**Theory of Change - Measure 1.2 OPE**

**OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME EDUCATION**

**Priority axis 1** Reform of the educational and vocational training system

**Measure 1.2** Higher education institutions and research & development as the driving forces in the development of a knowledge-based society

**Outputs – supported projects**

**Outcomes**

**Objectives**

**Short-term impacts**

**Long-term impacts**

Application of educational needs and career guidance needs monitoring tools

Increased use of ICT and new educational methods especially in external study

Students complete new and innovated study programmes aimed to meet labour market needs

Development of new and innovative study programmes (including technical study programmes) focused on the labour market and knowledge-based society needs

**Supported activities**

Adapt higher education to the needs of a knowledge-based society

Higher education adapted to the needs of a knowledge-based society and the labour market

**Context of the support**

Development of innovative educational forms, rationalisation and quality increase of study programmes in HEIs including the career guidance support

Development of programmes aimed at science popularisation

The main objective of priority axis 1 is to **„reform education in primary and secondary schools and support quality improvements of higher education and human resources in research & development, in order to prepare the graduate for recent and prospective needs of a knowledge-based society and the labour market“.**

The objective of the measure 1.2 is to **„support improvements in the education quality and in the development of human resources in research & development with the aim of achieving permanent adaptation of higher education institutions to the existing and prospective needs of a knowledge-based society“.**

***The strategic objective will be fulfilled by adapting the existing and by introducing new study branches, by supporting investment into human resources and cooperation between science & research and business. Scientific education and transfer of know-how and results of research & development activities will be supported between higher education institutions, research & development institutions and enterprises.***

**①③**

Increased interest in education and external study of technical study programmes

Development of new study programmes in foreign language to support international cooperation and academic mobility

Current educational needs are monitored and considered

Implementation of graduates’ career development monitoring tools

HEIs management and administrative staff are educated and ready to put innovative managing process into practice

Implemented quality culture principle in higher education and more effective HEIs management

Bringing more efficiency in the administration and management of HEIs

Support the principle of quality culture in higher education institutions

Increased management effectiveness and quality of HEIs with stabilised human resources

**④**

HEIs administrative staff are trained in project preparation, project management and project implementation

Created appropriate conditions for management and administrative staff education and career development

Increased quality of higher education

Support capacity building in research & development

Application of tools to ensure HEIs quality

Increase the quality of and develop human resources in research & development

**②**

Increased competence profile of research & development staff

Created appropriate conditions for education and career development of research & development staff

Increased quality and capacity of human resources in research & development

Increased number of PhD candidates/ PhD graduates

Support active cooperation between HEIs and business in educational process, development of new branches and study programmes

Created appropriate conditions to increase number of PhD candidates/ PhD graduates and young researchers

**①③**

Created conditions to support research and transfer of new technologies from research institutions into the private sector

Enhanced cooperation between HEIs, research & development organisations and the private sector on national as well as international level

Support cooperation between HEIs, research & development organisations and private sector on national and international level

Mobility between research & development organisations and the private sector

Increase the involvement of HEIs and other research & development organisations in international cooperation and development & innovation networks

Establishment of research centres, research & development and innovation networks to implement research & development outputs

**⑥**

Increased competitiveness of Slovakia

International cooperation among students and teaching staff

Effective international best practice exchange

**Inputs**

Total allocation for measure 1.2: EUR 111,625,763.09

Total spending – measure 1.2: EUR 81,538,468.90

Number of calls for proposals for demand-oriented projects: 7

Number of calls for proposals for national projects: 1

**External assumptions to achieve the outcomes**

① amended Act on Higher Education Institutions

② increased financial support by state to science & research for higher education institutions and increased remuneration for higher education teaching staff, PhD candidates and science & research staff

③ higher education institutions are interested in new study programmes development

④ management and administrative staff are interested in continuing education

⑤ private sector and industry are interested in cooperation with research & development centres

⑥ higher education institutions are interested in cooperation with national and international partners