



Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust Beyond Borders

Organiser – National Assessment and Accreditation Council [NAAC], India

Co organiser - Asia Pacific Quality Network – [APQN]

Partners - Key Quality networks and agencies from Asia, Europe, America and Africa such as

Networks – CHEA - USA, Arab Network- ANQAHE, AQAN, European networks ENQA and ECA, etc,

QA agencies – QAA-UK, TEQSA-Australia, QQA-Bahrain, TEC- Mauritius, MQA-Malaysia and AACCUP-Philippines, etc,

Themes-

1. Fostering Trust Beyond Borders in higher education quality assurance - Issues of mutual recognition of qualifications and accreditation decisions.
2. Sharing Values in wake of internationalisation of higher education - Promoting values and ethical practices in quality assurance, addressing concerns of unfair practices.
3. Reinforcing the relevance of quality assurance in the age of disruptive innovations and groundbreaking technology in higher education- Developing strategies and resources for next generation quality assurance.
4. Internal and External quality assurance: Renewal of the debate on accountability and improvement with advent of Rankings.

Agenda

- Sharing information and resources in higher education quality assurance
- Exchange and promotion of good practices
- Sharing and creating value through power of alliance
- Serving global student community by facilitating student mobility
- Developing strategies for creating global resources in quality assurance

Expected Outcome-

Agreement or statement of intent among key global stakeholders of quality higher education to work together for common cause and explore untapped potential of networking among quality networks and quality assurance organisations.

Delegates –

The summit is aimed to attract global leaders in quality higher education field. Senior policy makers from QA networks and QA bodies from selected countries, are invited. About 150 delegates are expected to join the Global Quality Summit.

Venue and Date-

Hotel Le Meridien, Bengaluru, India on 16-17 September 2016



Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust Beyond Borders

Concept Note:

Global higher education scenario is witnessing rapid transformation in past few decades. There has been a huge expansion in tertiary education, with total enrolment rising from 100 million in 2000 to 196 million in 2012 providing access and equity to a larger section. However, there are large gender disparities in accessing tertiary education, with disadvantages for females in low income countries and for males in high income countries.

As many of the developing countries in the world are successfully increasing their gross enrolment in higher education, the world is definitely moving from elitist system to mass higher education system. This huge expansion has various dimensions including increased role of private sector, shift from place bound education to mobile and flexible forms of higher education, emergence of MOOCs and OERs, diminishing control of governments and so on.

Universities, quality assurance bodies, governments, inter-governmental agencies and international networks are under increased pressure from students and other stakeholders to play a proactive role in safeguarding the interests of the student community while promoting international student mobility. Reliable information system is one critical challenge.

While some regions like Europe have well established information and recognition systems like ENIC-NARIC, many other regions lack such resources. To address this issue, APQN has initiated a global project on Quality Information Portal, with the help of UNESCO.

Networking for fostering trust beyond the borders-

It is believed that appropriate future of networking in quality assurance of higher education is in Networking of networks.

Global higher education and quality assurance community is witnessing rapid transformation in theory and practices due to huge expansion of higher education and emergence of different forms of higher education delivery within and across the borders.

It is therefore necessary that quality assurance agencies update themselves with new tools, share and learn practices from peers around the world and network actively with quality assurance bodies within region and internationally.

The Global summit on quality higher education:

The proposed “**Global Summit on Quality Higher Education: Sharing Values and Fostering Trust Beyond Borders**” organised by NAAC in collaboration with APQN aims to address above issues by initiating dialogue among key stake holders and leaders of global higher education quality assurance community.

The summit has following main themes:

1. **Fostering Trust Beyond Borders in higher education quality assurance-**
Issues of mutual recognition of qualifications and accreditation decisions.
2. **Sharing Values in wake of internationalisation of higher education-**
Promoting values and ethical practices in quality assurance, addressing concerns of unfair practices.

3. **Reinforcing the relevance of quality assurance in the age of disruptive innovations and groundbreaking technology in higher education-** Developing strategies and resources for next generation quality assurance.
4. **Internal and External quality assurance:** Renewal of the debate on accountability and improvement with advent of Ranking.

❖ **Fostering Trust Beyond Borders in higher education quality assurance- Issues of mutual recognition of qualifications and accreditation decisions:**

This Theme is expected to open the floor for discussion on issues of mutual recognition of qualification and accreditation decisions. The issue of National Qualification framework, regional alignment and inter operability of qualifications framework would also be discussed under this theme.

Idea is to bring together information on various initiatives including that of UNESCO, other inter governmental organisations and quality networks which are active in this area, so as to explore synergy of all the efforts.

The main aim is to contribute in fostering of trust beyond of borders in higher education quality assurance to facilitate international student mobility.

❖ **Sharing Values in wake of internationalisation of higher education- Promoting values and ethical practices in quality assurance, addressing concerns of unfair practices.**

This theme on sharing values in wake of internationalisation of higher education seeks to promote values and ethical practices in quality assurance. With the world witnessing episodes of intolerance, social unrest

and erosion of human values, there is felt need to address the issue of inculcating the value system through higher education quality assurance.

The challenges posed by degree mills, accreditation mills together with issue of corruption and credibility related to QA will also be discussed here.

❖ **Reinforcing the relevance of quality assurance in the age of disruptive innovations and groundbreaking technology in higher education- Developing strategies and resources for next generation quality assurance.**

The third theme is aimed to bring focus on developing strategies and resources for next generation quality assurance which is characterised by disruptive innovations and ground breaking technology in higher education. The quality assurance of flexible forms of higher education including MOOCs and other new avenues would be discussed here. The focus will be on sharing good practices and means for capacity building.

❖ **Internal and External quality assurance: Renewal of the debate on accountability and improvement with advent of Rankings.**

This theme seeks to reopen the traditional debate about roles of internal and external quality assurance and its influence on each other. It also opens floor for discussion on alternative tools for accountability and improvement such as benchmarking and rankings of higher education institutions.

About organisers:

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC):

The Global Summit is organised by NAAC, India, which is one of the leading quality assurance agency having mandate of assuring quality of third largest higher education system in the world with over 800 Universities and 40,000 Colleges. The NAAC has rich experience of Assessment and Accreditation of about 6316 Colleges and 266 Universities as on 25th May 2016. As one of the founder agencies of Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), the NAAC has played pro-active role in international quality assurance scenario.

India being the second largest sender country of internationally mobile students and also one of the major receiving country of students especially from South Asia, quality assurance of higher education and internationalisation is an important concern for NAAC. The agency also has rich experience of hosting international events including joint activities with UNESCO, COL besides hosting annual conference of APQN in 2011 and INQAAHE biennial conference in 2000.

Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN):

APQN, which is proudly associated with this global summit as co-organiser, is the largest regional network of quality assurance agencies in Asia Pacific with 166 members from about 50 countries. APQN aims to enhance the quality of higher education in Asia and the Pacific region through building the capacity of quality assurance agencies and extending the cooperation between them. This is done by promoting good practices, facilitating research, providing advice, information and expertise, developing links between QA agencies, assisting members to determine

the standards of cross-border institutions, and the international recognition of qualifications, enhancing the mobility of students between institutions and member nations and enabling members to recognize dubious accrediting practices and organizations. The recent launch of Asia Pacific Quality Register (APQR) by APQN has triggered dialogue on process of Global Quality Assurance Register (GQAR) by bringing together all quality networks for common cause.

Partners - Key Quality networks and agencies from Asia, Europe, America and Africa such as **Networks** – CHEA - USA, Arab Network- ANQAHE, AQAN, European networks ENQA and ECA, etc, **QA agencies** – QAA-UK, TEQSA-Australia, QQA-Bahrain, TEC- Mauritius, MQA-Malaysia and AACCCUP-Philippines, etc,

Delegates –

The summit is targeted at global leaders in higher education quality assurance. Senior policy makers from QA networks and QA bodies from selected countries, functionaries from national and state level higher education ministries and regulatory bodies, experts and researchers in higher education, representatives from Industry, society, students and academia would be invited. About 150 delegates are expected to join the Global Quality Summit.

Agenda-

The global summit is expected to facilitate:

- Sharing information and resources in higher education quality assurance
- Exchange and promotion of good practices
- Sharing and creating value through power of alliance
- Serving global student community by facilitating student mobility
- Developing strategies for creating global resources in quality assurance

Expected Outcome-

Agreement or statement of intent among key global stakeholders of quality higher education to work together for common cause and explore untapped potential of networking among quality networks and quality assurance organisations.

Venue and Date-

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Contact -

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