication will be used, as well as adequate and timely inclusion of the targeted audience for the project. All will be integrated in the Dissemination Strategy, ensuring a smooth roll out of key messages, while synchronizing targeted outreach with project implementation milestones. A variety of communication tools will be used for measuring communication and awareness, raising effectiveness.

D. 7.1. Dissemination Strategy

https://driveproject-eu.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Drive_Communication_Strategy_Final.doc

The aim of the communication strategy is to ensure that the results and activities of DRIVE Project are fully disseminated to project partner, target group, stakeholders and public at large.

The strategy focuses on internal communication and particularly external one, with the aim to gather key stakeholders around DRIVE agenda and ensure that all project outputs and results are transferred outside the partnership and disseminated and used in the most effective way. In order to achieve such objective, transparent instruments of communication will be used, as well as adequate and timely inclusion of the targeted audience for the project.

The Dissemination Strategy ensures a smooth roll out of key messages, while synchronizing targeted outreach with project implementation milestones. In order to ensure cohesive delivery of project outputs and results, internal communication activities will be performed concurrent to the external ones.

6. DRIVE Dissemination Products

As part of the WP7 “Dissemination and Exploitation”, were designed promotion and office products (D7.2.2). Banner and poster reinforced the DRIVE communication strategy. Meanwhile office products and accessors increased the “DRIVE” presence between partners and stakeholders. Following pictures of the products designs created in the framework of the project:



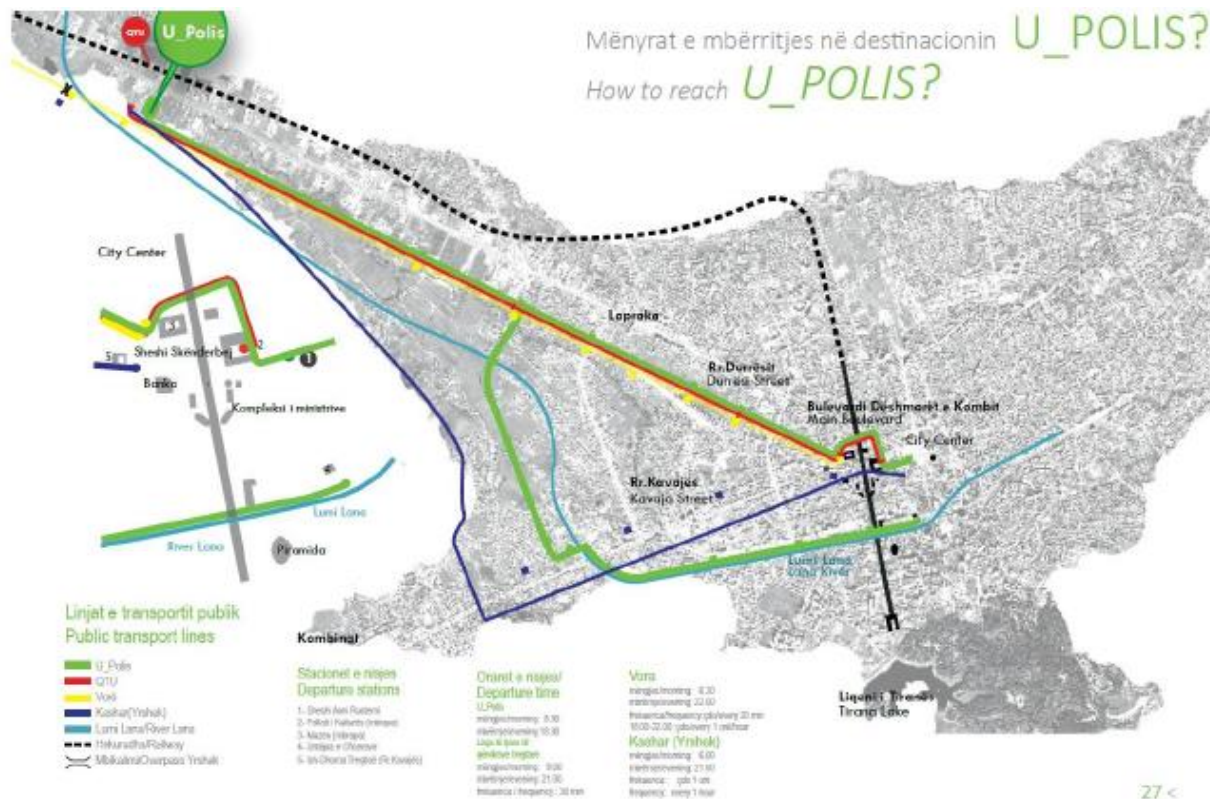
DRIVE Poster







7.1 Kick-off Meeting – Useful Information



Transportation

From the Tirana International Airport to the city center, you can either take the shuttle that departs every hour and costs around 250/300 Lekë/ 2.50 Euros (please check this link out - <http://www.tirana-airport.com/i/4/16/getting-here-parking/bus/>), or a taxi that costs about 2500 Lekë/15 Euros. From the city center to POLIS University, and vice versa, you can use the public "VORË bus (L.4)" (recognizable from a yellow line), which departs from the back of Historical Museum every 10-15 minutes. The price of one ticket is 40 Lekë/0.35 Euros. Taxis are also a possibility, and they can cost between 700 and 1000 Lekë/ 6 - 8 Euros.



DF

DRIVE

Developing Research in Vaccine Innovation



Accommodation

Tirana offers many typologies of accommodation, from hotels to hostels and Airbnb. We suggest you stay in the city center (the Blloku area), around the main square (Skanderberg Square) or on the Durrësi street (Rruga Durrësit). Our references are: Hotel Mondial (www.hotelmondial.al), Hotel Idea (www.hotelidea.al). For any doubt concerning lodging, please mail us before booking.

Identification Documents

For traveling in Albania, EU citizens do not need a specific visa, all they need is a Passport or in some cases only an EU ID. For participants coming from other countries, please double-check with your Embassy.

Currency

The local currency is Albanian Lek. 1 EUR =121.75 ALL Lekë (Verified February 2020). Although airport taxi drivers also accept Euros, you should purchase some local currency, because only a few stores accept Euros, and not all accept credit cards. You can change your currency at any Exchange booth in the city (there is one also at the airport, but it will charge you a fee for the exchange), not all exchange offices charge you a fee, so always ask if there are commissions. All the main credit/debit cards work in Albania, and you can withdraw money from ATM's, but they usually charge you fees for the operation.

Language

Albanian, but don't be afraid everyone speaks English.

Phone

You can choose to buy an Albanian SIM card from TMobile, ALBTelecom, or Vodafone. It will take a few minutes, and you need your ID. It is cheap and convenient (around 10 Euro for unlimited internet, national message and calls and 60 minutes of international calls). Remember that your roaming will not work for free in Albania.

Climate

In February, in Tirana, the average high-temperature is 12.9°C (55.2°F), and the average low-temperature is 2.6°C (36.7°F).

Useful Numbers

Road police	126
Ambulance	127
Fire brigade	128
Police	129
General emergency	112

7.2 Gjakova Workshop – Useful Information

DRIVE Project: Training workshop on teaching methodologies

22-24 September 2020

Location: University of Gjakova “Fehmi Agani”

Ismail Qemali Street 114

KOSOVO

USEFUL INFORMATION

Important: VISA ISSUE

Please find below the List of countries, whose citizens are required to have a visa for the Republic of Kosovo:

http://www.mfa-ks.net/sherbimet_konsullore/503/kush-ka-nevoj-pr-viza-t-kosovs/503

City of Gjakova

Gjakova (Albanian: Gjakovë) is a city and municipality located in the Gjakova District on western Kosovo. According to the 2011 registration, the city of Gjakova has 40,827 inhabitants, while the municipality has 94,556 inhabitants. Geographically, it is located in the south-western part of Kosovo, about halfway between the cities of Peja and Prizren. It is approximately 100 km (62 mi) inland from the Adriatic Sea. The city is situated some 208 kilometers north-east of Tirana, 145 kilometers north-west of Skopje, 80 kilometers west of the capital Pristina and 263 kilometers east of Podgorica. Masterpieces of nature, which have not been spared at all with the beauties that have been given to this area are Rugova Valley 45 km away and Valbona Valley 60 km away.

<https://kk.rks-gov.net/gjakove/>

Venue

University of Gjakova “Fehmi Agani”

Ismail Qemali street nn,

50 000 Gjakovë

Phone: 00383 (0) 38 200 20 831

rektorati@uni-gjk.org

Arrival in Gjakova

Visitors arriving by air can fly to the Prishtina International Airport "Adem Jashari" which is 70 km from the city center and from the Venue. A complete flight schedule for Prishtina International Airport is available on the airport's website. Also, you can fly from Mother Teresa Airport in Tirana and Skopje Airport, which are approximately 200 km from Gjakova,

<http://www.airportpristina.com/>

<http://www.tirana-airport.com/>

<http://skp.airports.com.mk/default.aspx?ItemID=345>

Taxis

Taxis are readily available at the all airports. Airport Taxis are the authorized airport taxis; however, many other taxis also wait to pick up passengers. Visitors are advised to accept rides from only airport taxis. The official prices from Prishtina Airport are 60 - 70 euro.

But in case you need transport, we can arrange taxis for you. Just let us know!

Busses

There is a line of public transport of busses connecting Prishtina International Airport with Prishtina City and Gjakova.

<http://www.airportpristina.com/public-transport>

Also, you have the regular line of buses from Mother Teresa Airport to Tirana main bus station. Then you should take the Bus to Gjakova. (it takes 5 hours).

<http://www.tirana-airport.com/l/4/16/getting-here-parking/bus/>

Also, you have the regular line of buses from Skopje Airport to main bus station. Then you should take the Bus to Prishtina, then to Gjakova. (it takes you all day long since lines do not match so easy)

<http://skp.airports.com.mk/default.aspx?ItemID=491>

Currency

Official currency in Kosovo is Euro

Electricity

In Kosovo the standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in Kosovo, if the standard voltage in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa).



Accommodation

We do recommend following hotels, but more info you can find in booking and in www.

- Hotel Pashtriku (300 meters);
- Hotel Jupa (20 meters);
- Hotel Happy (35 meters);
- Hotel la Villa (2.2 km).

In need for help for accommodation, please do contact:

denis.spahija@uni-gik.org or freskina.mula@uni-gik.org