

EQUAM *updates*

Amman

(22.01.14)

the 'new' documents .. December 2013

- ***European QA agencies: 'a matching exercise'***
- ***'Principles' for QA (and QABs?) – from ESG + HEAC plus today .. White Paper and .. Draft Guidelines)***

Nick Harris

ANECA

1. a small 'reminder' - general

EQUAM is about the MANAGEMENT of QA

the focus of the project - Jordanian HEIs and their QABs

but ..

the QABs differ from one another .. as do the HEIs!

in Europe .. and in Jordan ..

but ..

in Europe – despite HUGE differences - the shared ESG

which provide the basis for 'managing' QA in

a WIDE variety of different QA systems ..

... within HEIs and used by QA agencies

also

we MUST remember QA and accreditation are different !

1. a small 'reminder' (for the Europeans)

'Accreditation' and 'Quality Assurance' in Jordan .



Accreditation at Institutional level

Proposals for **new HE institutions** are, by national law, evaluated against the **National Accreditation Standards by HEAC**. This is a '**general accreditation**'.

Established universities, both public and private, are subject to periodic **evaluations through general and programme accreditation**, mainly quantitative measures, by HEAC. (governed by national law); focus on private universities; is both a '**re-accreditation**' and a check.

Accreditation at programme level

Proposals for new programmes in public and private institutions are, by national law, evaluated against the (national) Programme Accreditation Standards by HEAC .. '**specific (programme) accreditation**'.

a verbal commitment by HEC and HEAC that all currently running programmes will be evaluated against the Programme Accreditation Standards by 2015

1. a small 'reminder' (for the Europeans) 'Accreditation' and 'Quality Assurance' in Jordan .

Quality Assurance

The structured development of internal QA within institutions is regarded as an important contribution to the maintenance and improvement of the quality of Jordanian HE. To support this all universities are expected to have developed Quality Assurance Bureaus.

Each university determines the extent and rate of development of its QAB, with their roles and responsibilities encompassed within the institution's own Regulations. (Currently QAB/IQA systems not implemented as efficiently as they might be0 .

On a voluntary basis universities can apply for **QA certificate** of their QA arrangements. This evaluation is undertaken by **HEAC** using the (currently) **twelve HEAC Standards**.

The HEAC standards are under review (since October 2013)

which brings us to .. Today!



the **principles** underpinning QA – linked to **expectations of QA**
derived from the ‘matching exercises’ .. and identified priorities

1. The White Paper .. sets the context .. and key details

2. The (draft) **Guidelines** aim to show how ‘expectations’ of QA
can / should be met *efficiently and effectively* !

... an ‘intelligent’ approach to Quality .. (and future
developments?)

3. ... and towards the **Pilots** ..

but remember .. **EQUAM** is about *the management of QA*

.. in 'testing' / 'piloting' the Guidelines

the first Pilots are intended to test the Guidelines in terms of their applicability to a(any) QA management model

the Pilots are actually about **Principles** and **Procedures** based on the Guidelines .. NOT the actual evidence itself !?

So .. if this is correct then the questions are **NOT** ..

- *what evidence do you have against (each of) the guidelines? ...*

BUT

- **what type(s) of evidence do you (intend to) collect?**
- **how do you ensure the evidence is valid / true?**
- **how / where do you record / store the evidence?**
- **how / who analyses the evidence .. and what for?**
- **how / to whom is the outcomes of the analyses reported?**
- **how is the evidence used for improvement / enhancement?**

(thus QA not 'accreditation')