

Universitetet i Bergen - UiB  
Postboks 7800  
5020 BERGEN



Ane Landøy

*Our ref:*  
17/00993-4

*Your ref:*

*Date:*  
19.12.2017

## **Signed contract – Eurasia 2017 CPEA-ST-10055**

The Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU) refers to your application for Eurasia 2017 CPEA-ST-10055.

Please find enclosed a signed copy of the contract.

Pursuant to Article D.1 of the contract, SIU will pay 80% of the grant into the bank account specified in the contract within 45 days of receiving the signed contract. The remaining 20% will be transferred within 60 days of the final report and accounts being received and approved by SIU.

### **Reporting**

Pursuant to Article D.2 of the contract, you must submit an annual report and a final report during the course of the project period. Read more about the reporting requirements at [siu.no](http://siu.no).

### **Further information**

Further information about the Eurasia Programme is available on our website [www.siu.no](http://www.siu.no). Please quote the project number when you contact SIU.

We look forward to cooperating with you and wish you good luck with the implementation of the project.



NORWEGIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN EDUCATION

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Yours sincerely

Else Kathrine Nesmoen  
Head of Department

Benedicte Einarsen  
Adviser

*The document is digitally signed and has no signatures.*

Attachments:  
Signed contract CPEA-ST-10055

18 DES 2017

**Eurasia 2017 - Two-year funding****Project document****Project identification****Project number** CPEA-ST/10055**Project title** Developing a sustainable platform for open access publishing in Armenia**CONTRACT****Special conditions****A. CONTRACTING PARTIES**

This contract is entered into by and between;

The Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education, with organisation number 986 339 523 (hereinafter referred to as "SIU"); and

University of Bergen with organisation number 874789542

(hereinafter referred to as the "Institution in Norway" or "IiN")

**B. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AND RULES OF INTERPRETATION**

The Contract consists of these Special Conditions, the General Conditions and the Project Document. If there is a conflict between provisions in the Contract, the Special Conditions shall prevail over the General Conditions, and the General Conditions over the Project Document.

**C. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION FROM SIU**

In pursuance of (a) the Norwegian Cooperation Programme in Higher Education with Eurasia (the «Programme»), established through "Avtale om forvaltning av tilskuddsmidler og samarbeid mellom Utenriksdepartementet og Senter for internasjonalisering av utdanning (SIU) i perioden 2015-2020" (the «Programme Document»), and (b) the approval of the Project made by the committee authorized to allocate funds under the Programme Document, SIU hereby undertakes – on the terms and conditions set out herein this Contract – to make the following financial contribution (the «Funds») to the Institution in Norway in respect of the Project:

**NOK** 275240

**Payment schedule**

The Funds will be paid to the Institution in Norway in accordance with the schedule set out in Article D.1.

**D. PROGRAMME AND PROJECT SPECIFIC PROVISIONS**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Contract, the following specific provisions shall apply:

**D.1 Disbursement of the Funds**

SIU shall as soon as possible and latest within 45 days after receipt of a duly signed and dated copy of the Contract, pay out 80 percent of the amount budgeted for the Project. The remaining portion of the Funds shall be paid out upon approval of the final project report and the final accounts for the Project. The final amount payable by SIU shall be in accordance with the final accounts, as approved by SIU. Surplus parts of the Funds, if any, will be retained by SIU. SIU's decisions with regard to approval or otherwise of the final project report and accounts shall be final.

**D.2. Reporting obligations**

The Institution in Norway shall within **1 March 2019** provide SIU with an annual report for the Project implementation in 2018, including updated accounts, and a description of the progress of ongoing/ planned project activities and any anticipated obstacles going forward. Upon finalisation of the Project, the Institution in Norway shall without undue delay, and latest within **1 March 2020**, provide SIU with a final project report containing final accounts for the Project, and a description of the Project Results

together with an assessment of the overall success of the Project. The Institution in Norway must, to the extent necessary, consult all involved partners in order to prepare complete reports. The reports shall be delivered via SIU's online system Espresso.

### **D.3 Programme specific provisions**

None.

### **D.4 Project specific provisions**

None.

## **General conditions**

### **General conditions**

#### **Article 1 - Definitions**

Subject to specific definitions made in the Special Conditions, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them below:

**Auditor General:** The Office of the Auditor General of Norway ([www.riksrevisjonen.no](http://www.riksrevisjonen.no)).

**Force Majeure:** A hindrance outside a party's control which is partly or wholly preventing it from performing its obligations under the Contract, and which could not reasonably have been foreseen or overcome.

**Project:** The project described in the Project Document.

**Project Coordinator:** The person designated as such in Section A.1 and A.2 of the Project Description.

**Project Description:** The information set out in Sections A – E.

**Project Results:** All results produced or achieved through the Project and capable of being protected under any intellectual property law, regardless of their form, nature and localization.

#### **Article 2 - Project administration**

The Institution in Norway shall make its utmost efforts to ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Project Document, and proactively seek to formalize and coordinate project activities with all involved personnel and partners. The Project Coordinator shall ensure that all notification and reporting obligations set out herein are duly complied with.

The Institution in Norway shall ensure **(a)** that the implementation of the Project comply with all applicable statutes, laws and regulations in force or entering into force in the project period, as well as recognised norms for good project governance; and **(b)** that adequate steps shall at all times be taken to prevent/mitigate risk of irregularities, corruption and/or other unethical practices, in compliance with the «Guidelines for handling irregularities» (accessible on SIU's webpage).

The Institution in Norway warrants that the Funds (including any interest earned thereon) will be used exclusively for the purposes of implementing the Project, and that the project management will establish appropriate procedures for managing the Project's financial aspects (budgeting, accounting, reporting, etc.).

### **Article 3 - Disbursement, transfers and reservations**

All disbursement obligations on part of SIU are subject to SIU's receipt of the allocation made under the Programme and any instructions from the entity/ies ultimately funding the Programme.

SIU shall be notified without delay if the Project is likely to receive grants or other similar funding from other public or private persons/entities. If such alternative funding results in a reduction of the own share of the Institution in Norway or its partners receiving a part of the Funds in the Project, SIU may reduce the Funds accordingly. The Institution in Norway shall be consulted before any such reductions are made.

If, after the Project has been completed, there exist any unused part of the Funds, such amount shall be repaid to SIU according to invoice. If the Funds are insufficient to ensure due completion of the Project, the Institution in Norway shall pay the amount necessary to complete the Project.

SIU accepts no liability for loss due to unfavorable exchange rates, errors in banking details provided, or adverse tax implications, and SIU will not cover any bank related costs/charges. Return of funds to SIU shall be made in the same currency as the disbursement from SIU.

### **Article 4 - Accounting, verification and audits**

The Institution in Norway shall keep a separate project account for the Project, specifying the actual income and costs in the Project. The project account shall be kept current and in all respects be compliant with internationally recognised accounting principles, and form part of the Institution in Norway's formal accounts.

SIU and the Auditor General shall be entitled at any time to verify that the Funds are being applied in accordance with the Contract, and shall upon request be forthwith presented with receipts, time sheets, calculations and any other relevant documentary evidence necessary to carry out such verifications, and be allowed to inspect the progression of project activities and results. SIU reserves the right to carry out random audit checks without any prior notice.

### **Article 5 - Reporting**

If SIU at any time finds the reporting obligations set out in Article D.2 insufficient to meet SIU's needs for information regarding the Project, SIU may amend the reporting obligation to meet such needs. Such amendments shall be notified well in advance and not be unreasonable.

Unless otherwise specified, all reporting pursuant to the Contract shall be made through SIU's online system "Espresso" (<http://espresso.siu.no>). All reporting on budgets and accounts shall be made in the same currency as the Funds.

### **Article 6 - Transfer of a part of the Funds to third parties**

Insofar necessary in order to implement the Project, the Institution in Norway may transfer parts of the Funds to other institutions in Norway or abroad.

The Institution in Norway must ensure that the recipients of such transfers undertake to provide it with sufficient documentation to comply with its accounting and reporting obligations under this Contract.

Except from scholarships paid out to students in pursuance of the Project, salaries to personnel at the Institution in Norway and other amounts customarily paid out directly to personnel involved in such

projects (e.g. per diem and the like), no part of the Funds may be transferred directly to any private person in Norway or abroad without SIU's prior written consent.

#### **Article 7 - Liabilities and indemnifications**

SIU's legal and financial responsibility in respect of the Project is strictly limited to its obligation to disburse the Funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract.

The Institution in Norway shall keep SIU fully indemnified from all risk, liabilities, claims, proceedings and any other adverse or potentially adverse effects whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the Project and/or the personnel/partners involved.

#### **Article 8 - Use, publication and protection of Project Results**

Unless otherwise agreed, the Institution in Norway shall publish the Project Results without undue delay after completion, and the Project Results shall thereafter remain available to the public on reasonable terms. Insofar necessary to secure such public access to the Project Results, SIU shall enjoy a royalty-free, non-exclusive, non-commercial right to translate, reproduce and distribute the Project Results, subject only to payment of costs necessary to facilitate such use.

Presentations of the Project and/or the Project Results to the public shall mention that the Project is funded by SIU and the relevant ministry under the Programme. Presentation to the public includes any presentation in any form to any part of the public.

#### **Article 9 - Transfer of rights and use of sub-contractors**

The Institution in Norway may not transfer, mortgage or otherwise pledge any of its rights and/or obligations under the Contract, without the prior written consent of SIU. The use of sub-contractors does not release the Institution in Norway from its obligations under the Contract, and sub-contractors may not be granted any form of entitlement to Project Results. Transfer of rights relating to the Project Results shall not prejudice SIU's rights pursuant to Article 8.

#### **Article 10 - Deviations from the Project Document**

Significant deviations from the project implementation procedure set out in the Project Document shall be forthwith notified to SIU in writing, and may not be deferred to the annual progress report. A deviation shall be considered significant (a) if it is likely to have an adverse effect > 20 per cent on the Project's yearly budget or progress; (b) if it involves changes to the Project management (hereunder the Project Coordinator or central academic personnel) in the Institution in Norway or any of its partner(s); or (c) if the deviation leads to any other major changes in the Project's implementation as set out in the Project Document (e.g. cancellation or considerable alteration of central project activities, damage or loss of key infrastructure, etc.).

The notice to SIU shall describe the deviation(s) and set out which measures have been/will be implemented to avoid/mitigate its effects and the prospect of such measures' success. Upon receipt of the notice, SIU will assess which impact the deviation(s) shall have on the Contract. Until SIU has responded, the Institution in Norway shall refrain from major financial dispositions in relation to the Project (e.g. payout to partners, accept comprehensive obligations, etc.) and to the extent possible seek to impose the same restriction on its partner(s).

If the deviation is remediable, SIU shall provide the Institution in Norway with a reasonable number of days to either remedy the deviation (grace period), or propose an amendment to the Project Document which mitigates its prejudicing effects or is otherwise agreeable. If the deviation is not remedied within the grace period, and no reasonable amendment of the Project Document is made available, SIU may discontinue its funding of the Project and instruct the Institution in Norway to immediately repay, and



seek repaid from its partner(s), any unused part of the Funds. The Institution in Norway and its partner(s) shall be duly consulted before such discontinuation.

#### **Article 11 - Breach of the Contract**

Upon anticipated or occurred breach of the Contract, or reasonable suspicion thereof, SIU may wholly or partly suspend its disbursement of the Funds, and instruct the Institution in Norway to immediately (a) suspend the use of any part of the Funds already paid out to it, and (b) seek suspended the use of any part of the Funds paid out to its partner(s). Such instructions shall be confirmed in writing without undue delay.

The Institution in Norway shall always be provided with a reasonable number of days to rectify a breach (grace period). If the breach has not been rectified within the grace period, SIU may terminate the Contract and instruct the Institution in Norway to immediately repay, and seek repaid from its partner(s), any unused part of the Funds.

If the breach is substantial, SIU may instruct the Institution in Norway to immediately (a) repay, and seek repaid from its partner(s), any part of the Funds (whether used or not); and (b) transfer, and seek transferred from its partner(s), all rights to the Project Results and infrastructure primarily paid for by the Funds. Substantial breach includes, but is not limited to, (i) any act of fraud, corruption or other unethical practice by the Institution in Norway, its personnel or partner(s); (ii) anticipated or actual bankruptcy, dissolution or other winding up of the Institution in Norway or its partner(s); (iii) transfer of majority ownership and/or control in the Institution in Norway to an entity having jurisdiction outside the EEA; (iv) failure to abide by the rules referred to in Article 2; (v) failure to exclusively use the Funds on the Project in accordance with Article 2; (vi) failure to comply with audit requests in accordance with Article 4; (vii) failure to report to SIU in accordance with Article 5; (viii) breach of Article 6; (ix) failure to notify SIU of significant deviations in accordance with Article 10; and (x) any other substantial and continued failure to perform obligations under the Contract.

#### **Article 12 - Force Majeure**

If a breach of the Contract or a significant deviation from the Project Document is resulting solely from Force Majeure, the sanctions set out in Articles 10 and 11 may not be used.

If, however, the Force Majeure results in a situation where it is unlikely that the Project may be completed in accordance with the Project Document, or in any other reasonable way yielding similar results to those sought achieved in the Project, SIU may discontinue its funding of the Project and instruct the Institution in Norway to immediately repay, and seek repaid from its partner(s), any unused part of the Funds. The Institution in Norway and its partner(s) shall be duly consulted before such discontinuation.

#### **Article 13 - Miscellaneous provisions**

SIU generally reserves the right to invoke any rights and remedies it may have under Norwegian law.

Failure to exercise, or any delay in exercising, any right or remedy under the Contract or any applicable law, shall not in any way constitute a waiver of that or any other right or remedy, and no single or partial exercise of any such rights or remedies shall preclude or restrict the further exercise of such rights or remedies.

Any decision made by SIU in pursuance of Articles 10, 11 and 12 shall be deemed final. Such decisions may only be challenged through the procedure for settlement of disputes in Article 14.

This Contract does not confer any rights or remedies on third parties.

#### Article 14 - Settlement of disputes

The Contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with Norwegian law. Any dispute arising out of or in connection with the Contract shall be sought resolved amicably. If the dispute cannot be resolved amicably, the Norwegian ministry (or such other entity) in charge of the Programme shall have absolute discretion to resolve the matter.

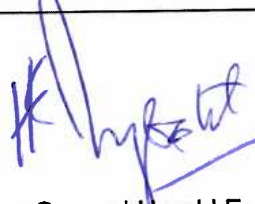
#### Bank information

##### Bank details

**Bank name** DNB  
**Bank address** Dronning Eufemias gate 30, 0191 OSLO  
**Bank account holder** Universitet i Bergen  
**Bank account number** 76940500857  
**Payment reference** UB 812085

#### Signatures

##### Signature - Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU)

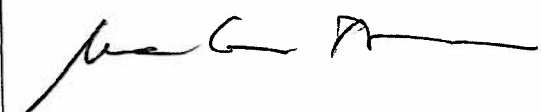
|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Date:<br>18/12/17 | Signature:<br> |
| Position:         | Director General Harald E. Nybølet  |

##### Signature - Institution in Norway

###### Legal representative, print name and title

Maria Carme Torras, Library director

###### Legal representative, signature

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Date:<br>12.12.17             | Signature:<br> |
| Position:<br>LIBRARY DIRECTOR |  |

#### A - Partnership information

##### A.1 Main partner institution in Norway

###### A.1.1 Main partner institution in Norway (liN)

University of Bergen (NO-UiB)

###### A.1.2 Department (liN)

Department: Library

###### A.1.3 Head of department (liN)

Name: Torras, Maria Carme



Email: maria-carme.torras@uib.no  
Phone number: +47 5558 2501

#### **A.1.4 Project coordinator (IiN)**

Name: Landøy, Ane  
Gender: Female  
Email: ane.landoy@ub.uib.no  
Phone number: +47 5558 2523

### **A.2 Main partner institution outside Norway**

#### **A.2.1 Main partner institution outside Norway (IoN)**

American University of Armenia (AM)

#### **A.2.2 Department (IoN)**

Department: AGBU Papazian Library

#### **A.2.3 Head of department (IoN)**

Name: Avagyan, Satenik  
Gender: Female  
Email: savakian@aua.am  
Phone number: +374 60 612760

#### **A.2.4 Project coordinator (IoN)**

Name: Zargaryan, Tatevik  
Gender: Female  
Email: tzargaryan@aua.am  
Phone number: +374 60 612766

### **A.3 Network partners**

#### **Are there any non-academic partners in the project?**

No

#### **List of network partners**

Institution: AM-Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia (AM)  
:  
Unit: Department of Public Administration & Public Finance  
Contact person: Khechoyan, Tereza  
Gender: Female  
Degree: Associate Professor  
Position: Vice-rector for Foreign Relations  
Email: aspa.paara@gmail.com  
Phone number: +37410 22-89-42

### **A.4 Participants in the project**

Name: Galstyan, Hasmik  
Gender: Female  
Degree: MA  
Position: Head of Reference / Circulation services  
Institution: AM-American University of Armenia

Name: Hayrapetyan, Heghine  
Gender: Female  
Degree: M.A. in International Relations  
Position: Chief specialist at the Department of International Cooperation and Foreign Relations

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Institution: | AM-Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia |
| Name:        | Kolesnyk, Svitlana  |
| Gender:      | Female  |
| Degree:      | MBA from Norwegian School of Economics                      |
| Position:    | Senior Executive Officer.                                   |
| Institution: | NO-University of Bergen                                     |
| Name:        | Nikoghosyan, Gayane   |
| Gender:      | Female  |
| Degree:      | M.A.  |
| Position:    | Chief librarian   |
| Institution: | AM-Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia |
| Name:        | Repanovici, Angela  |
| Gender:      | Female  |
| Degree:      | Dr. ing, Dr. marketing                                      |
| Position:    | Professor   |
| Institution: | NO-University of Bergen                                     |

### Composition of the project team

American University of Armenia (AUA) will participate in this project as the main partner outside of Norway. The main team from AUA is comprised of three people, library director Satenik Avagyan, head of the Circulation/Reference services (Hasmik Galstyan) and e-learning and e-services librarian (Tatevik Zargaryan). All three representatives from AUA have extensive experience and knowledge in Open Access (OA) initiatives, copyright law, development of Institutional Repository (IR) platform, however, they are still fighting with the development of OA and IR policies for their users. Their knowledge and skills can help in developing a sustainable platform for open access publishing in Armenia. The fruitful cooperation with the University of Bergen will help in developing OA publishing policies and lead to a development of a sustainable platform for other Armenian universities too.

The Public Administration Academy of RA (PAARA) as a network partner will help and support in all initiatives and at the same time will act as a channel for disseminating the project's output to a wider community. The representatives from PAARA are Tereza Khechoyan, Vice-Rector for Foreign Relations, Heghine Hayrapetyan, Chief specialist of the Department of International Cooperation and Foreign Relations and Gayane Nikoghosyan, Chief librarian of PAARA scientific and technical library.

From University of Bergen Library the team consists of academic librarian/deputy library director Ane Landøy, who oversees the daily running of the seven libraries at UiB. She is an experienced project leader and has been responsible for several library development projects in Uganda, South Sudan and Republic of Moldova. She is supported by the senior executive officer at UiB library, Svitlana Kolesnyk, and Romanian expert Professor Angela Repanovici from Transilvania University of Brasov. In this project her expertise will mainly be within IR and OA, - she installed the first IR in Romania and has been expert also in the project with Republic of Moldova. She has also participated in TEMPUS and Erasmus+-projects, and is currently part of the LNSS-project (E+) led by PAARA. Ms Kolesnyk is the economic officer of the University of Bergen Library. In addition, she is head of IFLA's Standing committee for Statistics and evaluation, and member of the Norwegian Council for HEI's working group for statistics in libraries.

## A.5 Fields of education and training

1: Educational sciences, pedagogy and didactics (207)

## B - Information on the project

### B.1 Project summary

**Please provide a short summary of your project.**

This project aims at supporting two Armenian Universities (American University of Armenia (AUA) and Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia (PAARA) as they develop institutional repositories and sustainable mandates for Open Access publishing of academic results in their universities. The Norwegian partner is University of Bergen library (UiB). The project starts with a survey about attitudes and hindrances to Open Access publishing among academic staff in the two Universities. This research will be used to develop the most suitable and sustainable workflows, and will also impact on the advocacy and dissemination activities in the project. The Kick-off meeting will be a good opportunity to raise awareness of Open Access publishing. In a study trip to Bergen, the partners will discuss best practices. The project and the research will be disseminated in a relevant conference. Also, the project will have a well-functioning website to support communication in and about the project. The expected results are institutional repositories in both Armenian universities; sustainable workflows in the libraries; and a better awareness of the needs and possibilities in Open Access publishing among the academic staff. There will be a website and a paper in a peer-reviewed journal.

### B.2 Background information

#### B.2.1 History of cooperation

**Please give a brief description of the history of cooperation between the project partners.**

The collaboration history between AUA and PAARA has started very recently in the frame of the EU TEMPUS projects. On November 18, 2013, librarians from different universities of Armenia, as well as from the NGO Bridge of Hope, visited the American University of Armenia (AUA)'s AGBU Papazian Library in the framework of the EU Tempus IV project, entitled Access to Society for People with Individual Requirements

Another project started in 2012. The three year collaboration between these two universities was about GOVERN (FOSTERING AUTONOMY AND ACCOUNTABILITY: DEVELOPMENT OF STATE-OF-THE-ART HE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR EFFICIENT CHANGES IN LINE WITH BOLOGNA PRINCIPLES) a three-year national project, under the priority of Governance Reform, EACEA N° 35/2012, 6th call and Structural Measures action.

The main objective of the project was enabling application of the state-of-the-art management system at Armenian HEIs for promoting effective and efficient structural changes in line with Bologna agenda thus enhancing HEIs autonomy and accountability.

Through this project two universities were able to collaborate more on structural changes (HR management, budget allocation, managing academic programs, student mobility, office of academic affairs and registrar) and at the same time collaborate and learn from each others' experiences.

University of Bergen (UiB) and Transilvania University of Brasov (UTBV) has collaborated from 2004 with different kinds of library development projects. The current collaboration involves 18 academic libraries in the Republic of Moldova, CPEA-2015/10014.

UTBV and PAARA are involved in a Erasmus + project, CBHE Project 561633

LNSS: Library Network Support Services, Modernising libraries in Armenia, Moldova and Belarus through library staff development and reforming library services. PAARA is a coordinator.

Through the different projects, participants in the current project got to know each other, and see the strengths and where we can support development for each other.

**Please describe how the project is linked to strategies and priorities of the project partners.**

This project will help Armenian HEIs to work together on developing OA policies, copyright issues and create a sustainable platform for publishing the OA items.

The Copyright law and OA policies are of the highest importance for Armenia and thus will help to support and disseminate the scholarly creations and works around the world. It will normalize and support authors and protect their rights and help students in their research and publishing activities.



Through this project, we can support faculty in gaining more acknowledgment outside Armenia, and help Armenian HEIs in supporting OA initiatives worldwide.

"Open Access Repository of the Armenian Electronic Theses and Dissertations (Armenian ETD-OA) = applies the Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL) to all works we publish. Under the CCAL, authors retain ownership of the copyright for their article, but authors allow anyone to download, reuse, reprint, modify, distribute, and/or copy articles, so long as the original authors and source are cited. In most cases, appropriate attribution can be provided by simply citing the original article. This broad license was developed to facilitate open access to, and free use of, original works of all types. Applying this standard license to your own work will ensure your right to make your work freely and openly available."

<http://etd.asj-oa.am/>

Author's Agreement

1. The Author ensures that the Dissertation is their own work, and does not break any law of Republic of Armenia or infringe any third party copyright.

2. The Author confirms that the electronic copy is identical to the Dissertation submitted to the Supreme certifying Commission.

3. The Author grants the permission to the National Library of Armenia to deposit free of charge the Dissertation in the "Open Access repository of the Armenian Electronic Theses and Dissertations" (Armenian ETD-OA).

<http://etd.asj-oa.am/information.html>

University of Bergen Library has supported global library development as one of the goals in the strategy 2016-2022 ([http://www.uib.no/sites/w3.uib.no/files/attachments/ub\\_strategiplan\\_endelig\\_versjon\\_2016-2022\\_v4\\_web.pdf](http://www.uib.no/sites/w3.uib.no/files/attachments/ub_strategiplan_endelig_versjon_2016-2022_v4_web.pdf) - only in Norwegian) and also open access to information resources.

## **B.2.2 Links to research**

**Please describe how the project is linked to ongoing research activities and research cooperation between the partner institutions.**

This is a library development project, seeing libraries as support institution for academic research. There has not been any research cooperation between the partner institutions before this.

As part of the project, however, there will be a survey about attitudes and preferences regarding visibility and impact of academic scientific research. The results of this survey and accompanying interviews will be used to improve the archival process in the institutional repository. Also, the resulting repository will be registered in DOAR, and will thus be a part of a global research. The project and its findings will be disseminated in relevant library conferences.

Norwegian partner has experience in academic research and will share this expertise with Armenian partners.

## **B.2.3 Previous and parallel funding**

**Is the proposed project related to any projects and/or activities currently or previously funded by SIU or other funding agencies?**

Yes

UTBV and PAARA are involved in an Erasmus + project, CBHE Project 561633

LNSS: Library Network Support Services, Modernising libraries in Armenia, Moldova and Belarus through library staff development and reforming library services.

**Have the project partners applied for funding for any of the project activities listed in this application through other programmes administered by SIU or other funding agencies?**

No

## **B.3 Project design**

### **B.3.1 Project goals and expected results**

#### **B.3.1.1 Project goals**

**Please state the goals of the project.**

The project aims to develop Open Access policies in two Armenian Universities and a sustainable platform for Open Access publishing. Open Access is important for scholarly transparency and free access to scientific results, thereby supporting progress. Universities and libraries are important keys in access to knowledge and to find solutions for democratizing access to information. In this project the Norwegian partner will train Armenian academics and librarians through "training the trainers", and also support the building of a collaborative relationship between librarians and researchers.

The project will also contain teachings of copyright law, a survey of researchers attitudes to Open Access, and development of good workflows for Open Access initiatives, installation, and upgrading of Institutional Repository software. It is also a goal to have the project initiative and results disseminated through a project website, presentation at a relevant international conference, and a paper in a peer-reviewed journal.

Project website development

**Please describe the needs to be addressed by the project.**

Armenian scholarly results are not very visible globally, and through Open Access and Institutional Repositories, we hope to raise the visibility. At PAARA, there is a need for an institutional repository, and at both universities, it is necessary to increase the amount of Open Access publishing, without being dependent on large budgets for acquisition of journals and databases. In order to be successful, the library workflow must be efficient.

There is also a need for awareness of copyright laws and creative commons licenses among the Armenian academics.

#### **B.3.1.2 Expected results**

**Please describe what results are expected to be achieved through successful implementation of the project.**

The Armenian scholars' research will be more visible, as measured through scientometric methods.

There will be institutional repositories and Open Access mandates in both universities.

There will be efficient workflows for Open Access publishing in both universities.

There will be documents stored in the institutional repositories

There will be a better understanding of copyright laws and creative commons licenses among the librarians and academics in the two universities.

There will be enhanced internationalisation of Armenian Universities/academic libraries through collaborating with UiB library.

### **B.3.2 Work plan**

**Please provide a brief work plan for the project.**

1) Research on attitudes of Armenian academics to be conducted by the Bergen team with the support of the Armenian team.

2) A project web site will be set up.

3) UiB and AUA administrative teams will agree on how to proceed with reporting (to SIU) and finances

4) At the kick-off meeting in Yerevan (hosted by AUA) the results of the research will be presented, to support the development of Open Access policies and training in the two universities

5) There will be a study trip to Bergen to learn about best practices (hosted by UiB) and a second workshop to look at other institutional repositories

6) In the third workshop, in Yerevan, international experts will monitor the work done by the Armenian teams. Further collaborations will be investigated.

**Please describe how each of the project partners (including any network partners) will contribute to the project.**

The UiB team brings research expertise, and experience with library development projects in other countries. Also, there are excellent project administrative skills in the team. The AUA and PAARA teams bring infrastructure for workshops, support for research activities and hardworking library and academic

staff that are ready to learn and to share their knowledge. AUA has a lot of competence in Armenian copyright laws and other issues.

### **B.3.3 Standard indicators**

#### **B.3.3.1 Student mobility**

#### **B.3.3.2 Courses/programmes**

## **B.4 Assessment of sustainability and risks**

### **B.4.1 Sustainability**

**Please explain how and to what extent the proposed project activities and the expected results will be sustained after the project has ended.**

- Development of a sustainable open access publishing platform/IR will provide a better and bigger outreach for Armenian universities.
  - Expertise obtained by librarians and faculty during "training the trainer-workshops" will be used to transfer skills at national levels via consulting and networking, and outreach trainings for wider dissemination.
  - IR survey results with analysis from two universities will be included in the guidelines and can be exploited on different levels (local and regional authorities, national bodies, other Armenian universities). It will extend the project coverage.
  - The project website will make available the training manuals and developed documentation and enable faculty from all over Armenia to use IR database and online materials.
- The developed OA policies and guides are sustainability tools.

Impact beyond the consortium involves:

- Those involved will benefit through gaining copyright and OA publishing skills, to integrate into their own teaching and research, thus ensuring a sustainable effect on publishing in an online environment.

The project foresees multiple awareness raising workshops both internally in the involved institutions and at a national level.

The project partners are encouraged to use any opportunity to raise awareness about the project using its own contacts, channels of dissemination (i.e. through membership in international networks/ organizations and professional organizations, during organization or participation in "third party" conferences/meetings/events, through press-releases in the media, academic journals, institutional newsletters). Dissemination will be performed through various tools: electronic (e.g. project homepage, online newsletters, a download area for project outputs); events on different levels (internal/institutional information events; project public events).

**Please explain how and to what extent the project will lead to increased mobility of students between the partner institutions.**

n/a

### **B.4.2 Risk assessment**

**Please describe potential risk factors that may impede successful implementation of the project, and how the effects of such risks may be mitigated.**

The risks are following:

1. Lack of top university administration readiness to support the project- this will be mitigated by rectors to be invited to the kick-off and also given annual updates on the project.
2. Inadequate trainings and unskilled trainers – this will be mitigated by the trainer/s who will be selected based on their professional skills and experience in the field, from the international network of the project participants
3. Minimal or no dissemination of the project activities and workshops– this will be mitigated by the universities, that must be active and promote the project results during meetings and workshops for a wider dissemination. The project will use a separate website for dissemination and communication with the wider public. AUA has taken responsibility for the website development and will be funded through the project. UiB has good experiences in the Moldova project with this sharing of responsibility. Other institutions and librarians will be invited to participate in the organized workshops, where the project will be presented and information disseminated as much as possible.



4. Not fulfilling the project's goals and outcomes by the time the project ends – this will be mitigated by the project coordinator, who should follow up with all reports and tasks and make sure that they will be submitted on time unless a force majeure situation occurs.

5. Any force majeure situations – this will be mitigated by communication tools such as bi-monthly project meetings on Skype and be in close contact with SiU.

## **C - Activities to be supported**

**C.1 Please indicate the type(s) of project activities involved in the project by ticking the boxes below.**

Implementation of joint education activities

Project development

**The activities that can be supported under the main categories are:**

*Project development*

- International project meetings
- Joint curriculum development
- Joint development of courses, study programmes and degrees
- Development of new educational materials and methods, including digital content and tools
- Dissemination activities
- Other

*Implementation of joint educational activities between higher education institutions*

- Student mobility
- Student participation in research activities/projects
- Joint teaching and supervision, incl. guest lecturing
- Joint project assignment for students
- Intensive courses, field courses and summer schools, excursions
- Workshops/seminars
- Courses/trainings/study visits for academic and administrative staff
- Other

*Implementation of educationally relevant cooperation with non-academic partners*

- Implementation of student work placements, internships or trainee arrangements
- Facilitation of student involvement in R&D projects and/or involvement of non-academic partners in student projects
- Facilitation of student entrepreneurship or innovation projects