**Suggested Project for Tempus program**

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| **Seeking grant holder** & to **develop the proposal jointly** | Yes  No |

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| **Proposed Project Name** | **Green Skills Development Program for Engineering Professionals in Public Administration** |
| **Importance of the project** | Environmental Protection became an urgent need in Palestine, as well around the world, given the deteriorating economy, the natural and political restrictions imposed on access to natural resources. This project seeks to identify and bridge the green skills gap required, exploiting opportunities to move to greener and more environmentally responsible public authorities in Palestine.  Coordinating with relevant stakeholders, the project will consist of a well-designed capacity building program of engineering professionals working in different public services providers in Palestine to mainstream environmental responsibility and protection in public authorities in Palestine, including areas like, but not limited to, increasing the use of local and recycled construction materials, increasing energy‐efficiency of buildings, adopting renewable energy sources, increasing water efficiency through the use of rainwater, desalination and greywater recycling, introducing recycling and reuse of solid waste. |
| **Type of the project** | Joint Project  Structural Measures |
| **Type of Partnership** | National Project  Multi-Country project |
| **Suggested local partners** | 1. Birzeit University - Ramallah 2. Palestine Polytechnic University – Hebron 3. Al Quds University |
| **Project Theme** | Curricular Reform  Governance Reform  Higher Education and Society |
| **The problem** | The pervasive environmental challenges like climate change, environment degradation, pollution, water scarcity…etc, have already changes the skills profile required for many jobs at different levels and in different economic sectors everywhere in the World. Efforts to tackle climate change, as one example, have created millions of “green jobs” around the world, not only in fields of de-carbonizing the economy, but also in dealing with the implications of climate change on different sectors.  The rationale for green growth and clean development has mostly been presented as a win-win situation for the environment and for economic development.  Given the ever-growing concerns of environmental degradation around the world, Palestine is facing an even more rapid deterioration of the environment and natural resources. Water scarcity and the growing demand of energy sources combined with one of the fastest growing populations in the region, are calling for an urgent act towards environmental protection in Palestine.  Services providing is by far the largest economic sector in Palestine, with most of the services provided by public authorities. This fact poses a huge environmental responsibility on the public administration, a reasonability rarely taken, given the lack of human and physical capacities in this field. Ministries, municipalities and local authorities’ staff do not integrate proactive environmental protection practices into their process management in different fields of application. This needs to be addressed in order to achieve a minimum level of environmental responsibility and help widening the scope of its application to a wider range of economic sectors and local communities. |
| **Specific Objectives** | 1. Increase the engineering professionals’ awareness of current global and national environmental challenges and the available green technologies. 2. Identify the required green skills for more responsible public administration. 3. Enhance existing green skills and build new skills required for engineering professionals in public authorities. 4. Provide required technology tools for greener public administration in Palestine. 5. Cooperate with economy players to mainstream green jobs. 6. Cooperate with local universities and training systems to integrate green skills in curricula. |