

Quarterly Progress Report

on the activities carried out within the framework of the UNDP:
Project-00064041
for the period of 01/01/2009 till 01/03/2009

1. Activities performed during the reporting period

Activity 1:

Development of labor market oriented content and context of vocational education and training system

Development of Competency-Based Qualification Standards for the VET Specialties

1. Current Labor Market demand analyses
2. Finalization of the list of specialties with the RA Ministry of Education and Science for which 5 CBQSs including relevant occupational profiles will be developed in 2009

International Policy Advice:

1. Selection of International Consultant for Development of Career Guidance and Vocational Orientation Model in Armenia
2. Ongoing selection of International Consultant for the Income Generating Model Development

Local Expertise as a support tool to the International Advice

1. Ongoing selection of Local Consultant for the Career Guidance and Vocational Orientation Model Development to work in collaboration with the respective International Consultant
2. Ongoing selection of Local Consultant for the Life-long Learning Concept Localization

Capacity Building for Policy Makers, VETIs Faculty and VETIs Students:

1. Outsourcing of Denmark-based company for organization of Study tour on VET best practices for VET policy makers and implementers to be held in May/June, 2009 in Denmark
2. Carrying out country-wide 4-day training sessions on introduction of II-volume newly published educational-didactic packages on "Electro-Arc Welding", "Construction of Buildings", and "Applied Mechanics"
3. Finalization of training needs for the NCVETD
4. Organization of training course on educational-didactic II-volume package entitled "Technical Maintenance of Agricultural Vehicles" and "Exploitation of Agricultural Machinery"
5. Needs assessment for social safety and employment sector to develop extra assistance plan of actions for VET system in light of ongoing economic crises

Activity 2:

Upgrade of facilities for 12 pilot VET colleges

1. Needs assessment of Laboratory Equipment to be procured for 12 pilot VET colleges is about to be finalized with the RA Ministry of Education and Science.

2. Main outputs/results
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General strategy of 3-year VET Project for 2009 is defined • Needs assessment of direct beneficiaries is completed • Series of policy advice and capacity building activities are initiated and some of them are already completed • As a respond to economic crises, special plan of actions is defined and agreed with RA Ministry of Social Affairs to mitigate unemployment issues and growing social tension in the country • Attraction of USD 4,000 from AGBU to provide with VET Fellowships for State Gyumri Technical College students, who derived from the opportunity to continue the education in the college.
3. Lessons learned
Continues VET Teachers Training Model is not considered among top priorities fro 2009 by the RA Ministry of Education and Science. Instead of that, the Ministry has proposed to allocate funds for development of National Qualification Framework (NQF).
4. Issues to be solved
NA
5. Planned activities for the next quarter (Revised Work plan)
<u>Development of Competency-Based Qualification Standards for the VET Specialties</u>
1. Development of 5 CBQs with corresponding occupational profiles
<u>International Policy Advice:</u>
2. Development of Career Guidance and Vocational Orientation Model in Armenia
3. Development of Income Generating Model
4. Initiation of activities aimed at development of National Qualification Framework (NQF)
<u>Local Expertise as a support tool to the International Advice</u>
1. Selection of Local Consultant for the Career Guidance and Vocational Orientation Model Development
2. Localization of Life-long Learning (LLL) Concept
<u>Capacity Building for Policy Makers, VETIs Faculty and VETIs Students:</u>
1. Accomplishment of VET Study Tour in Denmark
2. Accomplishment of Agricultural educational didactic package (“Technical Maintenance of Agricultural Vehicles” and “Exploitation of Agricultural Machinery”) presentation for 18 VET faculty across the country
3. Implementation of a number of training courses for NCVETD staff
4. Implementation of a number of VET training programs for newly emerged unemployed people.
<u>Activity 2:</u>
<u>Upgrade of facilities for 12 pilot colleges</u>
1. Selection of international consultancy for development of Technical Specifications of Laboratory Equipment to be procured for 12 pilot VET colleges

2. Initiation of procurement of Laboratory Equipment, according to the list of labs submitted by RA Ministry of Education and Science.

6. Partners

- RA Ministry of Education and Science
- RA Ministry of Social Affairs
- National Center for VET Development
- State Employment Agency
- EU Mission in Armenia
- USAID
- British Council
- CHF Armenia
- DVV International
- Adult Education Association
- Global Fund NGO
- 12 Pilot VET institutions- direct beneficiaries of the VET project
- Other VET establishments and training centres