

Workpackage N1 -

Setting up Innovative Multidisciplinary centres for the development of virtual laboratories in Biology and Medicine (IMCDVL)

Related assumption and risks (max 400 characters)

There is great enthusiasm and support at SCUs for the development of IMCDVLs, and there is a strong background built through previous Tempus projects. This is, particularly important with regard to IT-based distance learning technologies which should minimize the risks of failure to implement the tasks in the project. Possible risks may include managerial failure which is highly unlikely.

Description of workpackage (Max. 2000 characters)

Innovative Multidisciplinary centres for the development of virtual laboratories in Biology and Medicine (IMCDVL) will be set up in each participating Southern Caucasian University (SCU) with the regional center at TSU affiliated to the Caucasian Regional Training Center (CRITC) founded during a previous Tempus JEP.

Each Centre will be led by a Head and 3 groups of team-members:

I. Innovative Technology/Research Group will include IT specialists and PhD students from Applied Mathematics and IT Departments. The aim of this group will be to create virtual simulations that will also contribute to PhD projects.

II. Theoretical/Educational Group will include academics with appropriate biomedical background. The aim of this group will be to establish the academic content for the virtual simulations developed by Group I.

III. Business Development Group will include a consultant from the National Intellectual Property (IP) Center and a mixed group of IT specialists and academics. The aim of the group will be IP support, marketing and advertising of the end-product.

This workpackage will be implemented in two stages:

1. Defining team members for each group;
2. Legalisation of IMCDVLs as a separate unit with its own bank sub-account in each SCU.

This will be followed by equipping IMCDVLs with appropriate computers and software (WP2) and intensive training at EU partner universities for SCU staff (WP3).

Each IMCDVL can be represented as a triangle with the tips occupied by the three Groups. All 6 IMCDVLs from Southern Caucasus will be integrated making a SC triangular network. In each of the SC countries there will be a triangle of National Consortium members: for each country – 2 different universities and a National Intellectual Property Center. The EU country triangle will be helping to establish a sustainable knowledge-triangle based on IMCDVLs in SCU(see Introduction).

The implementation of this workpackage will last during months 1-24 of the project.