



AGJENCIA E SIGURIMIT TË CILËSISË NË ARSIMIN E LARTË

## EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT

FOR SECOND CYCLE STUDY PROGRAM  
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN “PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH”  
OF “SPORTS UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA”

External Evaluation Group:

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## SUMMARY OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION

### STUDY PROGRAM

The study program is offered from the Department of Movement and Health, Faculty of Physical Activity and Recreation. It is licensed with Order of Minister of Education and Sport No. 48, dated 05.02.2015, in accordance with the Decision of the Council of Accreditation No. 6, dated 05.01.2015.

The program demonstrated a variety of backgrounds across its lectures and the program was developed in consultation with experts of other European Universities. As such the presented “Master of Science” layout is well equipped to teach Physical Activity and Health. Positively noted was the passion for the subject: “Physical Activity and Healthy” of the internal evaluation team, which is likely to positively influence outreach to the public and students. A better effort is needed by the institution regarding the formalization of the agreements. There is a lack of subjects in English language.

### ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The program management was up to the rules defined by the Albanian government. Positively was observed the good usage of the Erasmus+ and European funds to improve the facilities of the program. A limitation noticed was the lack of any regular continuous professional development for the lectures within the program, while lecture seem to have improved skills on their own (based on CV double check with HR).

### TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES

In respect of teaching and learning, the program appears to underpin theoretical knowledge with practical labs, while the competences needed to achieve the “Master of Science” aim are given. The ability to learn and “play” with the knowledge is given by the facilities of the University in respect to sport grounds and other facilities. Surprisingly, students are not able to take books home for a given period and have to stay in the library when studying the needed information. No issues were observed in respect with the evaluation and assessment of competences.

### HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES

Human, financial, infrastructure, and logistics resources appeared to be in order with the rule set by the Albanian government. The resources available to the program are limited compared to other European programs in terms of fitness or laboratory equipment. In respect to the logistics of the program, the program seems to have a clear flow of procedures in respect to grading, teaching and practice.

### STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT

Students reported to have enrolled into the program due to its high level of knowledge and reported that the University encouraged / supported research projects, introduced them to Erasmus+ and felt well supported. . A better effort is needed by the Career and Alumni office

as there are only a few students employed in accordance of their diploma. The number of papers presented by the academic staff is low.

## STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE

Multiple questionnaires were conducted by the quality assurance team. While findings were not shared with students, the program has made changes based on the findings.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION PROCESS;

The External Evaluation Report for the study program "Master of Science" in "Physical Activity and Health", is compiled by two experienced professors and experts of the field, Dr. Enkelejda Sinaj and Ph.D. Chris Richter, with the assistance of the QAAHE review manager.

The External Evaluation Group (EEG) considered all the documents included in the Self Evaluation File as well as the information gathered during the site visit to compile this evaluation report.

The External Evaluation Group visited the University on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of 2019 and meet with representatives to further understand and question key staff members in respect to the submitted internal evaluation.

The evaluation process started with a meeting of the program heads. Discussed were collaborations, conferences presentations, papers published, external funding, ALUMNI program, encouragement of improvement made and continuous professional development.

The external evaluation team (we) then meet the internal evaluation team of the program. Discussed were the generation of the internal report, the University journal, valuable skills of students, real live practical experiences, improvements made.

After meeting the internal evaluation team, we meet with selected students. Discussed were: "how does the teaching compare to previous other university", research / publications, given career advice, practical work and thesis, internships, external supervision.

The fourth meeting was with program lectures. Discussed were: "how do they make sure that the students are though interdisciplinary", "how outreach is supported", "how they ensure real understanding" and "what they would improve in the program".

Subsequent meetings were with human recourses (HR), quality assurance (QA) and the External Relations, Project and IT (ER-IT). During these meetings we discussed: hiring process, processes takes after complaint and we checked one randomly selected CV of a lecturer with HR; questionnaires conducted and their findings as well as reports to students with (QA); and the project "Treavet", data storage and possible improvements with ER-IT.

The last step taken in the evaluation was a tour through the facilitates that are used within the program.

The EEG has also consulted the legal framework, law and bylaws in force for higher education in the Republic of Albania.

The EEG have also consulted with each other on all the findings and conclusions presented in this report and have jointly agreed on the evaluation of the standards. In order to give a more objective assessment of the fulfillment of standards, it has been a mathematical process as well as based on the importance of meeting each criterion to assure the quality of the study program.

On 19.03.2020, through the AMS system and with official letter no. 36/12 Prot., Dated 19.03.2020, is sent to the HEI the External Evaluation Draft Report. In the absence of a response from the Institution for the Draft Report, it automatically returns to the Final Report.

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, based on the MHSP Order no. 132 dated 09.03.2020, MESY Order no. 91 dated 09.03.2020 and MHSP order No. 190 dated 19.03.2020, the communication with the HEI for sending the External Evaluation Report is made only through the AMS system.*

**EVALUATION OF THE SECOND CYCLE STUDY PROGRAM**  
**“MASTER OF SCIENCE” IN “PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND HEALTH”**

**I. STUDY PROGRAM PROVISION**

<b>Standard I.1</b>				
<b>The Higher Education Institution provides a "Master of science" / "Master of Arts" study program in accordance with its mission and objectives, aiming at maintaining national interests and values.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution offers a “Master of Science” / “Master of Arts” study programs in compliance with national interests.	The Master of Science in “Physical Activity and Health” does not conflict with national interests and was designed to be compliant with the constitutional institution of the Republic of Albania. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims to preserve and consolidate national academic and cultural values.	The EEG concludes that the MSc study program offered aims to prepare future professionals who will carry value as well as to contribute to the quality development of Higher Education. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI]			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The study program is designed and delivered in accordance with the goals and mission of the institution and field of activity.	The MSc program prepare students to lead a career in physical activity and health and is designed to give students a mastery of a complex field of study or professional area. The program is prepared in support of national interests and is in line with the goals and mission of the Institution. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The "Master of Science" / “Master of Arts” study program is designed and offered in line with and promotes local and / or national economic development.	The promotion of local and economic development is rather limited due to rather small sport sector in Albania. Nevertheless, during the evaluation, the interviews staff reported on the plan of lectures lead students’ clinics or physical activity program that should benefit the wider population to fight obesity and other age-related disease. [Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The "Master of Science" / “Master of Arts” study program establishes a sustainable competences basis, necessary for in-depth third cycle studies, including in-depth professional and scientific training.	The program demonstrated study design based similar to the design of other established European institution and consequently are able to build skills that are necessary for third cycle studies, including in-depth professional and scientific training. [Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard I.2</b>				
<b>The MSc / MA study program is in line with the development strategy, statute and other regulatory acts of the Higher Education Institution and its academic fields.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution clearly stipulates that the study program is	The SUT has designed a medium-term strategic development plan for the period 2016-2020. The study program is in line with			

designed and delivered in compliance with and in implementation of the institution's own development strategy.	objectives and institution's development strategy and is designed in accordance with academic priorities, which are stated in the Statute. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI and Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The statute and the regulation of the institution clearly define its academic priorities and demonstrate that the study program is designed and delivered in accordance with and in implementation of the latter.	After considering the Self Evaluation Report and supporting evidences, the EEG concludes that the MSc is compliant to the Sports University of Tirana Strategic Development Plan. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI, Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program and Reference 7 Regulation of the study program]			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The designation, organization, structure and content of the study programs are provided in accordance with institution's areas and academic profiles.	The content of the study program is designed in line with the academic fields and directions of SUT. Based on the evaluation of the study program and random checks, we can confirm that designation, organization, structure and content of the study programs are provided in accordance with institution's areas and academic profiles. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI, Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program, Reference. 14: The full file of the study program with its components (Teaching Plan) and Reference. 19: Syllabus of courses offered]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is designed and developed in accordance with national development strategies, national interest and global development trends.	Based on the evaluation of the study program, the program is similar to other European sports MSc's and hence in accordance with national development strategies. Regarding global development trends, the program is lacking on novel / global arising needs. For example, an emerging need in physical activity is the skill of data processing or statistical analysis. For example, the university holds on to the rather expensive SPSS software (statistical software), while it could easily switch to other open source /free software (R, python, jasp), which provide the same abilities as SPSS.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Standard I.3</b>	
<b>The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims to meet the needs of the labor market and is provided in accordance with its requirements.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program has set well defined objectives for student training in that program, which include in-depth scientific competences, skills and professional competencies that students should acquire at the end of the study program, which characterize the profile of the program in accordance with the level of studies in which they are offered and with the requirements of the labor market.	The MSc study program has defined objectives regarding student training to prepare specialists in the field, while taking the economic development and labor market perspective in Albania into consideration. In order to achieve these objectives, the program envisages the acquisition of knowledge starting with the theoretical aspects followed by the practical aspects. [Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]



<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The institution conducts studies on the local and international labor market for the study program it provides before its opening, after students' graduation, and periodically. These studies should include data from formal communication with employers of the respective field of study, their needs and requirements, student employment opportunities, data on real employment of graduates and expected developments in the relevant sector.</p>	<p>The program was launched after a study by experts in the field of labor market. Reference 18 describes the analysis of the labor market conducted.</p> <p>The program also aims to stay in contact with former students to further understand the demands of the labor market a better effort is needed by the university especially by the Alumni and Career Counseling Office in orientating students towards the labor market.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The study program training objectives, structure and content, as well as study program expected learning outcomes guarantee the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and competences that respond to market needs and facilitate student employment.</p>	<p>The study program is provided by a wide range of lectures and therefore provides the students with the knowledge, skills, and competences that respond to market needs and facilitate student employment.</p> <p>During the interview we asked the students about the requirements and employment of their colleagues. They confirmed that, their knowledge and skills gained from the study program, were in line with what was required in the workplaces where they worked in Albania.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> The study program is aligned with similar study programs provided by international institutions in order to facilitate study transfer or student employment in the international market in the future.</p>	<p>The program in line with other European universities and hence gives the ability to transfer students internationally. However, the university is lacking a language class to further increase this ability.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 5</b> The study program is drafted in accordance with the objectives set out in the EU legislation and directives on higher education and regulated professions, and it relies on the institution's long-standing experience and European countries best practices.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, the program demonstrated study design based similar to the design of other established European institution and is in line with other European universities.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program includes vocational training in professional practices in line with the study program purpose and objectives and international directives on regulated professions.</p>	<p>The organization and content of the study program is in compliance with its mission to train specialists in physical activity and health in fitness centers, recreation centers and touristic resorts.</p> <p>[Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 7</b> In the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program, teaching components, modules, subjects or the entire foreign language program should be included in order to attract foreign students, increase mobility 4 within the framework of scientific research and institution's internationalization.</p>	<p>The program is designed in Albanian language and there is no foreign language module.</p> <p>[Reference 46: Guidelines for the use of information technology structure, states several signed agreements and is aware of its own limitation that is does not provide courses in English and is hence not able to attract foreign students].</p>
<p><b>Criterion 8</b> For the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program, the institution prepares, stores and archives in English all the documentation and the activities developed.</p>	<p>The EEG has reviewed documents in English such as, syllabuses and the Regulation of the study program. It is concluded that most of this documentation was provided for the accreditation process and as there are limitations on the provision of courses in English, it is not confirmed that the criterion is met.</p>



Fulfillment of standard	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

**Standard I.4**  
**The study program is in line with the academic field of the main / basic unit (department) responsible for the study program at the institution.**

Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The institution demonstrates that it has the necessary experience, capabilities and resources in the academic field to provide a study program in that field.</p>	<p>The MSc study program is provided by Faculty of Physical Activity and Recreation. The faculty structure is well organized in accordance to Law 80/2015, divided into three departments with administrative and academic staff (full time and part time). According to the reference 23.1 there is a mismatch of the Faculty Academic staff for the academic year 2019-2020. But based on the fact that some of the departments do not have any active study program and based on the site visit EEG concludes that the institution has the academic and infrastructural resources and capacities needed for the MSc in “Physical Activity and Health”.  [Reference. 23: Summary tables: data on teaching and supporting staff]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The general and specific scope of the study program should be in line with the academic and research field of the main unit responsible for the study program, according to the classification / codification of the study programs based on the national and European guidelines and directives.</p>	<p>The scope of the MSc is compliant with the Faculty of Physical Activity and Recreation (in light of academic and research). There is a harmony between the scope of MSc study program and the academic and research field of the main unit.  [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI and Reference. 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The general and specific field of the study programs should be in line with the academic and research area of the main unit, responsible for the study programs, according to the classification / codification of study programs based on the national and European guidelines and directives. In the case of interdisciplinary programs, at least one of the cooperating units should ensure this compliance.</p>	<p>The MSc study program is in line with the academic and research area of the Department of Movement and Health. The general and specific field of the study programs is in line with the academic and research area of the main unit, responsible for the study program.  [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI and Reference. 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
Fulfillment of standard				X

**Standard I.5**  
**The Higher Education Institution ensures cooperation establishment with institutions, companies, third parties, local and / or foreign business actors with the view to deliver study programs, in the framework of vocational training, research and mobility.**

Criteria	Evaluation
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<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The institution established effective internal cooperation relations for study programs design, supervision and maintenance of the by allocating tasks among units and staff, assigning respective responsibilities and the analyzing on an ongoing basis their work.</p>	<p>The institution has established an internal cooperation for the MSc study program in respect to design, supervision and maintenance. The institution established effective internal cooperation relations for study program design. The department of Movement and Health supervises the activity of MSc study program as the responsible unit of the study program. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI and Reference. 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> In the framework of students' learning and learning objectives achievement, the institution establishes cooperation relations with counterpart institutions at the national or international level with local and / or foreign business actors.</p>	<p>SUT cooperates with institutions, public and private in Albania and abroad to keep in touch with the needs of the labor market and to reflect it to the study program. [Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> With the view to deliver "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program the institution enters into special agreements with field institutions, research institutes, companies to enable professional training, clinical practice, or internships etc.</p>	<p>The faculty has signed an agreement with the Institute of Scientific Research in terms of within-institutional cooperation as well as with other field institutions (Federata Shqiptare Bodybuiding &amp; Fitnes, Faculty of Kinesiology in University of Zagreb, etc.). It is recommended a better utilization of these agreements in order to increase the numbers of academic staff participation in training and research activities as well as in internships. [Reference. 34: Cooperation agreements and cooperation data, Table 20]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> The institution establishes official relationships and cooperates with employers to carry out and supervise the training/internship, depending on the specific nature of study programs it offers.</p>	<p>It is concluded that the cooperation's with potential employers and institutions for training and internships are informal. It is recommended to establish official arrangements and to build up a mentoring system for this purpose.</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 5</b> The institution guarantees cooperation with counterpart institutions or scientific research institutes to enable scientific research and staff and students' mobility.</p>	<p>The institution has experience in academic staff and student's mobility in Albania and abroad to ensure high-quality mobility activities with maximum impact on the students, SUT has signed an agreement for Erasmus+ program and is preparing the environment. SUT is open to all foreign students and teachers. However, the university is lacking a language class to further increase this ability. [Reference. 34: Cooperation agreements and cooperation data and Reference. 35: The latest periodical analytical report of benefits form cooperation agreements]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> The unit responsible for study program drafts periodic analytical reports as regards benefits from the cooperation agreements with the view to deliver study programs.</p>	<p>The institution has different cooperation and has draft a report on the benefits of the agreements, but after consulting this report EEG considers that the report should be more explicit and efficient on the benefits gained by the university from those agreements. [Reference. 34: Cooperation agreements and cooperation data and Reference. 35: The latest periodical analytical report of benefits form cooperation agreements].</p>			
<p><b>Fulfillment of standard</b></p>	<p>Not met</p>	<p>Partly met</p>	<p>Substantially met</p>	<p>Met</p>

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<b>Standard I.6.</b>				
<b>The institution supports achievements in in-depth studies and research, which are then promoted and made public.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution adopts a supportive policy on staff and students' scientific research activities results dissemination.	The EEG revealed that the SUT supports research for staff and students. This is supported by Reference. 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years, and Reference. 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers. But as mentioned by the institution in the self-evaluation report the institution has no access to publish in international scientific research magazines.			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution establishes a unit on scientific research results performance evaluation.	The institution evaluates the performance in respect to research as evident from References 18: Fulfillment from internal quality evaluation, and Reference 37: Published annual reports on monitoring and quality assurance. Vice Rector sets up working groups for monitoring and evaluating the quality of scientific research.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution pursues a policy for promoting scientific research results.	The SUT seems to support the scientific research within the program budget, as well as organizing, every two years, a conference, where staff, students, and other researchers present and promote their research work. As mentioned by the institution in the self-evaluation report and during the interviews with the academic staff, there is a lack of fund absorptions in supporting the staff and students scientific work. [Reference. 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution pursues a policy regarding protection of intellectual property as well as the best practices in publishing research.	As evident from Reference 53: SUT Code of Ethics and SUT Regulation of Ethics Council, the institution foresees a Senate decision on ethics in research and publishing of research activity.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution encourages students and novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities.	The institution encourages students and novice researchers to personally engage in scientific research activities based on interviews the students have the ability to use laboratories and attend the periodically organized conference. But as mentioned above a greater effort is needed by the faculty in absorbing new funds to support the scientific work of students and newly recruited academic staff. [Reference. 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers.]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Fulfillment of standards of Field I</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

## II. STUDY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

<b>Standard II.1</b>	
<b>The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is organized in accordance with national legal provisions and bylaws in force covering these study programs.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The study program is organized into courses and modules evaluated in credits, in accordance with the applicable national legislation and according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).</p>	<p>SUT offers study programs in accordance with legislation (<i>Law on Higher Education nr. 80/2015</i>) and guidelines coming from Ministry of Education Sport and Youth.</p> <p>The program is organized in modules assessed into ECTS and the subjects are grouped into five categories: A, B, C, D, E. The two years MSc is composed of 120 ECTS.</p> <p>The disciplines are organized in categories as follows:            Category A: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10% (as required: 5-10%),            Category B: 64 / 120 ECTS, 53.3% (as required: 50-60%),            Category C: 20 / 120 ECTS, 16.6% (as required: 12-20%),            Category D: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10% (as required: 10%),            Category E: 12 / 120 ECTS, 10 % (as required: 10-15%).</p> <p>[Reference. 4: Curriculum of study program and DCM no. 4 24/01/2018, amended]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program aims at equipping students with specific skills in a wide range of professions and specialties.</p>	<p>The MSc program provides modules with basic education knowledge and specific skills in a wide range of professions and specialties.</p> <p>[Reference 15: Diploma supplement]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program provides advanced knowledge in a field of study or professional field, including critical understanding of the theories and field academic principles.</p>	<p>Into completion of MSc program students gain the necessary professional knowledge and competence in the labor market and create opportunities for specialization in-depth studies.</p> <p>[Reference. 4: The strategic plan for the development of the program]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program helps students acquire advanced knowledge, skills and competences in a specific academic or professional field, necessary to solve complex and unpredictable problems in a specialized field of study or professional field.</p>	<p>The program offers students theoretical and practical courses, skills and competence in the field of physical activity and health. The MSc prepares students for the employment in field of sport. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 5</b> The study programs "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" contains all the components composing the study program design, as set forth by the legal and sub-legal acts.</p>	<p>The program is designed in accordance with the legal acts in force, (DCM no.41/2018, Law in Higher Education no.80/2015), in both technical elements and componential disciplines (Ref. 4: Curriculum of study program).</p> <p>Based on conducted interviews and evidences provided, this criterion is met.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> The "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program has clearly defined practicums by grouping courses / modules according to specific categories and corresponding load on credits.</p>	<p>The categories A (basic subjects) and B (characterizing subjects) altogether have a sum of 63.3% as requested in the legal act, cit. sum A+B should be not less than 60% (see DCM. No.41). The normal loan on credits is 60 per year, divided in 30 ECTS per semester and normal duration of 15 weeks.</p> <p>[Reference. 52: Curriculum change procedure]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 7</b> The study program credits necessary for graduation and the research</p>	<p>The students of this study program graduate by diploma thesis defense which has a total of 12 ECTS</p>

work in the framework of its development have been already determined.	[Reference. 52.5: Teaching Plan]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard II.2</b>				
<b>The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements and quality standards prescribed for these units.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets all legal requirements on evaluation and accreditation.	Both the main and basic unit responsible for the study program operate in accordance with the legislation in force and meet all the legal requirement on the evaluation and accreditation. [Reference. 14: The full file of the study program with its components]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.	The study program if offered by the Faculty of Physical Activity and Recreation, the faculty is composed of the 3 departments and a total of 29 Academic staff for the academic year 2019-2020: The department of Movement and Health, which has 10 FAS The department of Organization and Management, which has 10 FAS.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The main / local unit responsible for the study program meets the legal requirements on academic staff number and qualification the relations between full-time, part-time and visiting staff.	The department of Physical Recreation Activity and Tourism, which has 9 FAS. All of them have the academic titles and degrees in accordance with the applicable law in force.  The study program is offered by the department of Movement and Health, which is composed of 1 Prof As, 1 SPA, 3 PhD and 5 MSc. [Reference: 23.1 Tables of FAS and PAS of the Faculty]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The main / basic unit responsible for the study program meets the legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and structure.	The department meets legal and sub-legal requirements on academic organization and respect the ratio between the full-time academic staff and part time academic staff. [Reference Ref. 23, 24: Tabular data for academic staff in the Main Unit and study program, Table 6.1-3, Table 7]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The main / basic unit responsible for the study program encourages the academic staff to engage in of teaching, laboratory and clinical practice; research work and projects, etc.	The academic staff leading practices is sufficiently loaded in relation to the number of students. The teaching workload comprises 97% of full-time staff (FAS) and 3% of part-time staff (PAS). Table 4. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is meet.			
<b>Criterion 6</b> The main / basic unit responsible for each study program appoints a person as the coordinator of the study programs, who is responsible for program progress and development and professional training in accordance with its objectives.	According to the HEI Regulation, as mentioned in the Internal Evaluation, the responsible of the department of Movement and Health is appointed the program coordinator and he is responsible for the progress and development of the program and professional practices in accordance with its objectives. [Reference. 5: HEI Regulation, and meetings held during the site visit]			
<b>Criterion 7</b> The Program Coordinator reports periodically to the Head of the Main / Basic Unit and documents any information related to the study programs.	The Program Coordinator reports periodically to the relevant authorities and review syllabus quality, approves diploma thesis, etc. Reference. 5: HEI Regulation, and meetings held during the site visit]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>



<b>Standard II.3</b>	
<b>The MSc / MA study program is detailed, structured and organized in accordance with the standards and objectives of the second cycle study program.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The main / basic unit, responsible for the second cycle study program, has the necessary information on study program organization, structure and content.	The information on study program organization, structure and content, based on the site visit, is managed by the basic unit, also the documentation on the content of study program. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The study program is organized into courses, modules, professional training and practicums, in accordance with the applicable legal provisions.	The study program is organized into modules, which include even the professional practice that is in line with the applicable legal and sub-legal acts. [Reference. 14: The full file of the study program with its components and Reference. 52: Curriculum change procedure]
<b>Criterion 3</b> The study program is organized into courses and modules evaluated with credits according to the national and European system, divided into academic years and semesters.	Subjects in the study program are organized in 13 modules evaluated with 120 ECTS. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation, Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program, and Teaching Plan]
<b>Criterion 4</b> The study program has a detailed syllabus, which incorporates the necessary information on the teaching workload, hours in / outside the auditorium, attendance / program follow-up and the knowledge assessment methods, etc.	The study program issues detailed information on the distribution of subjects and modules in semesters and the teaching load. The MSc study program contains: 42% lectures 13% seminars 41% laboratory classes 3% practicum - see Table 13 [Reference. 5: HEI Regulation, Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program, and Teaching Plan]
<b>Criterion 5</b> The study program provides students with all the necessary information related to the general and specific criteria for admission, transfer and studies equivalence.	The regulation of the study program is drafted in accordance with the main acts of University regulation and Faculty regulation. The study program provides students for the transfer procedure from other Institutions to SUT and vice versa. All necessary information relating to the general and specific criteria for transfer and equivalence of studies is reflected in the regulation. [Reference. 5: HEI Regulation]
<b>Criterion 6</b> The study program contains the necessary information on course programs (detailed syllabuses) for each subject, training, seminars or laboratory classes, as well as all the components of each program in and outside the auditorium in accordance with the approved formats.	The form and content of a syllabus vary widely by discipline, course and instructor. Syllabuses are well formatted and completed with the necessary components. These components of syllabuses communicate to the students an accurate description of the course including the topics that will be cover, assignments and assessments students will be responsible for, as well as a clear source for policies and expectations. [Reference: Syllabuses of the Study Program and Teaching Plan]

<b>Criterion 7</b> The content of the study program is subject to continuous improvement and update and at the beginning of each academic year the eventual changes are approved, and the complete file is archived in both Albanian and English.	To improve teaching outcomes the Institution at the end of the calendar year proposes to the Dean's office, eventual changes for the study program, to improve and update it for the next academic year but there is no evidence of archived files in English language. [Reference. 38: Analysis of the responsible department and Reference. 52: Curriculum change procedure].			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard II.4</b>	
<b>The structure and organization of the study program is in accordance with the training objectives, the qualification level based on the National and European Qualifications Framework, learning outcomes and competencies, and labor market requirements.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The workload of the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program is structured in accordance with the applicable legal and sub-legal provisions.	The study program is structured in accordance with the applicable legal and sub-legal provisions. The two years MSc study program is composed of 120 ECTS. [Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program]
<b>Criterion 2</b> The designation, content of activities, division of courses and training enable and deepen knowledge and skills for further study and / or student employment.	All courses offered in this program help students to amplify knowledge and skills in the job market. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The courses / modules, division into years and semesters, and credit and classes evaluation enable the achievement of study program academic objectives and the expected results of learning and scientific research.	Based on conducted interview and Teaching Plan, the normal loan on credits is 60 per year, divided in 30 ECTS per semester and normal duration of 15 weeks.
<b>Criterion 4</b> Study program design, subjects and their designation, credits, and theory vs. practice ratio is in line with the profile of the master program and approximated with similar international programs	The study program in form and content is approximated to both HEIs in Albania and international programs. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 5</b> The division based on training activities and theory versus practice ratio enable teaching objectives achievement, transfer of studies, mobility and employment at the end of the study programs.	As evident from the teaching plan the knowledge gained in the subjects provided in this study program including the ration of theory and practice, makes the students able to transfer their studies and gain the necessary professional ability. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 6</b> Syllabus (course / module programs) are updated continuously based on the required and recommended literature of the last 5 years.	Syllabus of subjects are updated continuously, reviewed at the beginning of each semester by academic staff. Based on conducted interview and Reference. 52: Curriculum change procedure.
<b>Criterion 7</b> The content of the study program guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences intended for the second cycle study program.	The MSc program is in line with the objectives of second cycle study program and guarantees the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences intended for it. This program allows students to study the third cycle study program. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 8</b> Study program content promotes further study opportunities and / or hiring of students in line with	Students completing this MSc program have the right to continue doctoral studies. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.



expectations and labor market demands.									
<b>Criterion 9</b> In order to improve the study program content and adjustment to labor market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of partners from the labor market.	The alumni office provides students with support and information on their possibilities of employment or further career advancement. But based on the self-evaluation file, there is no evidence to prove that the department has taken into consideration the proposal of partners for this study program.								
<b>Criterion 10</b> The combination of theoretical and scientific content assignments provides advanced knowledge for study, research, analysis and follow-up of scientific activity in the third cycle study program.	Based on the Teaching Plan, results that the MSc study program provides advanced knowledge for study, research, analysis and follow-up of scientific activity in the third cycle study program. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.								
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Not met</td> <td>Partly met</td> <td>Substantially met</td> <td>Met</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> </tr> </table>	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met				X
Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
			X						

<b>Standard II.5</b>	
<b>The academic staff covering the study program meet the quantitative standards and have the appropriate and special academic qualification in accordance with the program area in order to guarantee the teaching standards of the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" study program.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The full-time and part-time academic staff engaged in study program delivery meet the applicable legal requirements.	The academic staff engaged in research possess necessary academic titles and qualifications, in accordance with the legislation.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The full-time and part-time academic staff engaged in delivering the "Master of Science" / "Master of Arts" program have the appropriate academic qualification, at the required level to manage study program course modules.	The academic staff of the study program meets the necessary formal criteria regarding the number of staff, academic or scientific titles of staff. During the academic year 2017-2018, the number of full-time academic staff engaged in the study program was 19, making 90% of the academic staff engaged, with only 2-part time academic staff. During the academic year 2018-2019, the number of full-time academic staff engaged in the study program was 23, making 92% of the academic staff engaged, with only 2-part time academic staff. And for the academic year 2019-2020, the number of full-time academic staff engaged in the study program is 25, making 95% of the academic staff engaged, with only 2-part time academic staff.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The general and specific academic and research field of academic staff covering the study program is in accordance with the study program, and its modules nature and specifications.	All the staff engaged in the last academic years, is qualified as required by the legal acts.  Academic staff engaged in teaching have the appropriate level of academic qualification to lead the program, according to areas where they are specialized. During academic year 2019-2020 the academic staff of the study program is composed of: 7 Prof. Assoc. 4 Prof. Dr., 16 Dr. [Reference. 23: Tabular data for academic staff in the Main Unit and study program, Table 6.1-3, Table 7]
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution, in cooperation and collaboration with other higher education institutions, as well as business	The support teaching staff collaborates with public institutions and private companies, for accommodation of students in these institutions and delivery of practicums.

representatives and companies provide sufficient, appropriate and qualified staff for students mentoring, counselling and supervision during practicum, diploma thesis and other specific activities, depending on study program nature.	Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution provides and guarantees support teaching and scientific staff engagement for the delivery of laboratory classes and maintenance of laboratories and other teaching facilities, according to the specific study program nature.	The institution provides and guarantees support teaching and scientific staff engagement for the delivery of laboratory classes and maintenance of laboratories. There are 5 support teaching staff. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard II.6</b>				
<b>The Higher Education Institution encourages students and partners to participate in the study program continuous improvement and successful delivery in accordance with their objectives.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> In order to improve the study program content and adjustment to the labor market requirements, the responsible structures consult and take into account the proposals of collaborators and partners from the labor market.	To improve the study program and to fulfill the practice hours planned in the curricula, the Faculty maintain contacts with the partners of labor market, but there is no evidence that proves the proposals of partners and collaborators in improving the study program in accordance with the needs of the labor market.			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The Institution encourages students and their relevant bodies to participate in discussions on study programs improvement Proposals are discussed and mirrored if they serve to study program improvement.	SUT includes students in discussions as part of improving the study program. [Reference. 55: Working group with participating students]			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution maintains contact and is consults with graduate students in order to obtain their proposals for study program improvement.	The Faculty maintains communication with graduate students. They are considered a necessary source for suggestions in program review. Based on conducted interview this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> In cooperation with public and non-public scientific research institutions, local government units, etc., the institution updates, adjusts and reorganizes special programs with a specific field of research.	There is no evidence of an adjustment or recognition of a special program with a specific field of research by the Institution.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Standard II.7</b>				
<b>The study program guarantees guidance in the relevant field of study and research.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The study program clearly defines the priorities and main academic and research objectives in line with the main	The MSc study program is in accordance with the main unit objectives. [Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]			

objectives of the legal framework on higher education.									
<b>Criterion 2</b> The main / basic unit promotes, coordinates and manages teaching, research or cultural activities, by observing academic staff academic freedom and the particular field of study.	SUT guarantee and respect academic freedom. [Reference. 6: Main Unit Regulation]								
<b>Criterion 3</b> The study program enables, encourages and motivates students to engage in studies, projects and research work.	The study program encourages and motivates students to engage in studies, projects and research work, but there is a lack of evidence to prove if any of students of this study program is involved in those projects or research work.								
<b>Criterion 4</b> The study program focuses on drafting and implementing regional and national study and scientific policies.	As admitted by the institution in the self-evaluation report a greater effort should be done in collaborations with partners abroad Albania with the aim of improving the study program's scientific research.								
<b>Criterion 5</b> In order to carryout scientific and research activities, the main unit is financially supported by the higher education institution and manages the revenues from various activities.	The main unit is financially supported by the Higher Education Institution (HEI), but the funds given for the scientific research work are insufficient and the institution should do a greater effort in fund absorption. [Reference. 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years, and Reference. 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers]								
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Not met</td> <td>Partly met</td> <td>Substantially met</td> <td>Met</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met			X	
Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met						
		X							

<b>Standard II.8</b>			
<b>The Higher Education Institution guarantee through the study program in-depth knowledge, studies and research work, as well as studies and research internationalization.</b>			
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>		
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution supports research groups and new scientific research projects and ensures cooperation with other research structures for achieving the study program research objectives.	Based on Reference. 3: Institution Development Strategy, Reference. 5: HEI Regulation, and Reference. 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years, this criterion is met.		
<b>Criterion 2</b> The Basic Unit engages in responding to scientific research and projects demands and engages academic staff and students in accomplishing these objectives.	The Institution supports the young researchers by enabling / supporting their students to present project at national / international conferences.  [Reference. 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years]		
<b>Criterion 3</b> The basic unit organizes conferences or activities within the field of the study programs in order to assist staff and students in achieving their objectives.	The basic unit organizes conferences in corporation with local and foreign partners in order to assist staff and students in achieving their objectives – an example would be the ICSS conferences that was held on December 6 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> 2019 ( <a href="http://ust.edu.al/en/konferenca-nderkombetare/">http://ust.edu.al/en/konferenca-nderkombetare/</a> ). Additional evidence was given in Reference. 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers.		
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	Not met	Partly met	Met
			X

Fulfillment of standards of Field II	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

### III. TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES

Standard III.1				
The Higher Education Institution pursues a clear policy to guarantee and promote the quality of teaching and develops special guidelines and directives designed for teaching methods development and monitoring.				
Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution drafts guidelines at the institutional level for the development and use of various and innovative teaching methods based on the field of study and subjects/ modules.	The institution drafts guidelines for the development and use of various and innovative teaching methods. [Reference. 3: Institution Development Strategy]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The responsible basic structures design monitoring mechanisms and periodically evaluate the academic staff teaching and innovative skills.	Based on the interviews with the students and academic staff results that SUT evaluates the academic staff through the student's questionnaires, which is done twice a year before each semester's exams, another instrument of academic staff evaluation is the template of academic performance.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution guarantees the students engagement in the teaching methods periodic assessment, competences assessment, including complaints addressal.	The institution guarantees the students engagement in the teaching methods periodic assessment. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The responsible structures for teaching quality monitoring and assurance, make public the evaluation results.	The Unite of Internal Quality Assurance periodically evaluates the performance of the academic staff and of the study program. [Reference. 38: Analysis of the responsible department and Reference. 40: Students questionnaire]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution, through evaluation mechanisms and achieved results, promotes examples of best practices, as well as encourages and motivates the academic staff to further improve teaching.	The Unite of Internal Quality Assurance once a year evaluates staff teaching, research and administrative staff. Part of this process is the self-assessment form of academic staff performance. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI]			
Fulfillment of standard	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard III.2				
The institution guarantees the development of the teaching, learning, and professional and scientific training with the best methods and practices.				
Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The most common channels of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer are lectures, seminars, laboratory work, course assignments, projects,	All channels of teaching, learning process, and knowledge transfer such as: lectures, seminars, laboratory work, course assignments, projects, professional clinical practice, public lectures and any other models, are included in the study			

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professional clinical practice, public lectures and any other models approved by the institution.	curriculum specified by the legislation. [Reference. 5: HEI Regulation, Teaching Plan and Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The academic staff must accept, observe and respond to students' diversity and needs, by providing various forms, methods and alternative teaching and learning opportunities, in accordance with the scope and nature of the study program in general, and the course modules in particular, and student feedback is encouraged in order to improve teaching practices.	The academic staff accept, observe and respond to students' diversity and needs, by providing various forms, methods and alternative teaching and learning opportunities. [Reference. 2: The Statute of HEI and Reference. 7: Regulation of the study program]			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution supports its academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables the use of diverse and flexible pedagogical methods, which are appropriate and consistent with the expected learning outcomes, teaching objectives and labor market demands.	To this end SUT supports academic staff to improve didactic competences, enables auditors and laboratories to use a variety and flexible pedagogical methods. [Ref. 3: Institution Development Strategy]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The academic staff engaged in teaching is competent in explaining knowledge and concepts, by using various teaching methods according to topics and profiles.	The academic staff engaged in the MSc study program is competent in explaining knowledge and concepts, by using various teaching methods according to topics and profile. [Ref. 7: Regulation of the study program]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution periodically evaluates and improves teaching methods forms and methods, including students' participation in the process and reflecting their thoughts and suggestions.	Quality assessment of teaching is carried out through auditing and surveying. There is no evidence of including the student's suggestions in the process of program improvement. [Reference. 5: HEI Regulation]			
<b>Criterion 6</b> The academic staff use interactive methods and discussion to make classes more appealing to students and encourage them to participate.	The academic staff uses interactive methods and discussion to make classes more attractive to students and encourage them to participate in class. [Reference. 3: Institution Development Strategy and Syllabuses]			
<b>Criterion 7</b> Teaching forms and methods encourage the student's sense of autonomy, by providing teacher supervision and support and building a mutual respect relationship between them.	The SUT encourages a good relationship with teachers and students in the class. The academic staff encourage the student's sense of autonomy. [Reference. 3: Institution Development Strategy]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard III.3</b> <b>The basic units guarantee the development of teaching, learning, and professional training, by making available all the necessary physical, didactic and logistic infrastructure to successfully carry out the teaching and scientific activity.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The teaching and scientific process is carried out in adequate and quality premises, which are clean and appropriately maintained.	Based on the viewing of the faculties SUT infrastructure is composed of a quality environment in support of academic activities, the teaching process is organized in clean premises. Classes for the realization of the teaching process are sufficient but



	there is a need in improving the laboratory facilities regarding this study program, in total SUT has 7 laboratories but as mentioned, there is a need in improving the labs with a better and more modern technology.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The premises dedicated to the learning process are functional and equipped with the necessary logistics for a qualitative learning process and practicums.	Based on the viewing of the faculties, the facilities available for the learning process are spacious but should be equipped with a more modern and innovative technology in order to deliver a qualitative teaching in practice.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The academic staff and students use various IT systems, and consolidated IT infrastructure necessary for the learning process.	On the university web page students and academic staff have their own spaces to log in. The classes are equipped with computers and video projectors. The IT learning process takes place in the computer labs. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 4</b> The required and recommended literature, made available to students in the study program language (in hard copy or soft copy), guarantees the acquisition of knowledge required for the study program.	Students are provided with basic literature and academic guidance from the academic staff, both physical and electronic, which guarantees the acquisition of knowledge required for the study program. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 5</b> The library of the institution guarantees a sufficient number of recent publications in the main field of the study program and sufficient and comfortable reading premises for students during the learning process.	Students and academic staff have full access to the library. The library is well equipped with recent textbooks and literature related to the program. The literature is available in hard and soft copy. Based on the viewing of the faculties, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 6</b> In terms of teaching and learning process, the academic staff and students have access to online libraries in similar fields to the study program.	The academic staff and students have access to online libraries in similar fields to the study program. The faculty has signed an agreement with Kinetic, which provides an e-books library accessible to students and academic staff. . However, students are not able to take books home for their studies. Based on the viewing of the faculties and interviews, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 7</b> The laboratory infrastructure necessary for lab classes, course assignments, diplomas and specific studies is continuously used by the students.	The laboratory infrastructure needed to carry out specific internships, course assignments and studies, is continuously used by students. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 8</b> In terms of teaching, academic staff uses on-line platforms (e-learning) and supports and encourages academic staff and students to use them.	On the SUT website students and academic staff use online platforms in different subjects during the learning and teaching process. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 9</b> The academic staff and students use internal communication systems to access electronic documents and their personal dedicated profile.	Students and academic staff use ESS3 online platform to access the electronic documents. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.
<b>Criterion 10</b> The academic staff guides students in the selecting their diploma thesis topics and assists and supports them during their development.	Academic staff guides students in the selection of diploma thesis, assists and supports with mentors their development. Based on the interviews, this can be confirmed.
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>
	<b>Partly met</b>
	<b>Substantially met</b>
	<b>Met</b>
	<b>X</b>

Standard III.4 The institution establishes special institutional structures, which raise the awareness on improving the study program teaching and learning quality.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The institution establishes structures/ units at the institutional level to promote the continuous improvement of teaching and coordinate its activity with the main/ basic units in the framework of improving the quality of teaching.</p>	<p>Based on the interviews, there is no evidence of any continuous development plans for staff members. However, based in the control of CV's of staff, the examined staff members did seem to have continuously educated themselves – by completing courses with other international bodies.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The main/ basic unit is responsible for teaching quality and raising the academic staff and students' awareness on the quality the study programs provides.</p>	<p>Duties and responsibilities are set forth in the statute and regulations of SUT. To determine the satisfaction with the quality of teaching the SUT performed previously questionnaires, which based on the conducted interviews demonstrated a 4 out 5 satisfaction across the students. [Reference 3. Institution Development Strategy, Reference 7. Regulation of the study program and Reference 38. Analysis of the responsible department.]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The structures and responsible units support the experimentation and development of innovative teaching methods.</p>	<p>Based on the interviews, there is no evidence for this. However, the MSc study program has no resources for innovative teaching methods. [Reference 3. Institution Development Strategy]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> The academic and support staff are constantly qualified in the field of scientific research to assist in the further improvement of teaching.</p>	<p>The SUT supports the organization of conferences; lecturers' participation in important scientific conferences and activities at home and abroad as well as the qualification of lecturers who do not hold a certain academic title to pursue doctoral studies. Although as accepted by the institution in the self-evaluation report, the institution should expand their collaborations in the field of scientific research in order to support the further qualification of the academic staff. [Reference 3: Institution Development Strategy, Reference 43: Full data on the academic qualification and research activities of the academic staff in the last 5 years, and Reference 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers.]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 5</b> The structures and units in charge continuously train academic staff to improve their teaching skills and implement new methods.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, based on the interviews, there is no evidence of any continuous development plans for staff members. However, based in the control of CV's of staff, the examined staff members did seem to have continuously educated themselves – by completing courses with other international bodies.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> The academic and support staff are responsible for implementing the study program and committed to improve teaching and implementing new methods.</p>	<p>Academic staff follows relevant guidelines and is committed to improve teaching performance by combining different teaching methods. [References 3: Institution Development Strategy]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 7</b> The academic staff test new teaching methods, analyze objectives/expectations and report periodically on results to the structures and units in charge.</p>	<p>Based on the Institution Development Strategy and Analysis of the responsible department, there are objectives set on the academic scientific research work but there is no evidence of testing new teaching methods.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 8</b> The institution, in the framework of partnership and partners'</p>	<p>Based on the interviews, there is much work being done on the outreach to external partners, while adjustments being made to</p>



involvement in the learning process, engages at various stages of the study program lecturers and researchers to share their ideas and methods on teaching and research.	accommodate the needs of external partners [References 34: Cooperation agreements and reference and Reference. 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Standard III.5</b> <b>The institution drafts regulations and special procedures on testing and assessing professional competences and skills and guarantees their implementation.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>		<b>Evaluation of experts</b>		
<b>Criterion 1</b> The criteria and the testing and assessment method of professional competences and skills are defined in special regulations and is announced to the students.		Based on interviews with the students and academic staff, the professional skills gained and evaluation methods in this study program are defined in the SUT Regulation and Syllabuses, the students are informed about these methods at the beginning of each subject. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation, Reference 7: Regulation of the study program and Reference 38: Analysis of the responsible department.]		
<b>Criterion 2</b> At the beginning of each course / module students are informed on testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills provided for in the course / module syllabus.		Based on the HEI Regulation, at the beginning of each course students are informed on testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills provided for in the course. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation, Reference 7: Regulation of the study program and Syllabuses]		
<b>Criterion 3</b> The testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills is realized in various models and ways, providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate the acquired competences and knowledge.		The testing and assessment method of professional competences and research skills is realized as predicted in the MSc's regulation. [Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]		
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard III.6</b> <b>The institution guarantees a fair and transparent evaluation based on each student's merits.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The testing and assessment of professional competences and research skills is carried out throughout the entire academic year and is mirrored in the final assessment.	The testing and assessment of professional competences and research skills is carried out throughout the entire academic year to encourage studying throughout the year, to generate an objective assessment and to evaluate progress throughout. Any evaluation of the lecturer should be accompanied by the relevant comments. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation]

<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The institution makes use of electronic testing and evaluation systems, which eliminate various forms of abuse and enhance transparency.</p>	<p>The institution does not provide electronic testing and evaluations. The elimination of forms of abuse and enhancing of transparency is assured by conducting tests with codification. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The final testing of professional competences and skills assessment is carried out by special commissions composed of at least 2 members, assigned and appointed by the main units, one of whom is the chairperson of the commission.</p>	<p>The final testing of professional competences and skills assessment is carried out by exam commissions, composed, as the regulation requires. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> The testing and assessment of written competences is anonymously conducted with codification and the institution provides a dedicated infrastructure monitored by the appropriate trained staff and / or security cameras.</p>	<p>The testing and assessment of written competences is anonymously and monitoring mainly by the academic staff or occasionally by security cameras. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 5</b> The assessment of competences and skills is accompanied by comments / feedback (if necessary) and includes recommendations for the learning process in order to help students improve in the future.</p>	<p>Based on references SUT Regulation, article 61, item 10; Senate Decision No. 38, dated 09.10.2017, On an Amendment of SUT Regulation, 50/1, item 2, this criterion is met.</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> The responsible units and academic staff avoid and do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating during exams and assignments.</p>	<p>All SUT staff and students have a responsibility to adhere the culture of learning with integrity. There is a lack of a system or mechanism against plagiarism. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 7: Regulation of Study Program]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 7</b> The results of checking professional competences and skills are merit based and delivered in time, based on the stipulations in the relevant regulations.</p>	<p>The results of checking professional competences and skills are merit-based and delivered in time and with transparency. [References 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 8</b> The institution guarantees students' right to be acquainted with the assessment procedure, and to request the assessment be reviewed in accordance with the regulations and evaluation procedures.</p>	<p>The institution guarantees students' right to be acquainted with the assessment procedure, and to request the assessment be reviewed. [References 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 53: SUT Code of Ethics and SUT Regulation of Ethics Council]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 9</b> Any claim or complaint is reviewed by the evaluation commission and then by the ad-hoc commission. The pursued procedure must be transparent to the parties involved, documented and archived.</p>	<p>With a written request from the students, the head of department conducts verification and takes the necessary steps (if needed). [Reference 5: HEI Regulation]</p>			
<p><b>Fulfillment of standard</b></p>	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

### Standard III.7

<b>Study program delivery guarantees students' creativity and practical skills enhancement, by simultaneously providing in-depth knowledge on professional and scientific competences.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The study program is delivered in a way that guarantees the students' competences acquisition and develop professional and special skills development.	Based on Teaching Plan and Syllabuses, the study program combination of theory and practical classes assures students the necessary professional competences and skills.			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The study program guarantees the development of specific skills in the field of information technology, including as well human, social, communication, and interaction (including foreign language) resources.	The inclusion in the MSc study program of subjects related to information technology, humanities, social sciences, ethics and communication, create the possibility of basic training in these areas. For example, the program covers biomedical knowledge, physical activity, tourism, research, social science, business management etc. – see Teaching Plan and Syllabuses.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> Student's competences and skills, presented in the study program and syllabi of each subject, are analyzed and reviewed at the end of the course.	In the study program and syllabuses of each subject, student's competences and skills, are analyzed and reviewed at the end of the course. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> At the end of each course / module, the academic staff points out the most important issues and guides students throughout their implementation and final test.	Based on the interviews with students and academic staff, in the last week of the subjects class, the pedagogues informs students where to focus in the final exam evaluation.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The academic staff (full time or visiting) delivers public lectures and workshops on new science and technology developments outside the study program.	Based on the self-evaluation report and reference Doc. 3 item 2; Doc. 54; Doc. 34, Annex Table 5, full-time or visiting academic staff organizes open lectures.			
<b>Criterion 6</b> Teaching is carried out on a competences-basis in order to provide students the opportunity to develop their competences in labs and practicums.	Based on staff CV and syllabuses, results that the academic staff is competent on delivering their subjects although it is recommended a better effort by the institution in improving the labs technology in order to offer students a better condition in practice.			
<b>Criterion 7</b> The academic staff supports discussion and teamwork in interpreting and solving certain problems / issues.	The academic staff has the right to interact professionally in interpreting and solving certain problems. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 8</b> The academic staff creates a suitable climate for the development of innovative ideas, advanced and scientific studies, and support.	The academic staff creates a suitable climate for collaboration with students, fostering the development of innovative ideas, advanced and scientific studies Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is meet.			
<b>Criterion 9</b> The institution promotes the development of innovative ideas, students advanced research and scientific studies, by providing them with financial support.	Students are supported with scholarships when they meet the conditions set out in the regulation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 10</b> The academic staff combine forms of teaching with partner institutions to enable and increase student mobility.	The academic staff combine forms of teaching with partner institutions to enable and increase student mobility. SUT has signed an agreement for Erasmus+ program. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard III.8</b>	
<b>The institution pursues a clear student graduation procedure in the study program and provides the students with the necessary documentation.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution drafts a special procedure for the final exam or diploma defense before the graduation and publishes it.	Based on self-evaluation file and HEI Regulation, the institution has drafted a specified procedure on student's final exam and diploma thesis defense.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The responsible structures and academic staff assist students by providing the necessary information, instructions and materials in the framework of final exam and diploma defense.	Based on the interviews with students and academic staff, results that the academic staff is allowed to assist no more than 5 students in during their diploma thesis by providing the necessary information, instructions and materials.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The special commission for the final exam administration is based on the testing of knowledge acquired during the last two academic years including all courses / modules based on their importance and specific importance.	Based on the Teaching Plan results that for this study program is applied a diploma thesis at the end of the study cycle.
<b>Criterion 4</b> The academic staff guides and assists students in selecting their diploma thesis topics.	The diploma thesis is an essential component of the Master courses. The academic staff guides and assists students in selecting their diploma thesis. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution assists students in carrying out measurements, analyzes, and tests in or outside institution premises, according to the specific objectives and scope of study.	Mentors are assigned from the institution to assist students in carrying out measurements, analyzes, and tests. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 6</b> Diploma Thesis Mentor assists the student in producing and processing the relevant results, as well as in drafting the thesis according to the approved instructions and guidelines. He guarantees the quality of the results and approves whether or not the work is complete and appropriate to be presented before the commission.	The mentors advise students to take part in their scientific activities and diploma thesis. They help students in drafting the thesis according to the approved instructions and guidelines. The mentors guarantee the quality of the results and approves whether or not the work is complete and appropriate to be presented in front of the commission. [Reference 5: The Regulation of HEI]
<b>Criterion 7</b> At the end of the exam or diploma defense, the student is evaluated with a final grade.	The students of this study program graduate with a diploma thesis defense, which is evaluated by a final grade. [Reference 10. Graduation Regulation]
<b>Criterion 8</b> At the end of studies, the student is provided with a diploma and its supplement licensed by the ministry responsible for education.	At the end of studies, the student is provided with a diploma and its supplement licensed by the ministry responsible for education. [Reference 15.1 Diploma Supplement]
<b>Criterion 9</b> At the end of the studies, a full official copy of the study program is made available to the student.	Based on reference Doc. 5 Art. 66 / 1,2,4,5; Doc. 7 Art. 36/1, the students who did meet the requirements of the program will be provided with the relevant diploma and certificate.

<b>Criterion 10</b> The institution retains a copy of the students' documentation for an indefinite period of time and issues attestations to the student, on a case by-case basis, if required.	The institutions archive the students' documentation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Fulfillment of standard of Field III</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

#### IV. HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES FOR STUDY PROGRAM DELIVERY

<b>Standard IV.1</b> <b>The Higher Education Institution follows transparent legal procedures on recruiting, evaluating and selecting staff for the study program.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution collects, stores and updates each academic year the data of the personnel engaged in the study program. These data include the academic staff involved in the program and the person responsible for organizing the study program, workload and academic staff engagement in each academic semester and year, as well as the teaching and the scientific support staff.	The Human Resources Office at the SUT maintains the documents for all academic staff. [Reference 2: The Statute of HEI, Reference 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 9: Regulation of the Secretariat]
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution drafts and implements procedures for academic staff recruitment, in accordance with the applicable legal basis and the institution's internal regulatory.	The procedures for recruiting academic staff are in accordance with the applicable legal basis and internal regulatory acts of the institution. The Human Resources office administers the procedure of filling the job vacancies. [Reference. 9: Regulation of the Secretariat and Reference 11: Human Resources Office Regulation].
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution drafts special and specific procedures and criteria, for the of staff recruitment, which are part of regulatory acts and makes them public.	According to the needs of SUT, a job vacancy is announced and sent to "On the announcement of vacancies" at the Bulletin of Public Announcements. Announcements are published on the SUT website. Recruitment criteria are proposed by the relevant department. [Reference. 9: Regulation of the Secretariat and Reference 11: Human Resources Office Regulation].
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution follows recruitment and evaluation procedures based on the announced general and specific criteria that ensure the selection of staff with the appropriate level of qualification and in accordance with the nature, structure, modules and the study program content.	Based on the interviews with the Human Resource Office, SUT Regulation and the self-evaluation file, the recruitment procedures are based on specific and general criteria according to the needs of the departments and the specifics of the study programs



Fulfillment of standard	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

Standard IV.2				
The Higher Education Institution is mainly responsible for the quality of staff who cover the study program and support for performing tasks efficiently and effectively.				
Criteria	Evaluation of experts			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution is committed to provide the staff with the appropriate environment and equal opportunities for performing their tasks professionally.	The code of ethics at SUT rests on the principle of supporting and creating equal opportunities for all employees. [Reference: 9: Regulation of the Secretariat and Reference 53: SUT Code of Ethics and SUT Regulation of Ethics Council]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution is committed to provide staff who administers the study program with continuous training and further professional development.	Scientific activity in the university is planned and financially supported in accordance with laws and regulations in force. The Human Resources office and Archive follows the legal procedures of specializations, qualifications, postgraduate studies of teaching and research staff and preserves relevant documentation. Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution organizes specific programs regarding innovative teaching methods and use of new technologies for academic and scientific research staff's further professional qualification.	Based on the conducted interviews no Continuing Professional Development plans are in place.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution demonstrates an optimal employee commitment to meet second cycle study program objectives.	The institution demonstrates an optimal employee commitment to meet MSc's objectives. [Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]			
Fulfillment of standard	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
			X	

Standard IV.3	
The Higher Education Institution makes available the learning premises and the appropriate infrastructure for the delivery of study program teaching process and practical training, according to the nature and area of the study program.	
Criteria	Evaluation of experts
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution provides sufficient and appropriate teaching facilities for the development of theoretical teaching activity, depending on the number of students and study groups, in accordance with the specific nature of the study program and respective modules.	The institution provides teaching facilities for the development of theoretical teaching activity, in accordance with the specific nature of the study program. [Reference 3: Institution Development Strategy]
<b>Criterion 2</b> Learning premises such as classrooms, labs, studios and the like are equipped with electronic and information technology devices that guarantee the realization of the theoretical and practical teaching process through the use of contemporary teaching methodology and	The university offers learning environments, such as: classrooms, laboratories and other environments, which is recommended to be equipped with updated electronic and information technology tools that guarantee the realization of theoretical and practical learning process.

technology.	
<b>Criterion 3</b> Laboratories, studios, ateliers or other premises, according to the specific nature of the program, shall contain the necessary equipment and tools to meet module requirements, theoretical and practical training, and the overall study program objectives.	SUT possess of several facilities equipped with all the necessary teaching, research, administrative and service infrastructure. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution provides at least one information technology lab, equipped with advanced programs appropriate to the area of the study programs it provides.	Based on the tour of the facilities realized during the site visit, the institution has information 1 lab but is recommended to be equipped with better technology and information programs.
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution guarantees, with its available capacities and / or in cooperation with other institutions and entities (certified through special partnership agreements) that the premises are sufficient, appropriate and dedicated for the development of professional training and other practical activities.	Based on the site visit tour and self-evaluation file results that the institution has a number of partnership agreements on the realization of students professional practice hours and 7 labs but is recommended a better effort by the institution in increasing the number of agreements in order to offer students better laboratory and infrastructure conditions during their professional trainings.
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>
	<b>Partly met</b>
	<b>Substantially met</b>
	<b>Met</b>
	<b>X</b>

<b>Standard IV.4</b>	
<b>The Higher Education Institution provides students with learning support premises, library, special learning premises and the necessary literature to support the learning process for the students of each study programs.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution makes available to students the resources library, thus guaranteeing students equal access to the study program.	The new library building is equipped with 12 computers and 48 reading places and provides access to the Internet Based on the conducted interviews this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The library should be equipped with the necessary literature such as: basic textbooks, recommended literature, both in Albanian and foreign languages, necessary and appropriate books or journals to cover all modules and courses according to each study programs.	The library is equipped with the necessary literature such as: basic textbooks, recommended literature, both in Albanian and foreign languages. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution should enable the adequate conditions for students' equal access to the on-line library for each study program course.	SUT's library facilities provide unlimited internet access, full access to electronic book resources. Based on the given tour this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 4</b> The library should be equipped	Based on the site visit facilities tour, as mentioned above,



with computer programs and other technical equipment, enabling unrestricted use by all students.	results that the library has 12 computers and 48 reading places, but those computers serves mostly for the access to the internet or for different course assignments and are not equipped with computer programs or other technical equipment necessary for the study program.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution should develop and implement a detailed plan for adding new items to the library and updating the existing fund in order to assist the students of each study programs.	Based on the self-evaluation file, the documents required during the site visit and the interviews during the visit results that there is no evidence of a detailed plan about the updating and adding new items on library database.			
<b>Criterion 6</b> The library schedule (opening hours) should be in line with the teaching process schedule, but not limited to, and beyond, appropriate to students' number and needs, as well as its capacity.	Based on the interviews with the students, results that SUT's Library is open throughout the official working hours. The library schedule also suits the teaching process schedules			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			X	

<b>Standard IV.5</b>	
<b>The Higher Education Institution has an internal institutional management system, which is made available to the management, information and monitoring of academic, financial and administrative activity for the study program.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution has in place a management system for the management of all student-related information and activity from enrollment to the study programs up to graduation.	Based on the interviews with the students is confirmed that SUT students uses ESS3 management platform where they get informed about their academic process during the study program.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The internal management system manages the information, documentation and activities of, research staff, administrative staff and partners involved in the program implementation.	Based on the interviews with students and academic staff ESS3 management platform is a platform that helps students in accessing the basic and necessary documentation about their study program, but this platform does not offer information about partners involved in the implementation of the study program.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The management system provides dedicated access to information and documents for all study program staff and students.	ESS3 management system provides students access to the necessary information related to the study program Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 4</b> The management system has integrated platforms and modules that enable interactive communication and information exchange among staff and students.	In the ESSE system, students find all the information about the exams; date, time of their administration and are notified about exam results by the registrar portal via a text message. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 5</b> The management system guarantees real-time monitoring of academic and administrative activity and enables individual and real-time reporting to management and unit heads.	Management system includes: 1- The Dean, who directs and supervises all teaching-scientific work, at faculty and basic unit level. 2- Calls by the Dean to report and provide disciplinary action towards employees in accordance with SUT regulations and

	<p>legal provisions in force.</p> <p>3- Quality assessment of teaching, scientific research and any other tasks carried out by the basic units.</p> <p>4- On-line integration of platforms with dedicated space for lecturers and students.</p> <p>4- Administration and maintenance of the internal camera system server at SUT facilities under the supervision of the IT office.</p> <p>Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 6</b> Information related to the study program, academic staff, and the various events and activities is published in the website in at least two languages, one of which is Albanian.</p>	<p>Referring to the website of the university <a href="http://www.ust.edu.al">www.ust.edu.al</a>, the information on study program regulation, composition of academic staff, teaching plan and other information related to the study program are not found. Based on the university official website there are some publications of activities organized by the HEI, but the information is only in Albanian language.</p>			
<p><b>Fulfillment of standard</b></p>	<p><b>Not met</b></p>	<p><b>Partly met</b></p>	<p><b>Substantially met</b></p>	<p><b>Met</b></p>
			<p><b>X</b></p>	

<p><b>Standard IV.6</b>  <b>The Higher Education Institution guarantees the necessary financial support for the implementation of the teaching / research process, study program progress and students' support.</b></p>	
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Evaluation of experts</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The institution drafts a financial report on the study program costs and the financial support plan required for the study program progress for at least one full cycle study program.</p>	<p>The financial report of the Master of Science study program consists of the expenses for covering academic staff payments, which makes up the major expense, and also expenses to cover payments of support teaching and administrative staff engaged for the duration of the MSc; operating expenses for didactic materials for the teaching process and infrastructure operation costs for the purpose of the study, and depreciation costs. [Reference 49: Data from the annual institutional financial report].</p>
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> A study program funding plan should include funding for human resources made available to the program implementation, operating costs for premises maintenance and teaching process support technologies, library and literature enrichment costs, and access to on-line libraries, financial obligations, national or international grants received and service contracts on the study program performance, and other items, according to its specific nature.</p>	<p>Based on self-evaluation file, there is no evidence of genuine funding plan, but there is only a given table, that includes only the several costs and incomes, but it doesn't offer detailed panorama of the study program, financial obligations.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> The institution conducts an annual audit, assesses and documents the financial situation and its financial effectiveness. The financial report contains a detailed financial statement of income</p>	<p>SUT does not have an established audit unit, but it is audited on the basis of a specialized internal audit by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth on an annual basis. It is recommended that, given also the small number of</p>

deriving from tuition fees and other financial contributions for students or financial resources allocation.	students registered in this study program, the faculty to compile a report of the study program costs. [Reference 49: Data from the annual institutional financial report]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> At the end of each full cycle study program, the institution documents the financial reports for the past three academic years and plans the special interventions and eventual diversification of the program funding to ensure its smooth performance and progress.	Over the last three years SUT budget has been sufficient and has guaranteed the progress and successful delivery of the study program. [Reference 49: Data from the annual institutional financial report].			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution must demonstrate that it guarantees financial sustainability throughout the development of the study program and has the necessary financial capacity to improve the financial situation and generate the necessary income in the future.	Based on the self-evaluation file, the latest financial report that is part of the self-evaluation file is compiled in the year 2018. The institution should draft financial reports specific for the study program, in order to measure its effectiveness.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Fulfillment of standards of Field IV</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

## V. STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT

<b>Standard V.1</b> <b>The Higher Education Institution drafts, follows and implements policies and procedures on students' admission, selection, progress, transfer, knowledge assessment and graduation in the study program.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution develops and implements policies and procedures that cover the full academic cycle study program, from enrollment to university up to graduation, in accordance with applicable legislation and regulatory acts.	The institution develops and implements policies and procedures that cover the full academic cycle study program, from enrollment to university up to graduation, in accordance with applicable legislative. [Reference 2: The Statute of HEI].
<b>Criterion 2</b> Policies and procedures from enrollment to graduation guarantee equality and equal rights to all study program applicants and students.	Based on the HEI Statute and Program Regulation, this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 3</b> Students' admission and selection criteria and procedure, progress throughout the study course, transfer, recognition of previous or part-time studies, competence assessment and graduation are easily understandable and accessible to the public.	All student admission and selection criteria throughout the program of study, transfer procedure and prior study recognition are in accordance with SUT regulatory acts [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution drafts and	The institution drafts and publishes at the beginning of each

publishes at the beginning of each academic year the criteria for the selection of candidates to be admitted to the second cycle study program.	academic year the criteria for the selection of candidates to be admitted to the second cycle study program. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].			
<b>Criterion 5</b> Prior to the beginning of each academic year, the Higher Education Institution instructs the public and interested parties on study program general and specific criteria and requirements.	Prior to the start of each academic year, the Dean Office at the faculty sets out general and specific admission criteria to the second cycle of studies and makes them transparent. [Reference 7: Regulation of the study program]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard V.2</b>				
<b>The Higher Education Institution makes available to the students of the study program detailed and comprehensive information on the academic progress, recognition, and knowledge assessment up to the studies completion and graduation.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution provides full and detailed information on the criteria and procedures for students' academic progress and transition from one academic year to the other.	Based on SUT's regulation, the institution provides full and detailed information. From the conducted interview, after the exam is assessed by the lecture the grade of the exam is forwarded to the secretary, which records the grade in within a 'study book' and on a database.			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution informs students about diploma recognition procedures and criteria regarding previous qualifications or part-time studies.	SUT regulation stipulates criteria and procedure for recognition of qualifications or partial studies. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution informs students about the criteria and procedures on knowledge and skills assessment during the study program.	The institution informs students about the criteria and procedures on knowledge and skills assessment during the study program. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution informs students about study program graduation criteria and procedures.	The institution informs students about study program graduation criteria and procedures. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].			
<b>Criterion 5</b> Before the beginning of and throughout each academic year, the institution publishes special directives and organizes briefings to inform potential students and current students about the study program.	Based interviews with the academic staff, students and evidences, like Leaflets, Papers on Staff engagement in information/open days and faculty guide, results that the institution engages in informing potential students about this study program.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard V.3</b>				
<b>The Higher Education Institution provides students with comprehensive and detailed information on training objectives, structure, organization, study program content, expected learning outcomes and employment opportunities.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The students are thoroughly	Students have the ability to inform themselves using a variety			

informed on study program design, organization and duration.	of web pages and the SUT Regulation. During the interview's students did mention that they informed themselves online about the program.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution provides students with the necessary information and documentation on modules/course content and training activities.	Students have at their disposal all the necessary and essential information about the curriculum, syllabus of every subject Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution informs students on employment opportunities as well as institutional support on career counselling and labor market.	Through the Alumni platform, students are informed about the employment offers and employment requirements. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 4</b> Students are provided with extensive and up-to-date information on the teaching process development and organization, logistics, infrastructure and services in order to accomplish it.	SUT provides students with detailed, updated information on the organization and development of the teaching process, the annual structure of the academic year, the respective timetables and halls, which are displayed on the notice board. Another way to get information is through social networks such as the SUT Facebook account and the university website. ( <a href="http://www.ust.edu.al">www.ust.edu.al</a> ). Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.
<b>Criterion 5</b> Information about the study program is provided through the internal information management system and should be easily accessible even to distance students.	SUT students at the time of registration are provided with a matriculation number and personal account by the IT office, to gain access to the ESSE 3 platform, where they can manage all necessary information. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met
<b>Criterion 6</b> The internal management system manages the information, documentation and student learning activities.	All information about students from entry to graduation is available through the ESS3 platform. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>
	<b>Partly met</b>
	<b>Substantially met</b>
	<b>Met</b>
	<b>X</b>

<b>Standard V.4</b>	
<b>The Higher Education Institution collects, manages, updates and maintains detailed information about the number of students attending the second cycle study program from their admission to university, as well as employment/career data through an internal IT management system.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution produces annual statistics on the number of current and graduated students in each study program.	Based on reference 23.1, Annex Tables, Table 21 and 23, for the academic year 2017-2018 there are no graduated students in this study program, meanwhile for the academic year 2018-2019 there are 10 graduated students. The number of students for the academic year 2019-2020 is 16.
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution produces annual statistics on the number of students enrolled to the second cycle study program, dropouts during or before the end of the program, or the successful completion of the academic year in which the study program is delivered.	Based on reference 23.1, Annex Tables, Table 21, for the period of study 2017-2020 there are a total of 47 registered students for the first time, meanwhile there are no students transferred or students that have interrupted their studies. During the period of study 2017-2020, there is a total of 26 graduated students, only 12 of them are employed in



	accordance to their diploma.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution possesses data on the students' progress throughout the study program course from their admission up to their graduation.	SUT keeps records of every student's performance throughout the course of program development, from entry, graduation, and up to their grade point average. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> Student statistical data are managed through the internal information system and must be secured and easily accessible to authorized persons.	The ESSE 3 electronic platform serves to store, process and administer all data related to students and academic staff. Based on the conducted interview this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution should develop periodic monitoring reports on incoming and exiting students' profile and quality, as well as their employment rate, along with appropriate measures to improve these indicators.	As mentioned above the institution keeps data on student's graduation and their employment, but only a few of them are employed in accordance to their diploma. There is no evidence of a report by the faculty or the department in determining the causes of student's low number employment, in accordance to their diploma.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			<b>X</b>	

<b>Standard V.5</b>	
<b>The Higher Education Institution includes and engages students in decision-making and advisory bodies such as drafting, approving, reviewing and improving the study programs, teaching methods and the quality of provided resources and services.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution envisages students and their representatives' involvement and engagement in decision-making and advisory bodies, according to HEI legal and regulatory acts of the HEI.	The regulation of the MSc emphasizes the right of students to be represented in the university's governing and decision-making bodies. [Reference 55: Working groups with participating students].
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution should ensure that students and / or their representatives' involvement in decision-making, counselling or evaluation on the academic process be realistic, specific, productive and with easily verifiable and measurable results.	Participation of students is easily measurable. A measurable indicator is students' participation in the students' council, the evaluation working groups at university and faculty level, the Self-Evaluation Group GSB, the Senate, the Ethics Council. [Reference 55: Working groups with participating students]
<b>Criterion 3</b> In designing and improving the study program, the institution should take into account the academic load of students in the study program and the provision of the student progress procedures throughout the program, including recognition of their full or partial study programs.	Based on the interviews with academic staff and students, SUT while designing and improving the study program, takes into account the academic load of students in the and the provision of the student progress procedures throughout the program. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation and Reference 52: Curriculum change procedure]
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution guarantees the students' involvement in drafting, reviewing and improving the study program on a regular basis and reflects their suggestions and contributions.	Student questionnaires provide a measurable evaluation indicator of the quality of teaching and study program. [Reference 40: Student questionnaire].
<b>Criterion 5</b> Students are encouraged to give their input on equality and knowledge	The regulation of SUT and of the study program emphasize

assessment and control transparency, including their right to appeal with the responsible body / unit / lecturer the result, assessment, and evaluation awarded.	students' rights related to the application of all professional, scientific criteria related to teaching, research and assessment. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard V.6</b>				
<b>The academic staff engaged in the study program participates in research and scientific activities and motivates student participation and involvement in studies and projects.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The academic staff participates in international conferences or scientific research activities.	Based on reference 23.1 Annex Tables, Table no 19 and no 20 , and conducted interviews with the academic staff and students, (low number of papers) this criterion is partly met.			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution establishes partnership agreements with foreign higher education institutions and institutes, for the purpose of conducting joint studies, projects and research.	SUT has entered into partnership agreements for the purpose of conducting joint studies or projects and research. It is recommended a better effort in increasing the number of cooperation agreements about projects and research. [Reference 34: Cooperation agreements].			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The academic staff motivates students to plan, write and publish scientific studies and papers.	Based on the interviews with the teaching staff, the students are supported and motivated in publishing papers and scientific studies, but the scientific research in the department is in low levels.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution supports academic staff and students' publications in international scientific journals.	There is a low number of publications conducted by the academic staff of the study program, the institutions should take measures in supporting more, the academic staff and students in publishing or participating in conferences related to the study program focus. [Reference 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution and academic staff motivate and support students to engage in innovation studies and patents.	Based on the meeting with the teaching staff and students, there is no evidence of students engagement in innovations studies.			
<b>Criterion 6</b> The academic staff provides the necessary assistance to carry out analyzes, study measurements and results processing within the scope of the study program.	Academic staff consistently provide students with the necessary assistance throughout their scientific-research work [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
		<b>X</b>		

<b>Standard V.7</b>				
<b>The support of the Higher Education Institution furthers advanced studies and research.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution pursues a cooperation policy with national scientific organizations and institutions, in order to increase study program staff and students' activities and mobility.	SUT, in collaboration and partnership with counterpart universities, aims at an institutional policy regarding the qualification of academic staff and students, assisting their mobility. [Reference 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers, 34.Cooperation agreements]			



<b>Criterion 2</b> The research methods implementation by academic staff and students ensures the students' preparation for the third cycle degree program.	In the MSc study program curriculum, subjects related to scientific research, research methodology, qualitative, quantitative research and SPSS statistical processing of study data make up a significant part of the curriculum. Based on conducted interviews this criterion is met.			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution pursues a policy about involving new researchers in national and international research projects.	Based on the self-evaluation file documents and site visit meetings, there is no evidence of a policy in involving national and international research projects this is also, due to the low scientific research conducted in the department.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution pursues an integrated policy for national/international researchers.	SUT partnership agreements with foreign counterpart partner institutions aim to strengthen integration policies of academic staff and researchers with foreign counterparts in order to gain the best experiences, but it is recommended further and more efficient collaboration in order to increase the scientific research capacities related to this study program.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution pursues a favorable policy for student mobility, by engaging them in international activities.	SUT encourages students to participate in various scientific and international activities [Reference 54: Events, trainings, mobility and open lecturers].			
<b>Criterion 6</b> The institution invites research and teaching activities, academic staff and foreign students for different periods of time, in order to increase HEI/university international profile.	SUT as part of Erasmus programs enables student's mobility but there are no foreign students invited due also to the language obstacle since SUT doesn't offer subjects in English language, meanwhile based on the reference 23.1 Table no 20 and reference 34. Cooperation agreements SUT invites research and teaching staff, personalities of the field also from other countries.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
		<b>X</b>		

<b>Standard V.8</b> <b>The Higher Education Institution has special units and procedures for student admission, induction, counseling, complaints and issues management, as well as a problem-solving strategy which are easily accessible and usable by students.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution has a special units and procedures which ensure student information and assistance in accordance with the legal provisions and HEIs regulatory acts.	The institution is transparent with the students will all the necessary information regarding the university, fees, entry criteria, development strategy etc. [Reference 5: HEI Regulation].
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution has set up and introduced a special system for students' information, counseling, progress and assistance in matters related to the teaching process and study program.	Based on the interviews with the students and academic staff results that the students are incessantly provided with assistance the teaching process and study program.
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution provides students with career counseling assistance. The Career Counselling Office / Unit welcomes students continuously and periodically, providing specific information and guidance in terms of completing the learning process, selection and induction	The Career and Alumni Office provides students with information for completing the learning process and the possibility of employment. It is recommended a stronger involvement by the Career office in advising students about their employment opportunities, due to the small number of students that are employed in accordance with

regarding professional training in other institutions (internships), and also advises them on labor market.	their diploma.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The Career Office / Unit follows-up students after graduation, by collecting, processing and storing data on the type and quality of study program student employment and makes them available to students and relevant bodies and authorities.	The Career and Alumni Office has detailed information on the graduated students and is keeping records of their employment and makes them available to students and relevant bodies and authorities.  [Reference Annex Table 23: Data on students' graduation and employment].			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			X	

<b>Fulfillment of standards of Field V</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
			X	

## VI. STUDY PROGRAMS' QUALITY ASSURANCE

<b>Standard VI.1 The Higher Education Institution drafts and implements transparent policies and procedures on the study program quality assurance within the framework of internal quality assurance system.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution has in place policies, structures and procedures for Internal Quality Assurance (IQA), in accordance with applicable legal and sublegal provisions and with institutional regulatory acts.	In accordance with the requirements of Albanian Legislation, the provision of the Statute and the Regulation of SUT the UIQA has been established. [Reference 18: Fulfillment from internal quality evaluation].			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution has established and introduced the Internal Quality Assurance System and implements an institutional strategy for continuous quality improvement, including students and external partners and experts.	The Unite of Internal Quality Assurance is responsible for the design of policies and procedures for the internal quality assurance, implementation and continuous improvement of the quality system in the institution. [Reference 18: Fulfillment from internal quality evaluation and The Regulation of the Organization and Operation of IQAU].			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The Institution uses the appropriate quality assurance instruments. External Quality Assurance in Higher Education is realized through external accreditation assessment processes, analytical and comparative evaluations, as well as other processes that promote and improve quality.	The SUT senate has approved the External Consultants and External Evaluation processes in order to improve the quality of teaching. [Reference 18: Fulfillment from internal quality evaluation and The Regulation of the Organization and Operation of IQAU].			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The Institution has drafted a clear policy and follows periodic procedures to ensure and improve the quality of the study program it provides, within the IQA framework. They aim to create a quality culture at the institutional level, the constituent units and all institutional internal actors.	The SUT has drafted a clear policy and follows periodic procedures to ensure and improve the quality of the study program it provides, within the IQA framework. [Reference 8: Regulation of the Internal Quality Assurance Unit].			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>

				<b>X</b>
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<b>Standard VI.2</b>				
<b>The Higher Education Institution monitors and evaluates periodically through the special units the study program to ensure training objectives achievement and the intended learning outcomes.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The institution establishes a special unit for monitoring, reviewing, and supervising the second cycle study program.	Based on the self-evaluation file and interviews with the Dean and Head of Department results that the institution establishes a special working group for monitoring and supervising the MSc study program and reports to the Rector's office. [Reference 18.2 IQAU External Consultants Decision]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The institution uses formal and documented processes and mechanisms for reviewing, approving and supervising the second cycle study program periodically.	Based on references 52: Curriculum change procedure, the SUT did introduce changes, whereby the revised material was within the boundaries set by the Law No.80/2015 on Higher Education and DCM No.41(no more than 20% of the curriculum).			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The institution uses assessment methodology, measuring instruments and evaluation instruments for the study program progress and success.	Based on the interviews with students and IQAU staff, results that SUT uses different instruments in measuring the quality of the study program, like the student's questionnaires and yearly staff academic performance.			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The results of these assessments are documented and put forward to the responsible and decision-making authorities for the study program.	Based on the interviews with IQAU and head of department the results of the assessments are forwarded from the IQAU to the Head of department and later on the head of department compiles and forwards a report to the Dean of the faculty.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The evaluation reports should include the expected results, the assessment results of and the measures taken to address the issues and the ongoing quality improvement.	The evaluation report is compiled at the end of the academic year and presents all the aggregated results for each main unit and base unit. [Reference 37: Published annual reports on monitoring and quality assurance]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standard VI.3</b>	
<b>The Higher Education Institution makes use of assessment procedures, methodologies, and instruments for the study program opening, development, and progress; graduation, entering the labor market as well as students' further studies.</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>
<b>Criterion 1</b> The study program internal evaluation is periodically performed by the relevant internal quality assurance unit. The Higher Education Institution incorporates this information in the institutional self-assessment procedure within the accreditation and rating framework.	The Self Evaluation of the MSc study program is reviewed by the council of professors. [Ref. 37: Published annual reports on monitoring and quality assurance].

<p><b>Criterion 2</b> In order to carry out the assessment, the institution uses various appropriate and adequate methods and instruments, in line with the nature and features of the study program scope.</p>	<p>The institution uses different appropriate methods and instruments for the assessment process. [Reference 40: Student questionnaire]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> In the framework of evaluating study program performance and quality, the institution employs direct methods such as: quality assessment of teaching, didactics, curricula, learning outcomes; parallel assessment of student examinations or assignments, direct observations in the auditorium during practice, local or standardized tests, results achieved in inter-institutional or national tests such as state exam for regulated professions etc.</p>	<p>The institution uses a variety of methods for evaluation process such as quality assessment of teaching, didactics, curricula, learning outcomes; parallel assessment of student examinations or assignments, direct observations in the auditorium during practice, local or standardized tests, results achieved in inter-institutional or national tests such as state exam for regulated professions etc. [Reference 37: Published annual reports on monitoring and quality assurance and 38: Analysis of the responsible department]</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 4</b> In the framework of study program quality and performance evaluation, the institution uses indirect assessment methods and instruments such as: students, graduates (alumni), and academic staff's surveys and interviews; academic and administrative assistance, employers and institutions that cooperate for the study program delivery and other parties involved in conducting the assessment of knowledge and competences acquired during this program.</p>	<p>Periodic reports from IQAU, external consultants and student surveys are parts of evaluating process. [Reference 38: Analysis of the responsible department and 40: Students questionnaire]</p>			
<p><b>Fulfillment of standard</b></p>	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
				X

<p><b>Standard VI.4</b> <b>The Higher Education Institution includes academic units, staff and students in the study program IQA process and informs interested parties on the results and the subsequent action plan.</b></p>	
<p><b>Criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Evaluation of experts</b></p>
<p><b>Criterion 1</b> The institution should provide for and guarantee the involvement of internal and external actors, interested in ensuring and improving the study program in internal quality policies and procedures.</p>	<p>The institution has adjusted a plan whose mission is to guarantee the involvement of internal and external actors, interested in ensuring and improving the study program in internal quality policies and procedures. [Reference 18: Fulfillment from internal quality evaluation and Reference 18.2 IQAU External Consultants Decision ]</p>
<p><b>Criterion 2</b> The institution defines the specific responsibilities and tasks of main units, individuals, students and other parties engaged in the study program internal quality assurance and guarantees the responsible performance of these tasks.</p>	<p>Based on the SUT Regulation and IQAU Regulation, the staff included in the process of quality assurance has clear tasks and responsibilities defined.</p>
<p><b>Criterion 3</b> During study program assessment and quality assurance it is important to guarantee the inclusion of the main unit responsible for the study program, academic staff, academic and administrative assistants and study program students.</p>	<p>Based on the interviews realized during the site visit and Reference 38, results that IQAU interacts with basic units, main units and aims to raise the knowledge of academic staff and students pursuing the MSc.</p>

<b>Criterion 4</b> Internal actors' inclusion and engagement in the continuous assessment procedures should observe the academic integrity and avoid any kind of discrimination or inequality against staff and students.	Based on self-evaluation file and self-evaluation report results that SUT takes into consideration the academic integrity of the staff in determining the groups of internal evaluation procedures. Also, SUT has provided quotas for the students with different abilities.			
<b>Criterion 5</b> Partners and / or external experts, who are related to the study program, or can provide valuable expertise and input about the program quality and improvement should actively participate in the assessment and internal quality assurance processes.	Partners who are related to the study program, actively participate in the assessment and internal quality assurance processes. [Reference 18.2 IQAU External Consultants Decision and Reference 34. Cooperation Agreements]			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Standards VI. 5</b>				
<b>Policies, processes and activities for the study program Internal Quality Assurance should be made public, transparent, and effective, with the view to establish an Internal Quality Assurance Culture.</b>				
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluation of experts</b>			
<b>Criterion 1</b> The policy, strategy, organization and activities within the framework of study program Internal Quality Assurance system are transparent and are made public to all students and parties concerned.	The publication of information about the policy, strategy, organization and activities within the framework of study program Internal Quality Assurance, at the SUT is done via electronic and printed means [Reference 8. IQAU Regulation and Reference 2. HEI Statute]			
<b>Criterion 2</b> The Higher Education Institution publishes the results of the study programs assessment, by observing the academic freedom and ethics, as well as the legislation on personal data.	SUT makes information on assessment results transparent by respecting the academic freedom and ethics, as well as the legislation on personal data. [Reference 53.1 Code of Ethics]			
<b>Criterion 3</b> The assessment results should go along with an action plan designed to address and improve the identified weaknesses and issues.	UIQA has a work plan that takes into account the results of the assessments during the year. [Reference 37: Published annual reports on monitoring and quality assurance]			
<b>Criterion 4</b> The institution assesses and ensures activities' effectiveness and impact in the framework of monitoring and quality assessment, with the view to ensure the ongoing study program improvement.	SUT assesses and ensures activities' effectiveness and impact in the framework of monitoring and quality assessment. [Reference: Regulation of IQAU and Reference 5. HEI Regulation]			
<b>Criterion 5</b> The institution organizes periodic activities with staff and students for their information and awareness raising on the long-term quality assurance and study program improvement.	Based on the interviews with academic staff and students results that there is constant communication with academic staff and students for their information and awareness raising on the long-term quality assurance and study program improvement.			
<b>Fulfillment of standard</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>

<b>Fulfillment of standards of Field VI</b>	<b>Not met</b>	<b>Partly met</b>	<b>Substantially met</b>	<b>Met</b>
				<b>X</b>



**Summary Conclusions of the External Evaluation Report, of the second cycle study program Master of Science in “Physical Activity and Health”, of the Higher Education Institution “Sports University of Tirana”**

**Strengths /Affirmations**

1. The study program is organized in accordance to the law on “Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania” and by laws in force.
2. Strength of the program is the diversity of experts the program has – e.g. multi-disciplinary team.
3. The academic staff is competent, experienced, and passionate about the program and the subject they teach and hold the necessary degree qualifications.
4. The institution has a unique and long term experience in Albania, in the field of Sport Sciences.

**Weaknesses**

1. Limited laboratory and sporting facilities.
2. A limitation noticed is the lack of any regular continuous professional development for the lectures within the program.
3. Poor research experience / low research study output.
4. The cooperation with potential employers and institutions for training and internships are informal.
5. The lack of English language modules, which would increase the student’s mobility.
6. Lack of study program information such as composition of academic staff, teaching plan, study program regulation, on the web site of the institution.
7. Weak support of academic staff and student’s research activities such as publications and conferences by the institution.
8. There is a noticeable dependency on old / traditional programs and a low level of innovation drive.
9. The “hands” on experiences within the program are limited and little practical experience is shared.

**Recommendations**

1. Based on the tour given, the laboratories and sporting facilities could be ‘upgraded’. A possible solution to do so is to seek external funding. This could be done in collaboration with other universities, which would in turn also establish new partners. As such, the SUT might register themselves as potential partner in H2020 calls (<https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en>) or even seek to get a proposal in themselves. If funds would be secured, the SUT could invest in laboratories and sporting facilities as defined in the project proposal – many European universities have used such funds to purchase a motion capture system or similar.
2. A limitation noticed was the lack of any continuous professional development for the lectures within the program, while some lectures seem to have improved skills on their own (based on CV double check with HR). The university could have monthly research meetings with a recent study being discussed – or have an external speaker share knowledge. This would encourage interdisciplinary work and possibly increase academic publications. Another option would be to support staff members financially to participate in external courses (like: [www.coursera.com](http://www.coursera.com)) to improve / enable the use of open source / free software like: R, python, jasp.
3. It is recommended a greater effort by the academic staff in research activities and paper publications.
4. The Faculty is recommended to establish official arrangements and to build up a mentoring system for student’s practices or internships.
5. The introductions in the teaching plan of English language modules are recommended in order to increase student’s mobility and to attract foreign students.
6. The institution should make public and transparent the information regarding this study program such as regulation, academic staff composition, teaching plan, syllabuses etc., on the web site.
7. The institution should do a greater effort in supporting academic staff and student’s research activities such as publications and conference participations. This should be changed – with good examples / raw models (researching lecture). The program should try to repeat landmark studies (high impact studies). This would allow the university to engage the students better and would allow them to participate in fascinating studies.
8. Regarding global development trends, the program has a noticeable dependency on old / traditional programs lacking on novel / global arising needs. For example, an

emerging need in physical activity is the skill of data processing or statistical analysis. For example, the university holds on to the rather expensive SPSS software (statistical software), while it could easily switch to other open source / free software (R, python, jasp), which provide the same abilities as SPSS.

9. In respect to “hands on” experiences during the studies, while the university has a great plan to open a university clinic, it should also consider opening a ‘student’ clinic. Here an experienced practitioner could supervise / guide a number of students through the assessment and rehabilitation of a patient. This service should come at a reduced cost to gain traffic into the student clinic – aka attract patient. Here the university could also offer reduced rehabilitation which it created by a team of students and a senior lecture and then lead by a group of students.
10. It is recommended the institution to compile a report on the effectiveness and benefits of the cooperation agreements that have in focus the student’s internships and practices.
11. The institution should generate methods of introducing a system against plagiarism.

**The degree of fulfilment of the quality standards of the program**

Field of Evaluation	The degree of fulfilment of the quality standards, for each field			
	Not met	Partly met	Substantially met	Met
<b>I. STUDY PROGRAM “MASTER OF SCIENCE/ ARTS” PROVISION</b>			<b>X</b>	
<b>II. STUDY PROGRAM ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION</b>				<b>X</b>
<b>III. TEACHING, LEARNING, EVALUATION AND COMPETENCES</b>				<b>X</b>
<b>IV. HUMAN, FINANCIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LOGISTICS RESOURCES FOR STUDY PROGRAM DELIVERY</b>			<b>X</b>	
<b>V. STUDENTS AND THEIR SUPPORT</b>			<b>X</b>	
<b>VI. STUDY PROGRAMS’ QUALITY ASSURANCE</b>				<b>X</b>
<b>Total Fulfilment of standards</b>			<b>X</b>	