

# IHOD Team Building Visit Tashkent Medical Academy

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*Meetings Dates: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019*

## **Attendees:**

- Prof. Mary Casey - IHOD Project Investigator, UCD
- Ms. Valerie Carbon - IHOD Project Administrator, UCD
- Prof. Mamatkulov Barhom - Doctor in Science, Medical Doctor, TMA
- Ms. Ilmira Urazalieva- Nursing, TMA
- Ms. Ramanova Diela Assistant of Public Health- Nursing, TMA
- Ms. Avezova - Associate Teacher, Medical Doctor, TMA
- Mr. Jakhongirkon Israilov – Head of International Department, TMA
- Ms. Lobar Tashpulatova – Volunteer Student Representative, TMA
- Ms. Aziza Ermetov - Volunteer Student Representative, TMA

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The meetings spread over two days and took place between the UCD representatives and the Tashkent Medical Academy (TMA) staff members working on the Erasmus+ IHOD project. The following summary provides a comprehensive description and observations on the current situation in TMA relating to the project's various aspects.

## Background information

- ✚ TMA is the only Public Health School in the country.
- ✚ Their Masters programme does not run on a credit system yet. It prepares specialists in Public Health and Health Administration, trains Professors and teachers, enhances qualification of teachers and staff.

### *Project Implementation*

- ✓ Tashkent Medical Academy has set up an IHOD Local Operational Committee (LOC). It is composed of 6 TMA's employees and 2 volunteer Master students and is chaired by Mr. Jakhongirkon Israilov. The full membership list is published on the IHOD Team Drive with the minutes of the first meeting. It was agreed that further meetings will be documented (protocol) and uploaded.
- ✓ Ms Carbon demonstrated the Google Drive tool and its content (Budget included) to Mr Israilov and created a dedicated file to host TMA's IHOD supporting documentation. Monthly meetings will take place and the file will be kept up to date.
- ✓ The penultimate draft of the Curriculum Document was reviewed by the LOC and the Rector, Mr. Laziz Tuychiev.
- ✓ IHOD will get exposure on TMA's website using the news feed was suggested, based around the mobility activities for content.
- ✓ The International Department confirmed the receipt of funds transferred by UCD for staff cost.
- ✓ A second choice on the equipment has been required to remain within budget.

### *Curriculum Development*

- ✓ A Master in Public Health has recently been agreed between Moscow Sechenov to have a programme as a double Master Programme in Uzbekistan and Russia with a credit system (120 credits). The first year in Tashkent, the second in Moscow. One part is online, but 6 students from TMA go to Russia. Another Double Degree has been agreed with Kazan.
  - 1- Collaboration with Sechenov University (Double Degree - MSc Business Administration in Health Care)
  - 2- Collaboration with Kazan Innovative University (MSc Innovation in Health Care)
- ✓ The team mentioned FINK as a curriculum development model. TMA does not use an evaluation model but a survey; all local modules have specified Learning Outcomes and use a standardised module template.
- ✓ Groups of students engage in discussions on topics such as Chronic Diseases and the importance of Diabetes.
- ✓ TMA uses local accreditation procedures and is thinking about using Bologna's next year.
- ✓ Next year Master Programme in Public Health in TMA will integrate 3 IHOD modules. The Master will be offered to 6 Medical students and 6 Nursing students. The 3 IHOD chosen modules are:
  - 1- Epidemiology & Chronic Disease
  - 2- Health Informatics and Global Health
  - 3- Person-Centred Care

- ✓ The participants on the teaching and learning activities are selected in terms of:
  - 1- Gender: trying to achieve a 50-50 balance (where possible)
  - 2- Age: bracket of 30 to 35 years old
  - 3- Experience: 5 years of teaching are required + Rector's decision
  - 4- Role within the HEI: Academic staff (teaching or non-teaching), International Department's staff and Master students
  
- ✓ The results of the project will be used locally as follow:
  - 1- MSc in Moscow
  - 2- MSc in Kazan
  - 3- MSc Public Health Administration & Health Care (every year)
  - 4- Person-Centred Care module could be implemented into the MSc Nursing

### *Impact at Individual Level*

- ✓ As a starting point, the Person-Centred Core Module will be inserted into 2 MSc: Public Health and Nursing. The current enrolment rate of students for the new module(s)/Masters programme is as follow:
  - 1- 6 students for the MSc Public Health and Healthcare
  - 2- 6 students for the MSc Nursing (3 more than last year)
  - 3- 15 students for the double MSc in Kazan
  - 4- 6 students for the double MSc in Moscow
  
- ✓ IHOD's contribution to the career development of the local HEI staff has been identified as bringing improvement in the skills, competence and confidence to those involved as well as developing collaboration with other HEIs. The publication of a book with partners in a research contest is also another side line outcome.
- ✓ The students taking up the IHOD modules expect to acquire some improved communication skills through the Person-Centred approach, some awareness of telemedicine skills through Health Care Informatics and from audio-visual prospect / integrated systems as opposed to written material only.
- ✓ It is observed at that stage in the project that some beneficial changes have occurred in the behaviour of the HEI staff. Teachers feel a new sense of responsibility with the first introduction of Curriculum Models and Person-Centred Care. Administration nursery will be taught in this field also.

### *Impact at Institutional Level*

- ✓ TMA is a leader organisation in the provision of Public Health programmes and has a quality of advisor to Bukhara State Medical Institute (BSMI). A programme was validated with new modules in partnership with Bukhara. It also distributes and links in with other medical universities in the country.
- ✓ IHOD facilitates a deeper understanding of modular system and credit system.
- ✓ The project is contributing to enhancing and improving the practice of the English language.

### *Impact on the HEI Sector*

- ✓ Following the presentation of the IHOD project to the Ministry of Health and in line with the President's willingness to open Uzbekistan to a more global and modern Health System, the ASPHER principles have been requested to be applied in view to reach accreditation by 2020 for the school of Public Health. Special requests were put in by the LOC to the project coordinator to emphasize that topic in the teaching and learning activities taking place in Tashkent in June/July 2019.
- ✓ Some of the project's outputs have an innovative character for TMA: the integration of 3 modules into the existing programme in MSc Public Health and the possibility to locally establish a new service in the Public Health Centre and to add/teach Person-Centred Care (PCC) in this area.
- ✓ IHOD is contributing to the development of links between TMA and the Nursing practice in Public Health Care and to the change in the medical culture with the introduction of PCC module. The use of Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases will help improving the health of the population and the social life as it puts the emphasis on the influence of these viewpoints.

### *Impact on the Society as a Whole*

- ✓ One of the spinoff of the project is the influence played on the social culture about prevention of diseases and chronic diseases like diabetes and cardiac diseases.
- ✓ As TMA establishes this module/programme, we could see the addition of new clinical placements for GPs and Nurses within 2 years.
- ✓ Most of the teaching being formal, some parts of the IHOD programme could be added to the Bachelor's and Medical College modules. Each organisation could teach their own expertise locally and increase their skills and models.

### *Sustainability*

- ✓ TMA's institutional support maintains the project development and results by allocating additional staff to the LOC and by giving a chance to participate in the project thus improving skills levels of the LOC's team. Finally, the experience acquired by working with EU partners has been valued by the Decree 4063 "Non communicable Disease and Increasing Physical Activity" declared by the President, where the government's policy now addresses non-communicable diseases and prevention, promotes healthy life style and physical activity.

- ✓ Down the line, the project will contribute to life-long learning by making available some resources for distant learning, online classes, making the programme available to GPs and students who cannot travel.

### *Partnership and Cooperation*

- ✓ Tashkent acted as a central point for interacting with Moscow, Kazan and Bukhara. TMA - Initiated meetings with them on IHOD Kick Off meeting in Hanoi. International Office started the discussions and invited these partners over.
- ✓ The LOC's members are self-motivated, enthusiast and have the ambition to up-skill. They are keen to learn new methods in relation to preventive medicine, modernised treatments and teaching strategies/curriculum models (Fink).
- ✓ Students' involvement in the project is demonstrated in the presentation that one of them gave after returning from the visit in Kaunas, Lithuania. She felt it added to her practise and decided to report on it. This presentation was also given to the EU representative during the field visit.
- ✓ The LOC's members feel that the project has increased the cooperation between universities and academic sectors.

### *Relevance*

- ✓ The presidential decree demonstrates the project relevance to the needs of Uzbekistan's Public Health and its target groups as it addresses local needs and population. TMA plans to work towards accreditation and the Bologna process for an Uzbek double degree at international level in 2020-2021.
- ✓ TMA wants to integrate more students and use informatics technology (Health Informatics).
- ✓ As an international programme, IHOD contributes to cross- cultural and social integration, gender equality and the development of Education.

### Conclusion

It was found that TMA's level of interest, engagement and commitment to the project is very high and that IHOD benefits from the full support at institutional level with the membership of senior teachers in and the rector in the LOC.

The use of the online shared workspace has been emphasised greatly and the coordinator requested to see evidence of the shared communication with Bukhara by means of recording team meetings' agendas and conclusions on the IHOD Team Drive. On a similar note, as part of the dissemination plan, TMA agreed to promote IHOD on their website and to communicate the links to the team via Google Drive.

The equipment was discussed and TMA will forward an updated detailed request to the project's manager.