1. University: Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University

- 2. Your position/unit: Head of the Project Office
- 3. Final Project Title: International Projects Framework: Strategic Planning and

Development

4. **Project Goal(s) and SMART Objective(s):**

Developing the strategy and organizational type / structure of the International Projects Sector of the Project Office (hereafter – IPSPO), including

- defining the mission, and objectives of the IPSPO;
- specifying the IPSPO functions ;
- defining IPSPO success criteria and metrics;
- developing the international project-management methodology for IPSO activities.

5. Deliverables: Please enlist the deliverables of your project matching your goals:

The strategic plan for the IPSPO, as well the procedures and/or frameworks for the following activities have been developed and implemented:

- 1) methodologies and processes (project-management methodology, metrics, process development and improvement)
- 2) international project delivery management (project resource, schedule, cost, risk, stakeholder management; communications)
- 3) portfolio management (project prioritization, strategic alignment, opportunities analysis)
- 4) talent/professional development management (training; capability and skills development; certifications and credentials)

6. Challenges and Support. What were the main challenges of your project and how did you manage to overcome them?

Apart from the war there were two main challenges to overcome during the project implementation phase:

- Organizational and structural changes within the institution (mitigation: adaptation of project objectives, planned stages and target audiences)
- Low motivation of target audiences (mitigation: communication of project objectives and deliverables)

7. Lessons Learnt: What are your lessons learnt and recommendations you would like to share?

- Be persistent;
- Try to clearly identify who your stakeholders are and plan how you will communicate with them. Communication is essential in projects like this;
- Be realistic in your goals and have a tangible 'plan B' (at least in some general terms) in case your initial ideas are not feasible for one reason or another.

8. Impact: Please describe how your project contributed to/ advanced the specific aspect of the internationalization at your university.

The project deliverables (strategy, project-management methodology etc.) guide the development of internationalization at Project Office and other departments of Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University. The developed procedures have been turned into Project Office's workflows leveraging the quality of project initiation and management both at institutional and regional level.

Training Programme "Management of Internationalisaiton and German-Ukrainian Cooperation 2022-2023"

9. Outlook and Sustainability:

The following steps will be taken to ensure the sustainability of project results:

- The strategic plan will be officially included into the University Internationalization Strategy as a separate component.
- Suggested structure and methodologies will become a part of university Project Office regulations.
- Suggested criteria and metrics are to be adopted and used by different university divisions as a part of monitoring procedures to evaluate the quality of project work.

The project sustainability is also ensured by the use of its results to design training modules at the university CETL and beyond. This part of project results is synergic with the "UTTERLY: University teachers' certification centres: innovative approach to promoting teaching excellence" project (ERASMUS+, KA 2: CBHE), which aims at university teacher professional development and certification. The modules are agreed to become a permanent on-demand course for continuing professional development of university teachers and staff.

The application of the acquired skills by staff members is expected to improve the quality of their professional activities through establishing new partnerships internationally and can also attract additional funds for research and social work.

The acquired project results will be further disseminated among partner institutions through collaborative activities, educational communities and relevant media.