

## Article #13

# EMPOWERING KOSOVAN ICT STUDENTS: POLYMATHS AND AMAZON WEB SERVICES PARTNER TO PROMOTE CLOUD COMPUTING IN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

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*USAID's Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education Activity teams up with Polymaths and their partner Amazon Web Services to teach Cloud Computing to ICT students from the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" and the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti".*

While still going through the January exam period, ICT students at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" and the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" are diving into the new semester with a workshop on Cloud Computing by Amazon Web Services (AWS). USAID's Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education Activity collaborates with Polymaths, one of the Activity's ICT private sector partners, and their partners from Amazon Web Services to provide students with training and long-term support to enhance their Cloud Computing skills. Both universities, with a focus on the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Faculty of Computer Sciences, have shown great commitment to Polymaths' initiative, recognizing the importance of equipping students with additional skill sets crucial for today's ICT market. Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education is a USAID-funded activity implemented by the University of Iowa in partnership with Iowa State University and Kosova Education Center (KEC).

Cloud computing is highly sought after due to its transformative impact on business operations, making this workshop an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their horizons and prepare for careers in ICT markets. Polymaths, one of the leading ICT companies

in Kosovo for cloud computing services, exemplifies how businesses can build ties with academia to benefit both their work and student career development.

*"We are dedicated to providing high quality Cloud Computing services to our clients, and in pursuit of this commitment, we deeply value our partnership with Amazon Web Services and universities in Kosovo. Together, we hope to support the growth of the Cloud Computing market in Kosovo. Additionally, we are passionate about empowering educational institutions to foster awareness and train future programmers in modern application development. By doing so, we aim to spread awareness about Cloud Computing, connect with promising talent and establish ourselves as a company renowned for delivering highly skilled professionals and competitive services that enrich the experiences of our clients. We're glad for having the Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education Activity join our efforts to engage with students."* – **Muharrem Shefkiu COO of Polymaths.**

This February 2024 workshop marks the continuation of Polymaths' ongoing efforts with Amazon Web Services to support the educational and career development of Kosovar ICT students, which began several years ago with the establishment of their business in Kosovo. This year, Polymaths and AWS are ready to elevate their partnership with the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" and the University of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti", offering free AWS workshops and lectures to FIEK's and FSHK's students and training professors. This initiative aims to enhance teaching capabilities in cloud computing, empowering professors to better equip their students for the future.

*"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Polymaths and AWS for providing us with this incredible opportunity to participate in today's workshop on AWS Cloud Computing. Their commitment to assisting our university in offering Cloud Computing classes is truly commendable. With access to AWS and their resources, we now have the opportunity to deepen our understanding and research in cloud computing. For instance, we are now seriously considering selecting this topic for our thesis."* – **Dominik Pllashniku, Third-year student from University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering.**

USAID's Private Sector Partnerships to Strengthen Higher Education Activity aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry, fostering relationships beneficial for all stakeholders. This initiative serves as a model for future collaborations to drive innovation and enhance educational opportunities in Kosovo's ICT sector.