Project **Integration of key competences in the education system of Montenegro** co-financed by the EU and the Government of Montenegro

**REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT SECONDARY ANALYSES REPORTS**

**Activity 5.1. WRITING OF THE REPORT**

The most important activity in this part of the project included:

(1) an overview of the participation in IEA and OECD researches and information about the reporting in the region,

(2) closer informing of the participants with the methodology of the IEA, TIMSS, OECD PISA researches,

(3) discussion and answering to the responses to the specific questions and doubts about reporting at the national and international level and

(4) determining of the routing and targeted audience for current reports based on IEA TIMSS and OECD PISA research data which can be dominantly used in STEM area in Montenegro.

***The summary report of all (online) meetings***

Before the live meeting, three online meetings were organized in February 2021. A general goal of the activity was to reach a better understanding of the basic principal's importance and implementation of the data gathered in international projects to improve analysis and reporting in Montenegro.

The agenda of the first meeting organized on 1. February 2021 referred to the research of the needs- in particular of the Examination Centre and the Bureau for Educational Services and their adapting to the possibilities within the IKCES.ME project framework. The participants problematized the challenges of the international large-scale assessments in their country and exchanged experiences with the activities undertaken in the region.

At the second online meeting, held on 9. February 2021. the methodology of the international IEA and OECD researches was explained in the details, and the design of new reports based on available data was initiated. The targeted audience that should have the most benefits out of gathered new analysis and reports was defined, and those are: 1) the educational policy creators, 2) the scientists in this field, and 3) the teachers and professors of the STEM curricula in schools and faculties in Montenegro.

At the third online meeting, organized on 12. February 2021. PISA testing results in Montenegro were discussed in detail and the connection to the adoption of the educational policies (*Evidence-based policymaking*). It was also discussed about the possible thematic orientations of the reports related to the basic purpose of the reports and everything that should be covered within its content. It was pointed out that in the current and future planning of the reporting, the human and the material resources and deadlines should be taken into consideration.

**THE WORK MEETING: Support to the reporting in international and national researches in Montenegro – 18. February 2021. (Podgorica *online,* 9-13h)**

*Note: The meeting was planned in live in Bar, but due to current epidemiological conditions in Montenegro it was organized as an online work meeting*

**A list of participants:**

The Examination Centre of Montenegro- Zorica Minić, Divna Paljević, Milka Stanišić, Marina Radović, Mirjana Rudan, Slađa Nikić; the Bureau for Educational Services – Nevena Čabrilo

The External partners: Nađa Durković (ZUNSA), Božidar Popović (PMF), Dušanka Popović (The Faculty of Philology), Branko Anđić i Dijana Vučković (Faculty of Philosophy)

At this meeting once more the results of IEA TIMSS and OECD PISA researches were presented to the details, after which a discussion was organized. A central part of the presentation was related to the exchange of the experiences in the researches and reporting, which for Montenegro was presented by Mrs. Divna Paljević, for Serbia Mr. Srđan Verbić, and Croatia Mrs. Ines Elezović.

In the part of *hands-on* training, Ines Elezović presented to the participants a database and related questionnaires of the IEA TIMSS research, and Srdjan Verbic presented the database and related questionnaires of the OECD PISA research. Some of the analytical possibilities of available databases were presented. In conclusion, a discussion about themes and influence of the already published national reports was organized and the consultations about the design of the reports were based on current international and national data. The conclusions of up-to-date work in this field within IKCES.ME project was pointed out and other specific steps about the data analysis necessary for the preparation of the reports were agreed upon (within the 5.1. activity).

At the beginning of March, another work meeting with the employees of the Examination center of Montenegro (participants: Zorica Minić- analyst, Divna Paljević- PISA NPM, Milka Stanišić- PISA Data Manager, and Mirjana Rudan- TIMSS Data Manager) was organized and the remaining technical and analytical doubts about possibilities to connect PISA and TIMSS databases were discussed. Although it was thought at the beginning that those are not possible to connect because of ambiguities in the data, the experts from the center concluded it was possible after all. That fact influenced the focus of IKCES.ME report aimed to the contents overlapping in both types of research, particularly related to the questionaries for the students. Also, same or very similar independent variables – such as gender, socio-economic background, educational aspirations, and similar are found in both types of research what makes them very comparable, in particular when there are a connection and identification variable between the units of the analysis (students and/or schools).

The report within the IKCES.ME project framework aiming at the STEM area was finished according to the plan in March 2021.

Further reporting in the PISA researches, the participants of the listed activities will design outside the IKCES.ME project with the cooperation of the Examination Centre experts and the academic community, in particular with the experts of the native language (reading literacy) since it was a main topic of the PISA 2018. cycle. The possibility of organizing a spare conference in 2021. dedicated to the promoting of the analysis and the conclusions of the up-to-date international researches in Montenegro with the accent on reading literacy was pointed out. Here the particular interest is set to cross-influence of three kinds of literacy, the ie influence of the reading literacy to remaining two questioned in the PISA framework (mathematics and science) as well as the other key competencies assigned by the competencies framework in Montenegro.

**WORKING MEETING: Support to reporting in international and national research in Montenegro - 18.2.2021. (Podgorica, ZOOM)**

1. **Participants:** Employees of the Examination Center of Montenegro, the Institute for Education and associated external associates
2. **Goal:** Better understanding of the basic principles, significance and application of data collected by international projects to improve analysis and reporting in Montenegro.Gori.

**Specific objectives of the program:**

* to acquaint participants with the research methodology of IEA TIMSS and OECD PISA;
* review of participation in IEA and OECD research and information on reporting in the region (Western Balkan countries);
* answer specific questions and concerns about reporting, national and international, related to IEA TIMSS and OECD PISA research.

1. **Training professionals:**

**Ines Elezović**, a short-term expert in assessing evaluation mechanisms and quality

**Srđan Verbić**, Senior short-term expert on STEM disciplines

Logistic support: **Marija Nikčević**, Project Office Manager, contact:

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**AGENDA: 18. February 2021.**

**9.00 – 10.30**

* **Introductory** (presentation of the IKCES project, meeting objectives and work program)
* Ines Elezović: **Results of IEA TIMSS and OECD PISA research in the region - Is there a connection between monitoring trends and educational policies?**
* *Discussion*

***Coffee break (30 min)***

**11.00 – 12.30**

* Srđan Verbić: **Experiences in research and reporting - Serbia**
* Ines Elezović: **Experiences in research and reporting - Croatia**
* Predstavnik ICCG: **Experiences in research and reporting - Montenegro**

***Lunch break (60 min)***

**13.30 – 15.00**

* Ines Elezović: **IEA TIMSS database and accompanying questionnaires (hands-on)**
* Srđan Verbić: **OECD PISA database and accompanying questionnaires (hands-on)**

***Coffee break (30 min)***

**15.30-17.00**

**Q&A:** Discussion on the topics of national reports in Montenegro - determining the design of the report based on current international and national data

Conclusions and next steps (data agreement and analysis)