

Country team (names, positions, email addresses, telephone numbers):

Names	Position	Email - address	Telephone numbers
Sokol Elshani	Expert on Help desk office of MEST Employment and Career Guidance expert	sokol_e@hotmail.com	Mob: +377(0)45-284411 ; +386(0)49-152181
Alush Istogu	Director of preuniversity department of Ministry of Education sciency and Technology	alush.istogu@ks-gov.net	00381(0)38212055, mobile 044-181743
Fetah Kasumi	Desk officer for secondary schools on MEST	fetahkosumi@hotmail.com	+377(0)44-166019,

Section 1	A brief outline of your country – demographics, population and career service provision – target groups and providers (maximum 300 words)
	<p>Geography Kosovo is situated in the central part of the Balkan. In the Southwest, it is bordered by Albania, in the West by Montenegro, in the North by Serbia and in the East and Southeast by Macedonia. Kosovo covers a surface area of approx. 10.900 km² and is characterized by an average altitude of 800 m above sea level. The lowest point of Kosovo is located at an elevation of 297 m and the highest point in the South, 2.565 m. Kosovo's strategic location is supported by a number of highways linking the country to its neighbors and the rest of Europe as well as access to major ports on the Adriatic and Black Sea coasts</p> <p>Demography About 2 million people are living in Kosovo 70% under the age of 35, or 50% aged 25 or younger, 49.9% female, and 50.1% male The majority of the population are Albanians 90%, 8% Serbs, 2% others (Croats, Roma, Turks and other).</p> <p>Labour market Principal industrial and business sectors are: Mining and energy, Agriculture, Food Processing, Livestock and Poultry, Vineyards, Tourism, Automotive components industry, Textiles, Construction, Information Technology and Telecommunications and Wood processing. Unemployment rate in a range of 37-41% The labor market is facing specific difficulties. Large businesses are in the process of privatization and have difficulties and in other hand small and medium businesses have rapidly development. Intensive preparations are underway to facilitate doing business in Kosovo.</p> <p>Education Kosovo system of education has been going through intensive transformation processes according to the current needs and EU requirements. In the school year 2010/2011 were registered 433.916 students in Primary and lower secondary schools and 41,833 students in Public University and approximately 10000 in other private college-universities.</p> <p>Main national career guidance services: Career education in 34 primary schools, career guidance offered by 6 youth centers and career guidance for unemployed offered by employment services</p>

Section 2	Taking each of the four general symposium themes (see below), describe the two greatest strengths and two greatest weaknesses relating to each theme in your country (maximum 100 words for each strength and weakness; therefore maximum 400 words per theme and maximum 1,600 words in this section).	
Theme 1: Political, economic and social changes and the changing role of career guidance and career guidance policies		
Strength 1	Weakness 1	
New curriculum framework is committed by Minister of Education Science and Technology. On new educational curriculum framework, career education is included in the section Life and Work.	Impact from political change, the existing 10 year strategy for career guidance which was drafted in 2007 is overlooked.	
Strength 2	Weakness 2	
Pre university law for education is approved on August 2011.	Lack of functional cooperation between institutions operating in the field of career (schools, Employment offices, youth organizations, resource centers, departments etc.	

Theme 2: Lifelong guidance policy as a part of integrated human resource development policies – challenges and opportunities		
Strength 1	Weakness 1	
Is developed and approved Kosovo Education Strategic Plan 2011 - 2016 (KESP), 5 year plan which interlinked lifelong education with overall inclusion on education and a new model of education to be offered to all students and to create base for equal education to all.	Lack of career guidance profiles in universities of Kosovo. This subject is not included also in Education Faculty.	
Strength 2	Weakness 2	
Support of IOM in migration area creates a base for career guidance for migrants. There are in disposition different programs for career improvement of migrants.	Lack of infrastructure, tools, proper equipment and funds	

Theme 3: The changing world and the changing role of career guidance – skills and competencies for lifelong guidance practitioners

Strength 1	Weakness 1
There are various programs offered to the employment career counsellors in work with unemployed jobseekers and career education training to the teachers and youth leaders	The most of practitioners from Employment offices, most of the career education school teachers and youth centers need additional training and support for development of quality tools for them.
Strength 2	Weakness 2
Some tools are developed for the practitioners to support students, youth and other	The lack of institutional budget support for career guidance. There is no budget line to maintain and increase career guidance issues. There is no policy which regulates career guidance issue in the Country level.

Theme 4: Evidence-based practice; evidence-based policies

Strength 1	Weakness 1
Career education process in schools is ongoing. Last two year learning tool of Career education in pilot school is updated. To pilot schools were distributed portfolios for students	Although career education is started to be implemented in lower secondary education, most of the schools are not involved in it due to lack of trained teachers.
Strength 2	Weakness 2
Career guidance offered to youth and unemployed. With donors support Employment action plan is developed. This plan is a part of career guidance tool used for Jobseeker. Portfolio is also used by youth in youth centers.	There is no sufficient coordination between schools, employment offices, employers and youth centers.

Section 3	Looking at the themes, prioritise them according to the most important ones for your country team to explore further and learn about at the symposium. (1 = most important – 4 = least important)
Political, economic and social changes and the changing role of career guidance and career guidance policies	Priority 3
Lifelong guidance policy as a part of integrated human resource development policies – challenges and opportunities	Priority 1
The changing world and the changing role of career guidance – skills and competencies for lifelong guidance practitioners	Priority 2
Evidence-based practice; evidence-based policies	Priority 4

Section 4	Thinking about the themes, describe up to three high-level key public policy and/or practice initiatives currently being advanced or considered in your country (write no more than 100 words on each). If it is possible, please say to which of the themes each initiative is most closely linked.
High-level key public policy/practice initiative 1	
Ministry of education is in process of reforming all curricula for education. Career education in new curriculum framework takes place with life skills. Career education is included in elective subject.	
Linked most closely to Theme 1 Political, economic and social changes and the changing role of career guidance and career guidance policies	
High-level key public policy/practice initiative 2	
The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare has made a lot of activities on capacity-building of employment offices. These especially are developed career guidance skills of the employment advisors (career counsellors), and as a result career guidance process support to the job seeker is improved.	
Linked most closely to Theme 3 The changing world and the changing role of career guidance – skills and competencies for lifelong guidance practitioners	
High-level key public policy/practice initiative 3	
Career education in schools, as a elective subject in basic education grade 8 and 9 is started. Career resource centres are established in universities and supporting students, Some schools have some symbolic capacities for career guidance; Counselling services for young people have started to operate in some youth centres	
Linked most closely to Theme 4 Evidence-based practice; evidence-based policies	

Section 5	Future Focus – what are the key elements of your team’s overall vision for career policy, practice and research in your country? (write no more than 30 words).
Sustainability of career guidance services, creation of legal base and connection with government institutions.	