



Republic of North Macedonia, Ministry of Education and Science
The Skills Development and Innovation Support Project
Project number: 8332-MK

CONTRACT FOR PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR ENHANCING
THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY, No. 018-
16/4.2.1

BASELINE SURVEY REPORT

on Citizen's engagement in the preparation of the Grant Program for
enhancing the collaboration between the schools and business community

*Citizen Engagement Indicator: Percentage of students that participated in the
Grant Program satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation*

Implemented from September, 2018 to June 2019

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Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. SURVEY DESIGN, METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION	7
3. DATA ANALYSIS	12
3.1 Demographic characteristics.....	12
3.2 Engagement and satisfaction of the students	12
Engaged in development of project idea for practical training during grant preparation and satisfaction.....	12
Engaged in the selection of topics for the practical training during grant preparation and satisfaction.....	14
Engaged in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation.....	16
Engaged in any other form of engagement in any phase during grant preparation and satisfaction.....	18
RESULT FRAMEWORK INDICATOR.....	19
4. CONCLUSIONS	20

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1 - Percentage of students that participated in development of the project idea during grant preparation.....	12
Figure 2 - Percentage of students that participated in development of the project idea during grant preparation per Grant measure.	13
Figure 3 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in development of the project idea during grant preparation.....	14
Figure 4 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation.....	14
Figure 5 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation per Grant measure.	15
Figure 6 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation.....	16
Figure 7 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation	17
Figure 8 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation per Grant measure	17

Figure 9 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation..... 17

Figure 10 - Percentage of students that participated in any other form of engagement in any phase during grant preparation..... 18

Figure 11 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation..... 19

Figure 12 - SUMMARY PARTICIPATION RATE 20

Figure 13 - SUMMARY SATISFACTION RATE 21

Table 1 proposed sample size and response rate..... 9

Annexes

- 1) The list of selected schools and business partners
- 2) Survey Questioner
- 3) SPSS data base

1. INTRODUCTION

This document presents the baseline survey data on Citizen's engagement in the preparation of the Grant Program for enhancing the collaboration between the schools and business community implemented by the Republic of North Macedonia's Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) through the Skills Development and Innovation Support Project (World Bank Loan 8332 MK). The activities related to the Grant program are anticipated under Component 2, Sub component 2.2 of the project which supports provision of School Grants to selected TVET schools for financing activities to improve the labor market relevance of the vocational education and training including involving industries into the practical training delivery (Project Appraisal Document, 2013)¹ and furthermore explained in details in Operational Manual for implementing the Grant program for enhancing the collaboration between the schools and business community, (2019)².

The objective of the grant program as described in the revised Operational Manual for the Grant Program (hereinafter GOM) is to:

- increase the number of secondary vocational school students that benefit from practical training in/or provided by small and medium-size enterprises (SME) and large sized firms, as well as
- increase the quality of the practical training by providing financial support for implementation of the various models of engaging vocational schools/enterprises in practical vocational training and identifying the most successful models.

More specifically, the overreaching purpose is to:

- increase the number of students who, through exposure to highly quality practical training, acquire technical and socio-economic skills (including entrepreneurship

¹ Available at:

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/175281468299184602/pdf/805820PAD0P128010Box382111B000U0090.pdf>

² Available at

http://mon.gov.mk/images/%D0%9E%D0%BF%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%B5%D0%BD_%D0%BF%D1%80%D0%B8%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%87%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%BA.pdf

skills) to better prepare them for the world-of-work and therefore improve their employability after graduation.

After the comprehensive program evaluation that was performed after the implementation of the pilot phase in 2017, the Ministry of education and science has revised the program design and introduced 3 (three) Grant measures instead of initially designed 5 grant measures. The Ministry of Education and Science in 2018 has launched the second call for a Grant program for enhancing the cooperation between the business community and VET schools in Macedonia. The VET schools and business partners applied with project proposals for 3 (three) Grant measures i.e.

- Grant measure 1: Setting up a school company within the VET school through business guidance and mentoring (business mentoring relationship). Maximum size per grant for this Grant measure is at 30.000 EUR.
- Grant measure 2: Placement of students in practical training in companies. Maximum size per grant for this Grant measure is at 10.000 EUR.
- Grant measure 3: Establishment of the problem based learning courses for enhancement of soft skills. Maximum size per grant for this Grant measure is at 10.000 EUR.

The evaluation of the received grant application resulted with the award of the 23 grants for respective TVET schools and business partners out of which

- 4 Grants under Grant measure 1³,
- 3 grants under Grant measure 2 and
- 16 grants under Grant measure 3.

The list of selected schools and business partners is provided in Annex 1 of this document.

In order to contribute to the approach for mainstreaming citizen engagement in the WBG-supported operations, defined in the Strategic Framework for mainstreaming citizen

³ During the implementation of the projects, one project awarded to the OSTU Nace Budjoni – Kumanovo and Goblen Afaz DOOEL – Kumanovo has been terminated. This project was not implemented and is not part of this baseline study.

engagement⁴, the Ministry of education and science starting from this year has introduced an activity for measuring the citizen engagement indicator for the Grant program that will meet the three requirements established in the above referenced Strategy, as follows:

- Project design must be citizen-oriented, i.e., having at least one mechanism to engage with beneficiaries in the specific context of the project;
- Projects' results frameworks must include a beneficiary feedback indicator to monitor citizen engagement throughout project implementation; and
- Projects must report on the beneficiary feedback indicator by the third year of implementation.

This report presents the findings from students' engagement survey related to the preparation and implementation of the TVET modernization project implemented in the VET schools conducted through the WB SKILLS project and is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the survey design, methodology and data collection whereas section 3 provides analysis of the data. The section 4 contains the conclusions.

⁴ Available at <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/266371468124780089/Strategic-framework-for-mainstreaming-citizen-engagement-in-World-Bank-Group-operations-engaging-with-citizens-for-improved-results>

2. SURVEY DESIGN, METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

The survey was methodologically designed to measure the citizen engagement indicator as established by the Ministry of education and science in the SKILLS project result framework that is as follows: *"Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation"*. However, considering that preparatory phase includes various stages we have designed the survey to include the question related to the core indicator established in the Framework but also we have introduced other questions that will assist to distinguish between the students' engagement and the satisfaction of the students' engagement in different stages that were identified as follows

- *engagement opportunities and satisfaction of engagement opportunities during development of project idea;*
- *engagement opportunities and satisfaction of engagement opportunities in identification of project topics*
- *engagement opportunities and satisfaction of engagement opportunities in design of forms for delivery of project activities;*

The questioner anticipated 11 questions out of which 3 relates to the identification of the respondents per TVET school, school year and gender whereas other 8 questions relate to answering whether the student was engaged in the development of the idea for practical training, identification of the topics for practical training, in the design of the forms (methods) for delivery of practical training or engaged in any other phase of the preparation as well as the satisfaction of the involvement in each referenced stage. The students were asked to answer on each question by selecting "yes", "no" option. The questioner has been designed to measure the involvement and satisfaction of the students by selecting two possible yes/no options rather than to use some advanced techniques as scalable answers (from 1 very unsatisfied to 5 very satisfied) due to the initial predetermined indicator in the Result framework that required the result to be presented

as percentage (%) meaning that we needed to work with measuring the frequencies of answers⁵.

For this survey we have designed a representative sample by using a multistage cluster sampling. Total sample size has been predetermined by the TOR and equal to 221 students that is 12% of all students that benefited practical training. However, we have distributed more questioners and ended up with the number of 233 interviewed students that is 13% of all students that benefited some form of practical training. Multistage cluster sampling was constructed by taking a series of simple random samples for selection of respondents in each TVET school. The table 1 below includes total number of students that benefited practical training from the Grant program per VET school, proposed sample size and response rate:

⁵ *"Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation"*

Table 1 proposed sample size and response rate

	VET School	Company	Total No. of students included in project	Proposed Sample size		Response rate	
				No.	%	No.	% (responses over number of stakeholders involved)
1	DUCOR Partenija Zografski – Skopje	Ariljmetal DOO – Skopje	19	2	11%	13	650%
1	SOU Goce Delcev – Valandovo	Pro Grupa DOO – Bitola	40	5	13%	5	100%
1	OSTU Gostivar – Gostivar	Pro Grupa DOO – Bitola	107	13	12%	13	100%
2	SOU Gjorce Petrov – Kriva Palanka	Dema Stil DOO – Kriva Palanka	127	15	12%	15	100%
2	SOU Taki Daskalo – Bitola	Megasoft Plus DOOEL – Bitola	50	6	12%	6	100%
2	SSOU Mosa Pijade – Tetovo	Auto Cem DOO – Tetovo	25	3	12%	3	100%

3	OSMU D-r Jovan Kalauzi – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	168	20	12%	20	100%
3	OSU Jovce Teslickov – Veles	BAS – Skopje	150	18	12%	18	100%
3	SOTU Gjorgji Naumov – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	120	14	12%	14	100%
3	SOU Car Samoil – Resen	BAS – Skopje	48	6	13%	6	100%
3	SOU Krste Petkov Misirkov – Demir Hisar	BAS – Skopje	24	3	13%	3	100%
3	SOU Naum Naumovski Borce – Krusevo	BAS – Skopje	48	6	13%	6	100%
3	SOU Orde Copela – Prilep	BAS – Skopje	120	14	12%	14	100%
3	SOUG Dobri Daskalov – Kavadarci	BAS – Skopje	120	14	12%	14	100%
3	OSTU Gostivar – Gostivar	BAS – Skopje	180	22	12%	22	100%
3	SOU Taki Daskalo – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	120	14	12%	14	100%
3	SUGS Lazar Tanev – Skopje	Lingvafan DOOEL – Skopje	72	9	13%	9	100%
3	SUGS Saip Jusuf – Skopje	Interkultura – Skopje	80	10	13%	10	100%
3	SSOU Dimitrija Cupovski – Veles	CKS – Skopje	60	7	12%	8	114%

3	SEOU Gostivar – Gostivar	CKS – Skopje	48	6	13%	6	100%
3	SOU Gjorce Petrov – Kriva Palanka	SEMOS – Skopje	72	9	13%	9	100%
3	SOU Goce Delcev – Valandovo	MATA – Skopje KOCKA – Skopje	40	5	13%	5	100%
		Total	1,838	221	12%	233	105%

The data collection was carried out from June 2nd to June 10th, 2019 through dissemination of the paper questioners to the sampled respondents in each TVET school. All collected data was transferred into SPSS database, and the logical control of data was carried out. This control was based on the analysis of logical connection between respondent's answers. This type of control applied to the whole sample. The database is provided to the Ministry of education and science in SPSS format.

3. DATA ANALYSIS

3.1 Demographic characteristics

Out of all interviewed respondents that benefited practical training

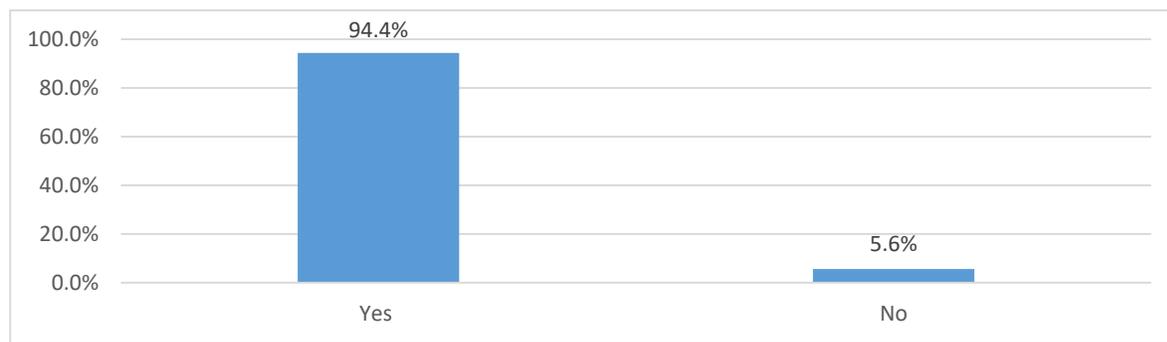
- 61% are males and 39% are females;
- 41,3 were enrolled in the 2nd year of studying, 40% in the third year of studying, 17,8 in the fourth year and 0,9% in the first year of studying
- 76,4% of the respondents benefited practical training from the Grant projects awarded for Grant measure 3, 13,3% benefited practical training from the Grant projects awarded for Grant measure 1 and 10,3% benefited practical training from the Grant projects awarded for Grant measure 2;

3.2 Engagement and satisfaction of the students

Engaged in development of project idea for practical training during grant preparation and satisfaction

94.4% of the students reported that they were involved by the school in the process for development of the idea for practical training that was further on conveyed in the project proposal and application for the respective grant measure. (Figure 1)

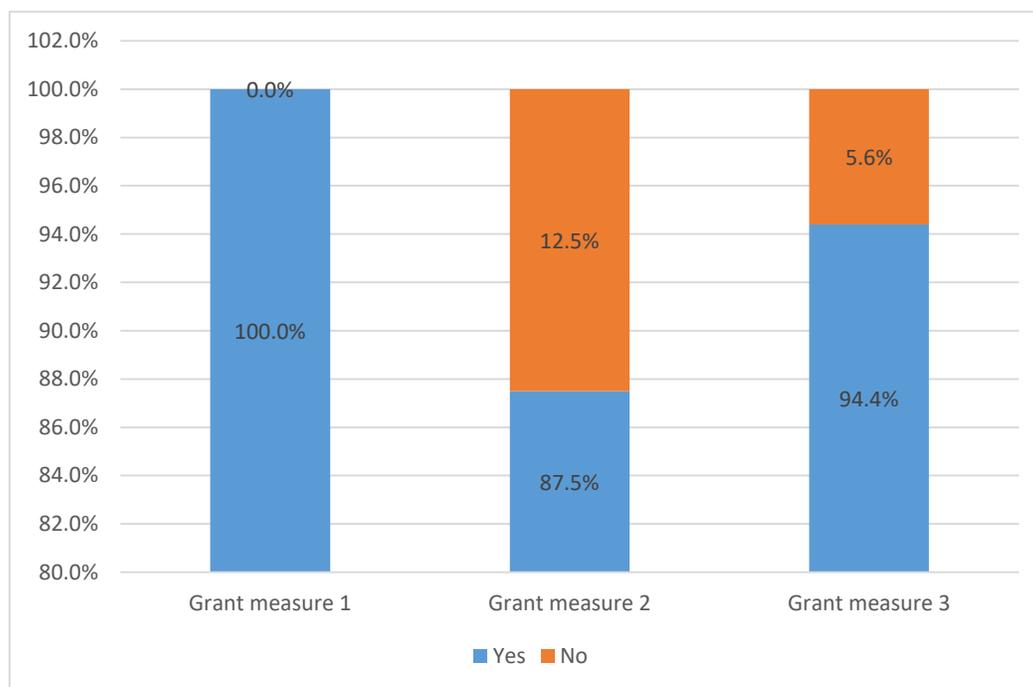
Figure 1 - Percentage of students that participated in development of the project idea during grant preparation



Source: Authors calculation

The analysis showed that all of the sampled respondents participated in the development of the project idea during grant preparation for Grant measure 1 whereas this is valid for 87,5% of the students that reported that they participated in the development of the project idea during grant preparation for Grant measure 2 and 94,4% for Grant measure 3. (Figure 2)

Figure 2 - Percentage of students that participated in development of the project idea during grant preparation per Grant measure.

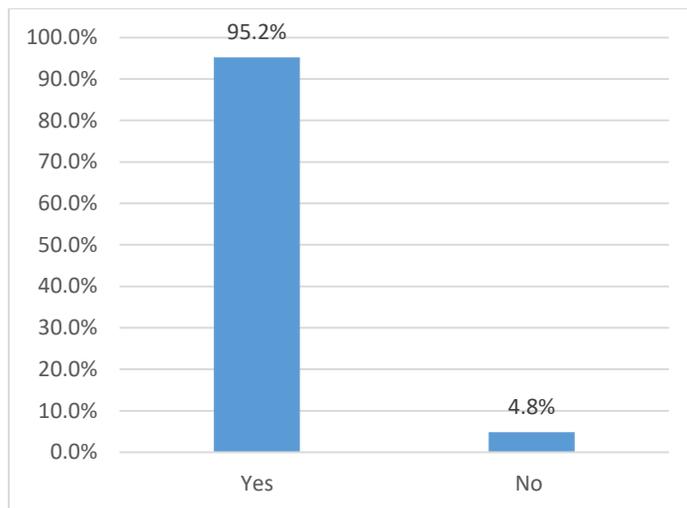


Source: Authors calculation

Moreover the study shows that in 12 TVET schools 100% of the sampled students that were interviewed reported that they participated in the development of the project idea whereas in 6 TVET schools the percentage of students that reported that they were not involved vary for 12%-20% of all interviewed students on the school level.

95.2% of the students that participated in the Grant program are satisfied with their engagement in the development of the project idea during grant preparation whereas 4.8% are not satisfied. (Figure 3).

Figure 3 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in development of the project idea during grant preparation

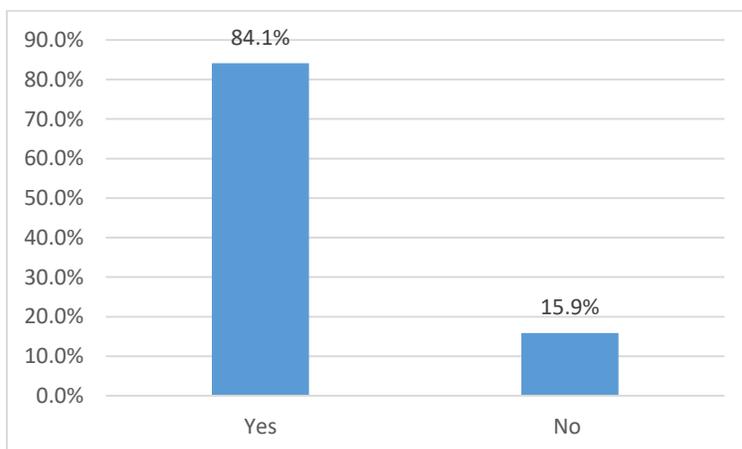


Source: Authors calculation

Engaged in the selection of topics for the practical training during grant preparation and satisfaction

84.1% of the students reported that they were engaged and participated during the grant preparation in the activities for selection of topics for the practical training whereas app. 16% reported that they were not engaged. (Figure 4).

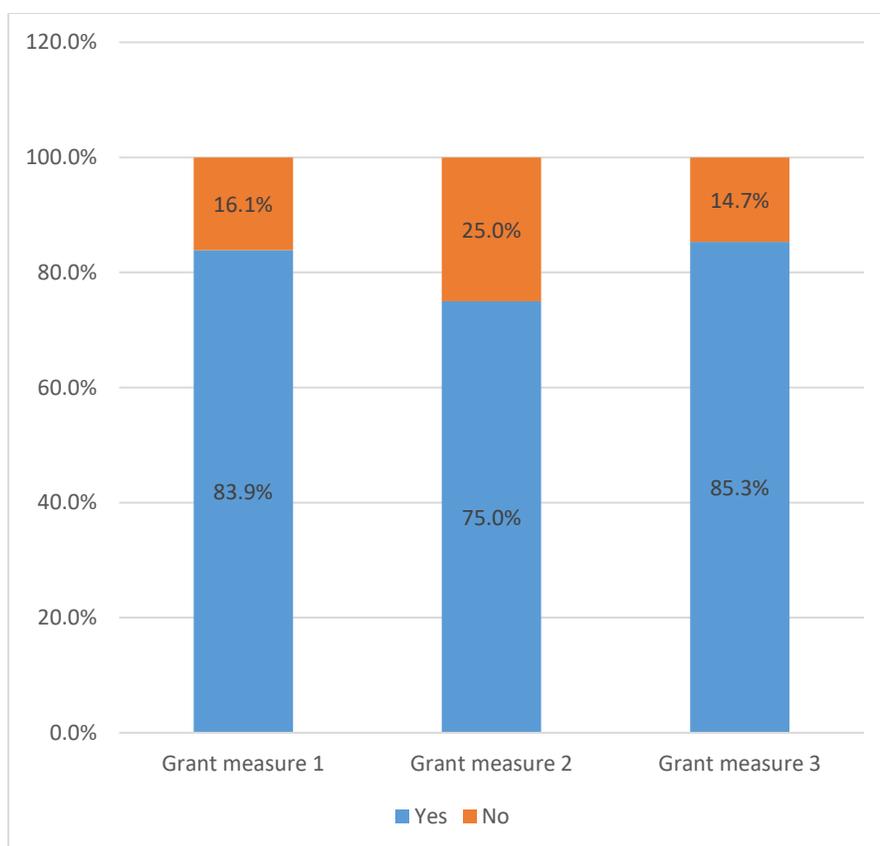
Figure 4 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation



Source: Authors calculation

The participation percentage is lowest for Grant projects awarded for Grant measure 2 that is 75% whereas the participation percentage for Grant measure 1 and 3 is almost in line with the participation percentage established for the overall sample. (Grant measure 1 – 84.1% and Grant Measure 3 – 85.3%). Considering that the projects awarded for the Grant measure 2 are actually the projects that aim for placement of students in practical training in companies which practical training in most cases is the same as the one prescribed by the Center for vocational education and training for the respective studying program, subject and studying year the students have minor space to influence the selection of topics for the practical training. (Figure 5).

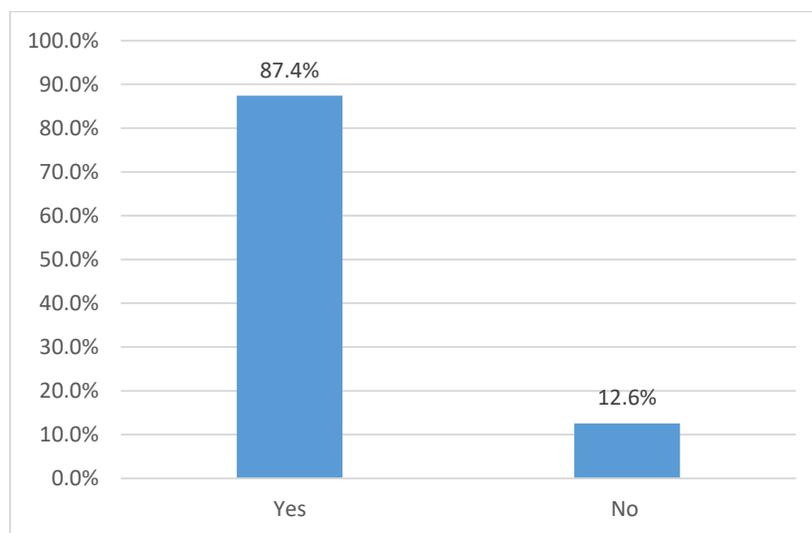
Figure 5 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation per Grant measure.



Source: Authors calculation

87.4% of the students that participated in the Grant Program are satisfied with their engagement in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation whereas 12.6% are not. (Figure 6).

Figure 6 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in the selection of topics for practical training during grant preparation



Source: Authors calculation

Engaged in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation

Approximately 87% of the students participated in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation. This participation percentage is again lower than the sample one for the projects that are awarded under Grant measure 2 (83.3%). (Figure 7 and Figure 8).

Figure 7 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation

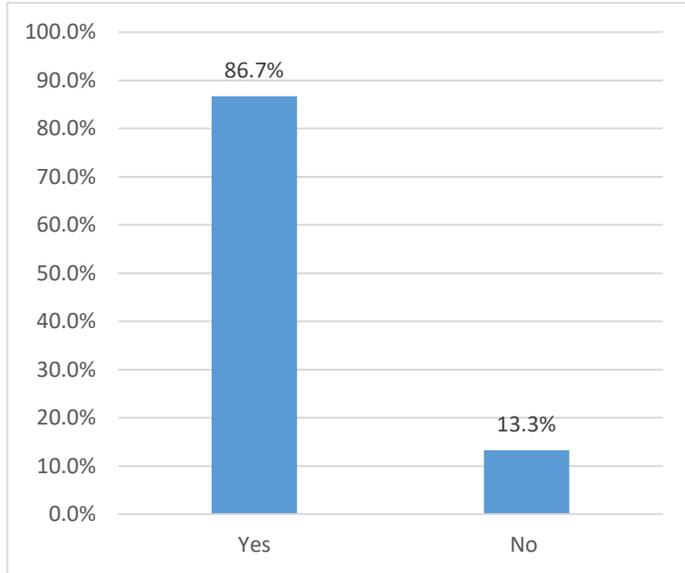
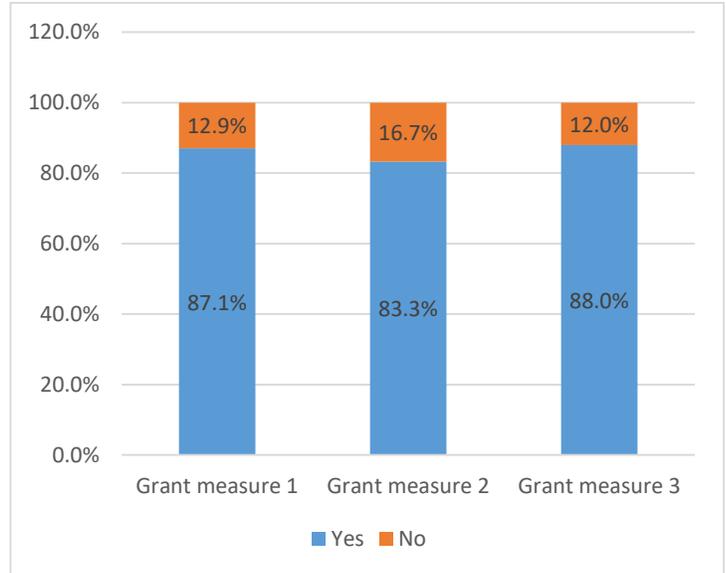


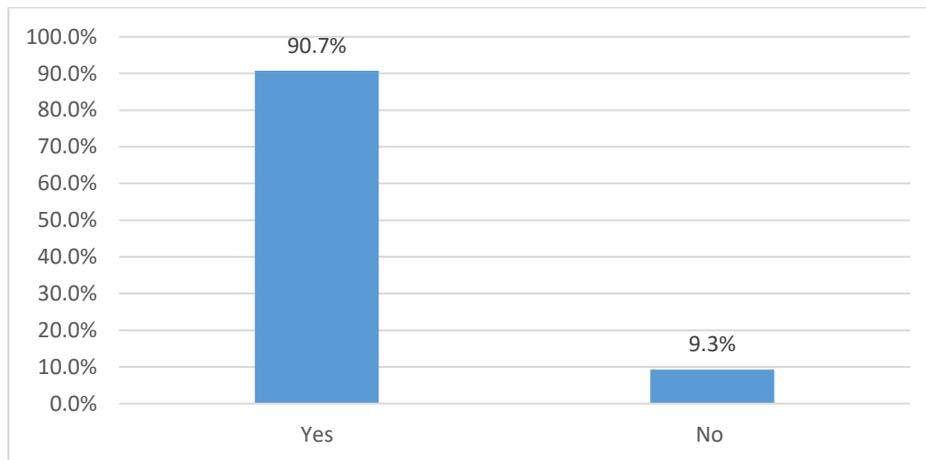
Figure 8 - Percentage of students that participated in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation per Grant measure



Source: Authors calculation

App. 91% of the students that participated in the Grant Program are satisfied with their engagement in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation. (Figure 9).

Figure 9 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement in the selection of methods for implementation of practical training during grant preparation

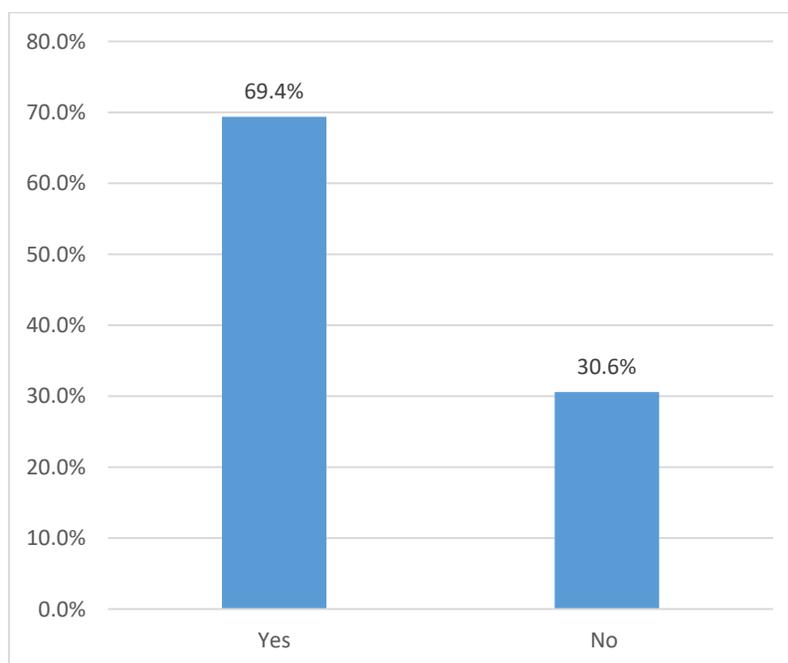


Source: Authors calculation

Engaged in any other form of engagement in any phase during grant preparation and satisfaction

The lowest engagement rate among all phases is found for the category i.e. any other form of engagement in any phase during the grant preparation where 69% of the students reported that they were engaged whereas 31% did not recognize that they were engaged. However this question has been used as a control one as we wanted to check whether the students are able to recognize by themselves any other form of engagement not specifically mentioned in the question. We believe that the students instinctively answered this question either by yes or no, having no idea of the phrase “any other form of engagement”. The elaboration on this finding is part of the conclusion section.

Figure 10 - Percentage of students that participated in any other form of engagement in any phase during grant preparation

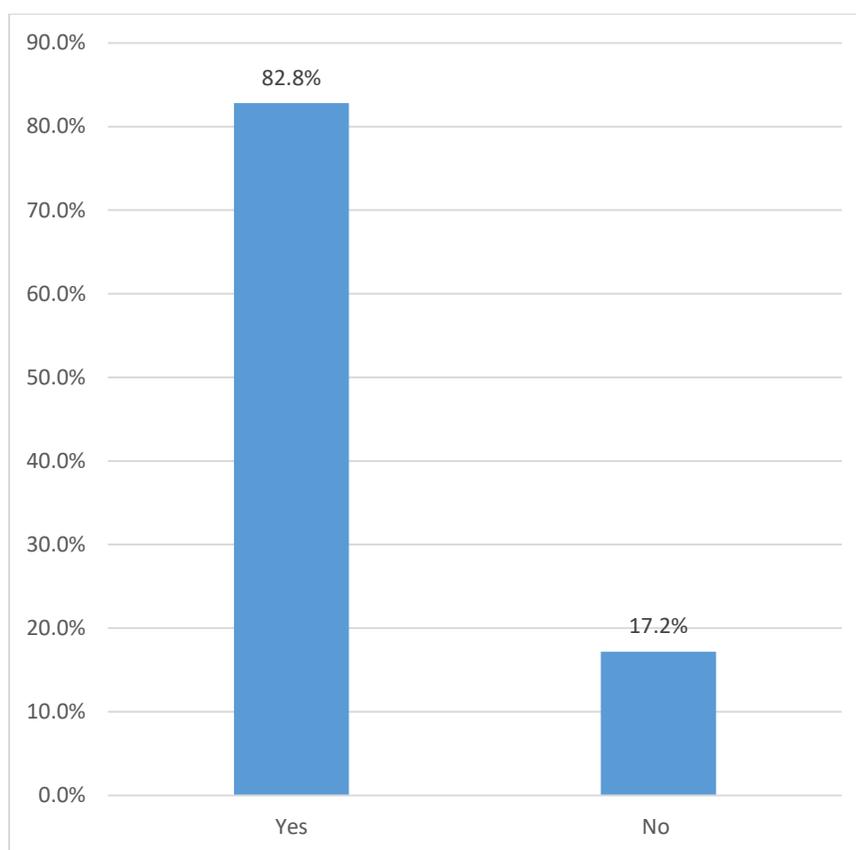


Source: Authors calculation

RESULT FRAMEWORK INDICATOR

- 83% of the students that participated in the Grant Program are satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation. This baseline indicator will be monitored next year in order to see whether there is a progress in the student's engagement in the grant preparation for the next year.

Figure 11 - Percentage of students that participated in the Grant Program satisfied with their engagement during grant preparation

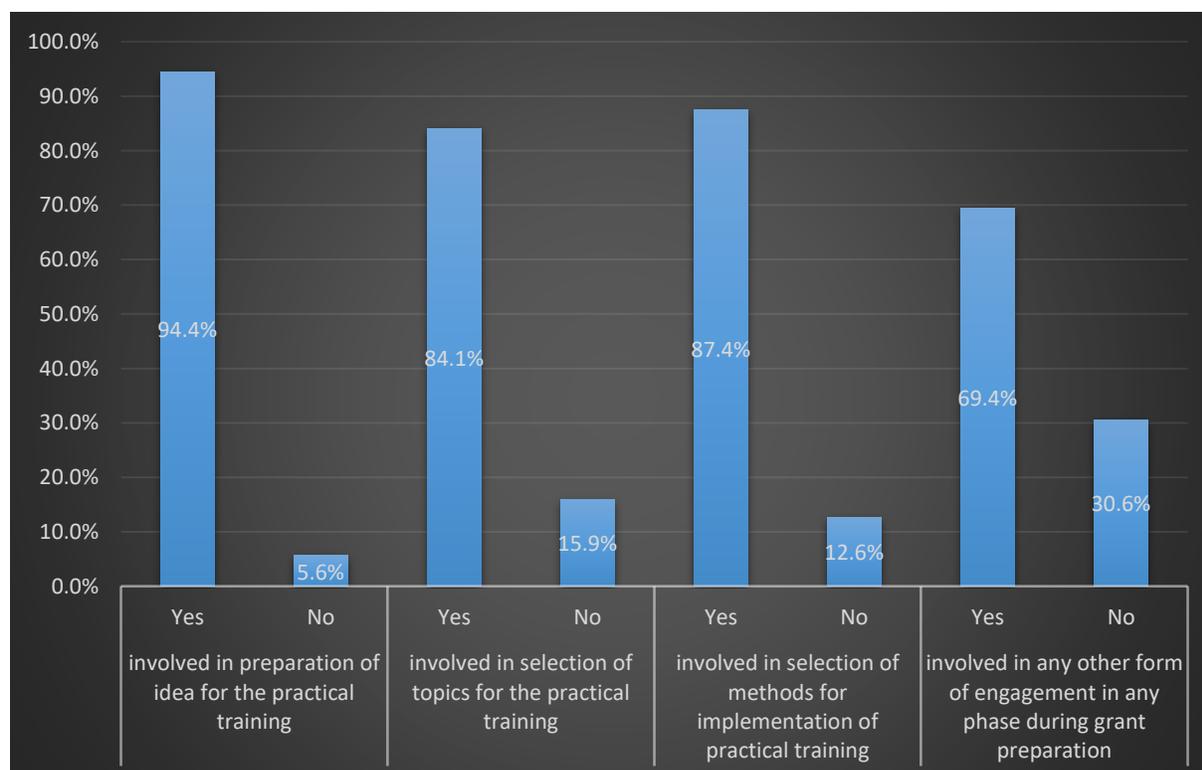


Source: Authors calculation

4. CONCLUSIONS

The study found that student engagement rates are very high in all phases including participation in development of the project idea (94%), selection of topics (84%) and selection of methods for implementation of the practical training (87%), except for any other form of engagement in any phase during the grant preparation where 69% of the students reported that they were engaged in.

Figure 12 - SUMMARY PARTICIPATION RATE in Grant preparation

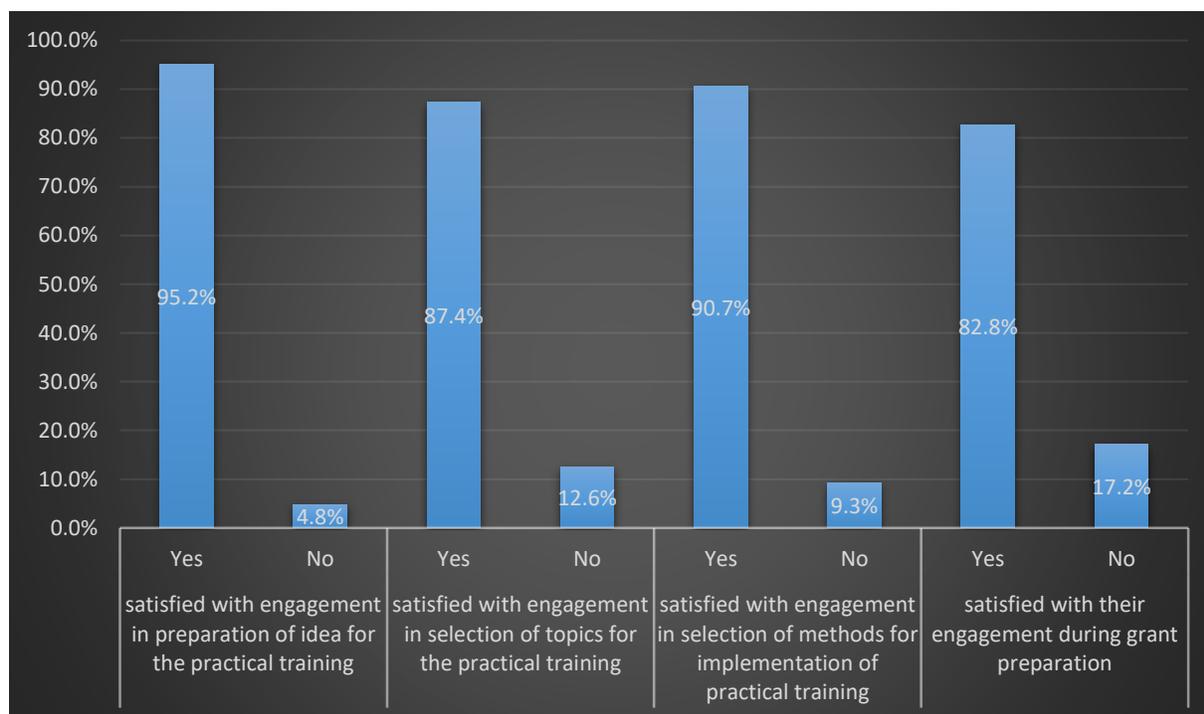


Source: Authors calculation

The study also reveals very high satisfaction rates. Vast majority of the students reported that they are satisfied with their engagement in: preparation of idea for the practical training (95%), selection of topics for practical training 87% and in selection of methods for implementation of the practical training (91%). However, 83% of students that participated in the Grant Program are satisfied with their engagement during grant

preparation – that is a baseline indicator established in the SKILLS Project Result Framework. This baseline value of the indicator shall be used next year to monitor the progress in this regard during the follow up survey.

Figure 13 - SUMMARY SATISFACTION RATE



Source: Authors calculation

Even though the study found that the students are highly satisfied with the engagement in the phases of grant preparation, still the study is limited with the information that can be used so as to be able to recognize the forms and methods that were applied by the schools for involvement of the students in the grants preparation. Therefore we cannot conclude whether these figures reflect the student's opinion that they participated but only going through the empty ritual of participation or by having the real power needed to affect the outcome of the process.

ANNEX 1:

The list of selected schools and business partners

No.	Measure	School	Company	Total No. of students included in project
1	1	DUCOR Partenija Zografski – Skopje	Ariljmetal DOO – Skopje	19
2	1	SOU Goce Delcev – Valandovo	Pro Grupa DOO – Bitola	40
3	1	OSTU Gostivar – Gostivar	Pro Grupa DOO – Bitola	107
4	2	SOU Gjorce Petrov – Kriva Palanka	Dema Stil DOO – Kriva Palanka	127
5	2	SOU Taki Daskalo – Bitola	Megasoft Plus DOOEL – Bitola	50
6	2	SSOU Mosa Pijade – Tetovo	Auto Cem DOO – Tetovo	25
7	3	OSMU D-r Jovan Kalauzi – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	168
8	3	OSU Jovce Teslickov – Veles	BAS – Skopje	150
9	3	SOTU Gjorgji Naumov – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	120
10	3	SOU Car Samoil – Resen	BAS – Skopje	48
11	3	SOU Krste Petkov Misirkov – Demir Hisar	BAS – Skopje	24
12	3	SOU Naum Naumovski Borce – Krusevo	BAS – Skopje	48
13	3	SOU Orde Copela – Prilep	BAS – Skopje	120
14	3	Soug Dobri Daskalov – Kavadarci	BAS – Skopje	120
15	3	OSTU Gostivar – Gostivar	BAS – Skopje	180
16	3	SOU Taki Daskalo – Bitola	BAS – Skopje	120
17	3	SUGS Lazar Tanev – Skopje	Lingvafan DOOEL – Skopje	72
18	3	SUGS Saip Jusuf – Skopje	Interkultura – Skopje	80
19	3	SSOU Dimitrija Cupovski – Veles	CKS – Skopje	60
20	3	SEOU Gostivar – Gostivar	CKS – Skopje	48
21	3	SOU Gjorce Petrov – Kriva Palanka	SEMOS – Skopje	72
22	3	SOU Goce Delcev – Valandovo	MATA – Skopje KOCKA – Skopje	40

QUESTIONNAIRE

For engagement and satisfaction level of students in preparation of grant application for Grant Program for enhancing the collaboration between the schools and business community within Skills Development and Innovation Support Project of the Ministry of education and science.

Note: Questionnaire is anonymous and is filled in by students engaged in implementation of project activities, by selecting one from given answers.

Date.....2019

1. **VET School Name** _____
2. **School's year :**
 second, third, fourth
3. **Gender**
 Male Female
4. **Have you been engaged in preparation of project idea for practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
5. **Are you satisfied with your engagement in project idea preparation for practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
6. **Have you been engaged in selection of topics for practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
7. **Are you satisfied with your engagement in selection of topics for practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
8. **Have you been engaged in selection of methods for implementation of practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
9. **Are you satisfied with your engagement in selection of methods for implementation of practical teaching/training for soft skills/real School Company that is implemented in your school, financed by Grant program?**
 YES NO
10. **Have you been engaged in any other form in any phase in preparation of application for Grant program ?**
 YES NO
11. **Are you satisfied with your engagement in any other form in any phase in preparation of application for Grant program ?**
 YES NO