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PUBMET2019

The 6th conference on scholarly publishing in the context of open science.

Development of the (National) Database of Project Activities in Science and Higher Education in the Republic of Croatia



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Incentives and motivation

Incentives on European and global level

- Openness
- Sharing
- Connecting
- Data value

Motivation:

 business and private desire to contribute to the development of tools that will provide better information on the education and science system in Croatia

Agency for Science and Higher Education - ASHE

- government institution established in 2005
- ensuring quality assurance in Higher education and Science in Croatia

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- •Quality Assurance (QA) Role external evaluations in HE and Science
 - Re-accreditation of HEIs / scientific institutes *
 - Initial accreditation (programme/institutional)
 - Thematic evaluation
 - Audit (evaluation of the internal QA system at HEIs)
- •Collecting and analysing data about research and higher education activities
- •National ENIC/NARIC Office -> Recognition of foreign HE qualifications
- •Central Applications Office -> National information centre for applications to study programmes at the HE institutions
- Support to various councils and committees
 - National Council for Higher Education, National Council for Science, Council for Financing Scientific Activity and Higher Education, Ethics Committee in Science and Higher Education, Area Councils, Scientific Field Committees, Humanities and Arts Committees and expert panels
- International activities as member of European and global QA associations and Networks
 - ENQA, EQAR, ECA, CEENQA, INQAAHE, CHEA, IREG, EMREX...

Croatian specifics of QA in HE & Science

ALL Croatian Universities (and its constituents with legal rights - Faculties) are at the same time teaching and research institutions, thus having:

Licence for Performing Higher Education Activity
-> minimum criteria defined by Ordinance on the Content of a Licence and Conditions for Issuing a Licence for Performing Higher Education Activity, Carrying out a Study Programme and Re-Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions (Official Gazette, 24/10)

Licence for Performing Scientific Activity

-> minimum criteria defined by Ordinance on the Content of a Licence and Conditions for Issuing a Licence for Performing Scientific Activity and Re-Accreditation of Scientific Institutions (Official Gazette, 83/10)

QA evaluations -> in line with European standards and guidelines for QA in HE (ESG)

Reaccreditation of HEIs (minimum criteria are checked):

Evaluation of the Teaching/Higher Education Activity -> criteria in line with the ESG + Ordinance

Evaluation of the Research/Scientific Activity -> additional criteria (not regulated by ESG -> national criteria + Ordinance)



(IT) Sources of data on HE and Science in QA evaluations

MOZVAG – ASHE's information system for collecting data on HE and Science for the purpose of QA evaluations

- study programmes
- staff (teaching/non-teaching)
- resources (human/financial)
- institution's activities (research, mobility, PROJECTS)
- mandatory for all HEIs

ISVU – Information system of HEIs

- financed by Ministry of education
- · managed by Croatian University Computing Centre Srce
- used by 85% HEIs
- <u>not mandatory</u>

CROSBI - Croatian Scientific Bibliography

- managed by Centre for Scientific Information at Ruder Bošković Institute (CSI-RBI)
- partially-mandatory

HEIs own databases on their resources and activities

In the (near) future:

Database of Project Activities in Science and Higher Education



RE-ACCREDITATION DOCUMENTATION

ANALYTIC SUPPLEMENT TO SELF-EVALUATION REPORT

Report based on MOZVAG data

Self-	
evaluation	
document	
prepared	
by HEI	

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Existing options for data input into MOZVAG:

- manual input into MOZVAG
- from ISVU (API)
- from CROSBI (API)

Potential future source

- for data on project activities:

Database of Project Activities in Science and Higher Education

Development and upgrade of PA database

The eternal question: HOW TO IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION? CHALLENGE for ASHE (not a problem!)

- to ensure verified and consistent data on project activities of Croatian institutions that are being evaluated
- more efficient collection of data

Desired solution: OPTIMIZATION and INTEROPERABILITY of existing IT sources

Desk-research findings:

 non existing <u>systematic</u> monitoring and recording of data on project activities of the institutions in the S&HE <u>at the national level</u>

Possible solution:

- upgrade of already existing CSI-RBI database on scientific project activities in Croatia
 - developed by CSI-RBI in 2016
 - upgraded in 2019 through cooperation of CSI-IRB and Department of Analytics and Statistics at ASHE through SKAZVO EU funded project

Problems with existing data on project activities

- various different sources
 - ministries, statistics bureau, HE institutions, Croatian Science Foundation ...
- there is very little interconnectivity or data exchange
- verification of data
- user friendly IT tool
- common understanding of data
 - Difference between research and professional projects?
 - Different roles in the project (institution/persons)
 - Defining funding and funder

-> DATA MANAGEMENT

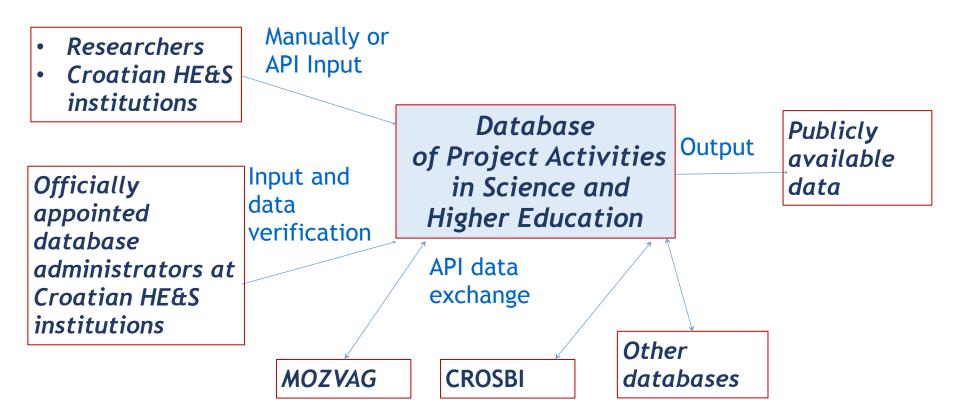


Upgrade of existing CSI-IRB database

- expanding the input base for all types of projects, not just scientific ones
- describing projects with as many categories and variables as possible, opposing to dividing them into 2 categories: scientific / professional projects
- harmonization of terminology used for description of data
- determining required data fields



How it should work?



Croatian HE&S institutions -> all institutions from the official Register of institutions in the system of HE and Science in Croatia, managed by Ministry of Science and Education



Info about project

Home Search/Filter Full list Terms of use

New project

Basic info about project

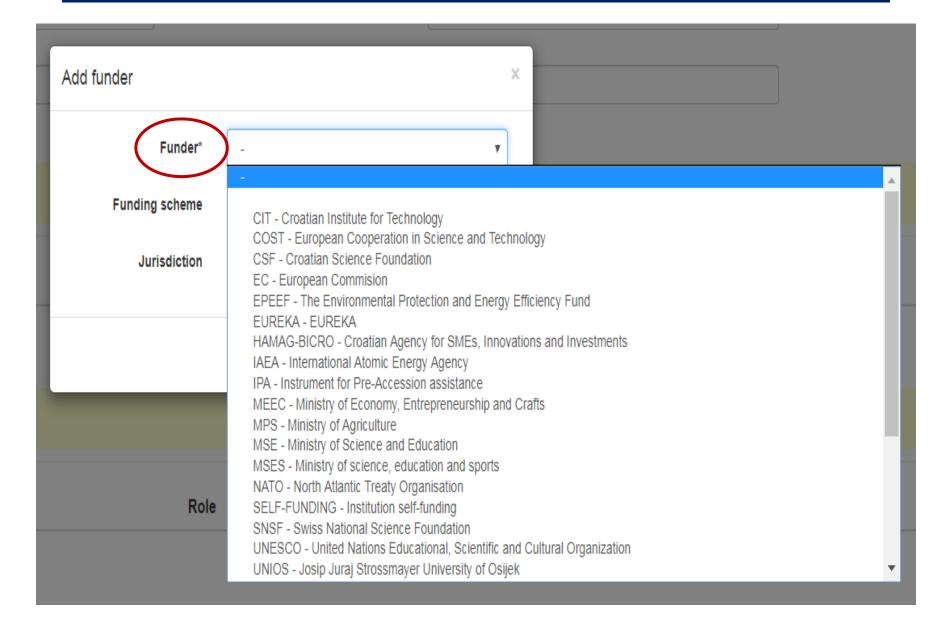
Title*		HR		EN	
Description					
Keywords					
Acronym					
Project ID*					
Project type*	Scientific - research	Professional projects	Human capacity building	○ Infrastructural	
Funding type*	Project funding	Commercial service	Directly assigned non-re	fundable funds Own-source funding	
Call					
Total cost			Currency	Choose currency	•

Info about project

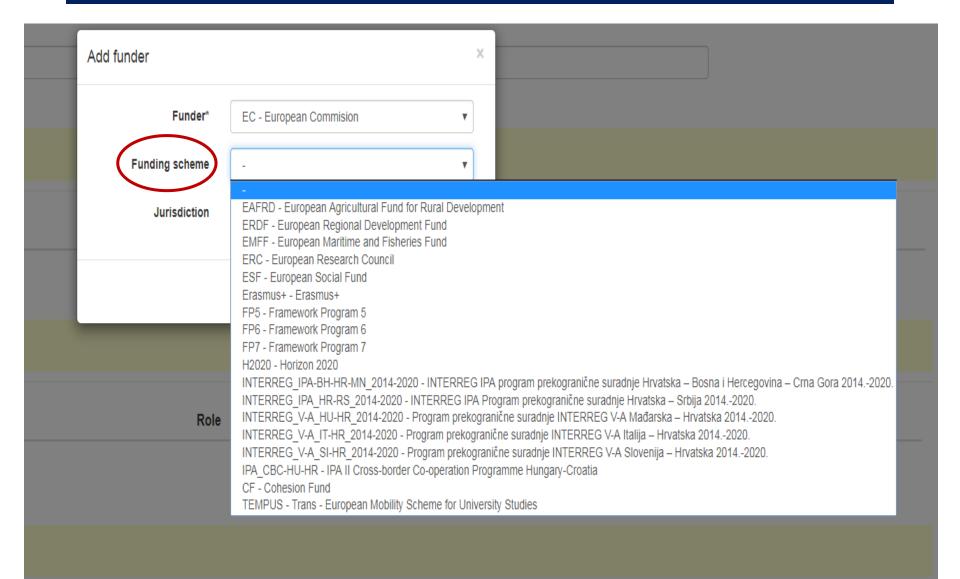
Funder info					
Action	Funder	Funding scheme		Jurisdiction	
Add funder					
Institutions in project	t				
Action	Name/title	Role	Amount	From - to	
Add institution					
Participants in proje	ct				
Action	Name	Role		From - to	
Add person					
	☐ Approve project (it will be available for public and search)				

Save project

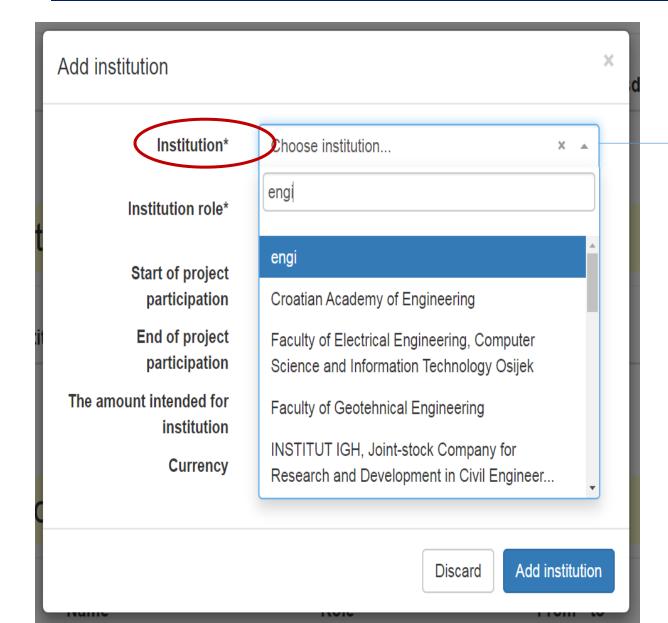
Adding funder



Adding funder

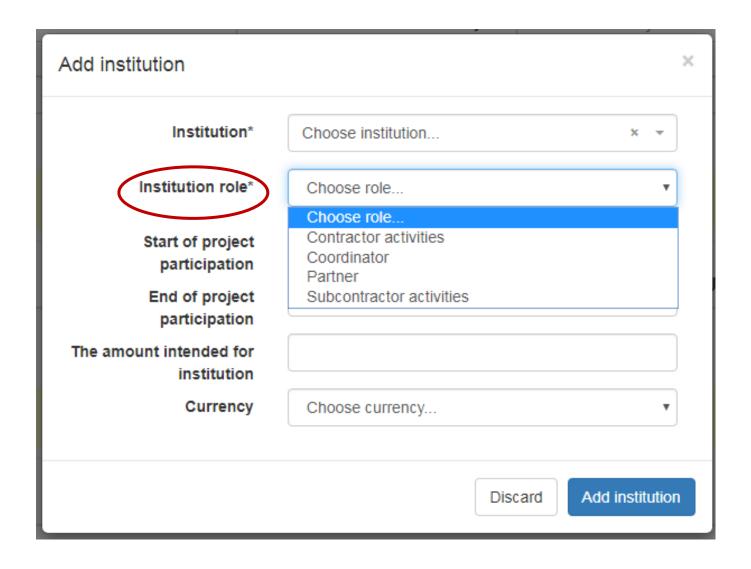


Adding institution

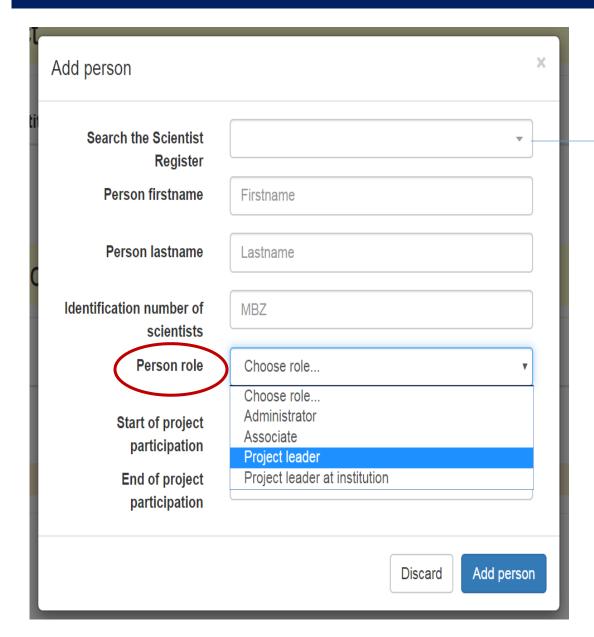


Institutions from official register of HE and Science institutions (Ministry of Science and Education)

Adding institution's role in the project



Adding person(s) to project



Data from the official Register of scientists in Croatia (Ministry of Science and Education)

Marketing the database

- PROVIDING SOLUTION
- MOTIVATIING USERS
 - carrot vs. stick approach
- PROVIDING POSSIBILITIES
 - re-use of data/reports

How shoud we call it?

Proposed potential future database acronyms

...depending on the final result

PASHE
-> paše (eng. it fits)

-> šepa (eng. it limps)

Project

Activities in

Science and

Higher

Education

Science and

Higher

Education

Project

Activities

Other current national initiatives towards optimization of data collecting

Ministry of Science and Education

 CroRIS - information management system on scientific activities - development and production within the outgoing project "Scientific and Technological Prediction", carried out by the Ministry together with Srce and expert panels



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Thank you for your attention.

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