

# *ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT*

## *FM14-21*

Czech Republic

CZ-EDUCATION Education

2022

## A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, the programme CZ-EDUCATION has been progressing well. All the calls were closed and all the selected projects were contracted. In total, 107 projects, each with partners from the Donor States, were approved.

In June 2022, the second amendment to the Programme Agreement was approved which enabled the reallocation of the project savings. The overall contracting rate has thus reached 100% of the total budget.

Even though the year 2022 brought a significant improvement in the pandemic situation, some obstacles remained. Firstly, it was travel restrictions on local or institutional levels in the donor states. Secondly, project coordinators and participants struggled with other commitments that could not have been fulfilled earlier due to the pandemic. They were overloaded with responsibilities and lacked the capacity to implement all the project activities they originally planned for. In addition, the war against Ukraine began in 2022 which brought with it the fear of travelling to/from the Czech Republic. Therefore, the PO approved project extensions in well-justified cases to provide these projects with extra time for implementation and better budget absorption.

Nevertheless, about 60% of the projects were completed (mainly under the Outcomes 2 and 3) and the vast majority of the outputs indicators was achieved already by the end of 2022. The programme supported 436 student and 224 staff mobilities, 24 joint intellectual outputs were developed, five partnerships established following the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) requirements and 64 teachers were trained on inclusive education (including the Roma inclusion). Through the four Outcomes, the programme has been contributing to the programme objective of enhanced human capital and knowledge base in the Czech Republic. The majority of the projects under Outcomes 1 and 4 is still under implementation.

With the support of the bilateral ambitions fund, a two-day study trip was organised for representatives of the Czech regional authorities which helped them learn about the system of dual vocational education and training in Liechtenstein.

The EEA Grants and the Programme CZ-EDUCATION were presented at eight events, such as conferences, education fairs and seminars. The Programme operator organised nine seminars for potential and actual beneficiaries and for the public and published 15 social media posts and nine articles. The project “Language Plurality: promoting small languages and their cultures” coordinated by Charles University received the European Language Label 2022.

The overall risk of the programme has decreased to level 1, because more than a half of the projects have been successfully completed and several indicators have already been met.