

HAQAA2 Initiative Methodology for agency reviews and consultancy visits

Anna Gover

Senior Project Manager, ENQA

HAQAA EQA training – 14 June 2021



Harmonisation, Accreditation
and Quality Assurance in
African Higher Education

This initiative is implemented on behalf of the European and African Union Commissions by:

Background

- First round of pilot agency reviews and consultancy visits in 2018 under HAQAA1
- This round of reviews under HAQAA2 to further pilot the methodology, including improvements introduced after feedback from HAQAA1
- Overall aim: Enhance cross-regional coordination and strengthen capacity of QA agencies to implement the ASG-QA



Aims of the agency reviews & consultancy visits

- Enhancement-led review to evaluate the extent to which the agency/ministry meets the expectations of the ASG-QA
- Supporting the development/establishment of national QA agency in line with the ASG-QA
- Raising awareness of ASG-QA and PAQAF
- Facilitating discussion with stakeholders
- Increasing visibility of the agency

Difference between agency reviews and consultancy visits

- Agency reviews: Full review of the agency against all standards of Parts B and C of the ASG-QA
- Consultancy visit: Review of agency/ministry takes into account selected standards of Parts B and C of the ASG-QA. At a minimum:
 - Part B
 - Standard 2: Designing EQA mechanisms fit for purpose
 - Part C
 - Standard 1: Legal Status
 - Standard 2: Vision and Mission Statement
 - Standard 3: Governance and Management
 - Standard 4: Independence of QAA
 - Standard 7: Financial and Human Resources

Overview of methodology

- Training
- Self-assessment phase
- Online site visit by expert panel
- Written report and recommendations
- Follow-up

Expert panels

- 2 African experts
- 1 European expert
- 1 student experts (for selected reviews)

- Expert panels composed to provide a diversity in experience, geography, gender etc.
- Each panel will have a Chair and a Secretary

Step-by-step: Self-assessment phase

- Critical self-reflection by agency/ministry with stakeholders on your processes and development
- Looks at past, present and future
- SWOT analysis
- Resulting report: Description and analysis of how you (plan to) meet the expectations of the ASG-QA Parts B and C
- Report template and further training provided



Step-by-step: Online site visit

- 3-5 day online site visit of the expert panel through Zoom in November/December 2021 (ENQA to provide practical support)
- Meetings of the panel with representatives of the agency/ministry (management/governance, staff, experts) and key stakeholders (HEIs, students, policy-makers)
- Experts will summarise their key findings at the end of the visit
- Sample schedule and dedicated training session provided

Step-by-step: Report and recommendations

Report by expert panel giving

- Key findings: evidence, analysis and conclusions related to each standard of the ASG-QA Parts B and C (but no compliance judgements)
- Recommendations for development
- Commendations for good practice

Report will cover all standards of ASG-QA (for agency reviews) or selected standards (for consultancy visits)

Step-by-step: Follow-up

- Agency/ministry to distribute report and discuss findings with stakeholders
- Optional physical follow-up visit in Spring 2022 for discussion of findings and national policy context
- Follow-up workshop in summer 2022 for further follow-up support, continental policy discussions and feedback

Training and support

- Further training sessions on the self-assessment phase and the site visit
- Individual meetings between ENQA, agency/ministry, and expert panel
- ENQA coordinator as main contact person (Anna Gover or Nathalie Lugano)

Key documents:

- HAQAA Guidelines for Agency Reviews (with specific notes for consultancy visits)
- Template for self-assessment report
- Protocol for online site visits
- ASG-QA

ANY QUESTIONS?