

3rd SSAPI Project Review Meeting in Bhutan from 6th to 9th March 2024

The 4 days 3rd Strategic Support for Accreditation of Programs and Internationalization at South Asian Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) – SSAPI Project Review Meeting in Bhutan began on 6th March 2024 and ended on 9th March 2024. The Strategic Support for Accreditation of Programs and Internationalization at South Asian Higher Education Institutes, SSAPI is an EU co-funded Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project. The project has a consortium of 11 universities: 2 European and 9 Asian institutions, including 2 from Bhutan. The meeting brought together 23 participants from universities in Germany, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Pakistan, alongside 8 participants from Bhutan. The partner universities include:

1. Capital University of Science & Technology, Pakistan [**Lead/Project Coordinator**]
2. University of Evora, Portugal
3. University of Bremen, Germany
4. National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Pakistan
5. Riphah International University, Pakistan
6. Sri Lanka Technological Campus, Sri Lanka
7. University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
8. College of Science & Technology, Royal University of Bhutan (RUB), Bhutan
9. Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan (KGUMSB), Bhutan
10. Villa College, Maldives
11. Maldives National University, Maldives

This capacity-building project aims to support two programmes at RUB and one programme at KGUMSB in achieving international accreditation. The Bachelor of Engineering in Information Technology and Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering from the College of Science & Technology (CST)/RUB and Bachelor of Science in Nursing & Midwifery) from Faculty of Nursing & Public Health (FNPH)/KGUMSB are identified for developing accreditation document, one of key outcomes of the project for Bhutan. We have identified relevant accreditation agencies and developed draft Self-Assessment Reports for these programmes. These drafts are currently under review.

The opening ceremony was graced by the President of the KGUMSB, Vice Chancellor of RUB, Registrar, Directors, Deans and senior officials from both universities and Bhutan Qualification & Professional Certification Agency held at the Convention Hall of Royal University of Bhutan (RUB). The event was kicked-off with inaugural ceremony and concluded with hiking trip to the Tiger Nest-Paro Taktshang.

During the 4 days Project Progress Review Meeting, the participants,

1. Reviewed the project deliverables as per project proposal;
2. Reviewed the programme accreditation documents;
3. Reviewed the financial statement of each partner;
4. Experience sharing by Asian and EU partners; and
5. Discussed on future projects by the consortium

Some of the pictural report of the meeting:



1st Batch (Participants from Gemany, Portugal & Sri Lanka) Arrival Reception at Paro Airport



2nd Batch Arrival (Maldives & Pakistan) Reception at Paro Airport



Photo after Reception Tea on the Way to Thimphu from Paro Airport



Inagural Ceremony



Inaugural Ceremony of the Meeting – Offering Marchang



Presentation about SSAPI Project



Welcome Dinner





Presenting Bhutanese Cultural Show.





Hon'ble President, KGUMSB, Vice Chancellor, RUB and participants



Hiking to Taktshang, Paro.