

What is the HAQAA Initiative?



The Harmonisation of African Higher Education, Quality Assurance and Accreditation (**HAQAA**) is an initiative that has been established to support the development of a harmonised quality assurance and accreditation system at institutional, national, regional and Pan-African continental level. It is funded by the European Union Commission, in the context of the **Africa-EU Strategic Partnership**. Phase one (HAQAA1) was implemented from 2016-2018. **HAQAA 2** (2019 - 2022) is intended to build upon, upscale and promote the results of HAQAA1.

How to get involved



For more initiatives on any of the above activities, please contact haqaa@obreal.org. You may also register in the African QA database and request the HAQAA2 Initiative newsletter at:

www.obsglob.org/

HAQAA2 Initiative Implementing Team

- **OBREAL/Global Observatory** (OBREAL GLOBAL-Coordinator)
- **Association of African Universities** (AAU)
- **European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education** (ENQA)
- **German Academic Exchange Service** (DAAD)

The Implementing Team works with 5 strategic regional partners:

Interuniversity Council for East Africa (IUCEA), Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES), National Council for Quality and Accreditation of Education, Egypt (NAQAAE) and National Council for Evaluation and Quality of Higher Education, Mozambique (CNAQ).

The HAQAA2 Initiative also has an Advisory Board of key African regional stakeholder organisations, which it consults regularly. The European Union Commission (EC) and the African Union Commission form the key steering group.



HAQAA2
Harmonisation, Accreditation
and Quality Assurance in
African Higher Education

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



What is the Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)?

HAQAA1 and 2 intends to support the realisation of PAQAF which is an African Union endorsed overriding framework for the harmonisation of quality assurance in higher education in Africa. PAQAF consists of several actions that have been developed or are in the process of being developed:

1. African Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ASG-QA). Developed through collaboration between the African Union Commission and European Commission between 2017 and 2018 under the HAQAA1 Initiative.

2. African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF). The African Union Commission (AUC) is partnering with the European Union, German GIZ and the European Training Foundation (ETF) in developing ACQF, a key output of the "Skills for Youth Employability project" (SYEP) launched in June 2019.

3. African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM). An institutional quality assessment tool. The development of the AQRM was spearheaded by the African Union Commission and it was endorsed by the African Union in 2007.

4. Addis Convention for Recognition of Qualifications. Developed with the support of UNESCO and pending ratification by many African states.

5. African Credit Accumulation and Transfer System. A proposal has been made by the TUNING Africa initiative (2018). The African Union intends to have it politically endorsed.

6. Continental Register. For Quality Assurance agencies and quality assured higher education institutions - Pending development.

What is planned under HAQAA2?

HAQAA2 activities will contribute to different action lines of the PAQAF



PART 1

Advancing quality culture in HEI

- Online promotion campaign for the AQRM, completion of the online survey, verification visits and analysis of trends
- 4 HAQAA Training Courses on ASG-QA, continental frameworks, evaluation/audit, with regional/linguistic chapters, targeting professionals at HEI
- Regional and national dissemination projects, conducted by graduates.



PART 2

Strengthening capacities of the AU in implementing the Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)

- Assessment of the pilot agency review methodology applied in HAQAA1
- 2 workshops to train QA agency staff on the ASG-QA (evaluation and audit) and on self-assessment and to train experts (from African QAA) in conducting agency reviews



- Selection of 10 agencies to receive agency reviews and 5 countries to receive consultancy visits
- A Train - the - trainer training event for a select cohort of the HAQAA Training course graduates and QA agency staff



PART 3

Strengthening capacities of the AU in implementing the Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)

- Technical Working Group to conduct a feasibility study and conduct consultations on the legal and logistical set-up of the African Continental Accreditation Agency.
- Task Force to develop a User's Guide for the ASG-QA,
- HAQAA Communication Strategy involving strategic regional partners and the Advisory Board.
- Organisation of events in conjunction with the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) higher education cluster and sub-clusters, in five African regions, reinforcing synergies between HAQAA outputs and CESA workplan.