The Harmonisation, Quality Assurance and Accreditation of African Higher Education, **(HAQAA)** initiative was launched in 2015 to improve the quality, relevance and transparency of African Higher Education through harmonised quality assurance and accreditation systems 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 2015-2018. **HAQAA2** (2019 – 2022) builds upon, upscales and promotes the results of HAQAA1 and has an important policy component linked to the African Continental Education Strategy (CESA 2025).

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.haqaa2.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 **6 strategic regional partners:** Inter University 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), National Council for Evaluation and Quality of Higher Education, Mozambique (CNAQ) and the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Senegal (ANAQ-Sup).

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

African Union — THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP / LE PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UE

HAQAA2

Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation

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

OBREAL Global

DAAD — Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst / German Academic Exchange Service

enqa. — European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education

ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITES AFRICAINES
اتحاد الجامعات الأفريقية

Activities under HAQAA2

HAQAA2 contributed to different action lines of the PAQAF

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

HAQAA1 and 2 supports 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)** - major reference document for internal and external quality assurance
2. **African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF)**
3. **African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM)** institutional self-assessment tool
4. **Addis Convention for Recognition of Qualifications**
5. **African Credit Accumulation and Transfer System –** peding political endorsement and implementation
6. **Continental Register** for Quality Assurance agencies and quality assured higher education institutions - Pending development

Component 1 — Training

Training for Internal Quality Assurance and External Quality Assurance

- **4 regionally/linguistically focused HAQAA Training Courses on the ASG-QA,** continental frameworks and evaluation/audit targeting professionals at HEI

- **95 Higher Education Institution (HEI) Quality Assurance staff** trained from 45 countries covering all regions of Africa

- **14 National ASG-QA** Dissemination projects implemented by HAQAA "Ambassadors" (graduates of the training courses) covering Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, DRC Congo, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Uganda and Zambia.

- **Mapping of the ASG-QA** implementation by QA networks RAFANAQ (francophone), EAQAN (East Africa) and CNAQ (Mozambique, leading the Portuguese speaking network).

Component 2 — Capacity Building

Enhancing capacities of quality assurance agencies to implement the ASG-QA and cross-regional coordination is improved

- Assessment of the pilot agency review methodology applied in HAQAA1

- **2 training workshops for QA agency staff** on the ASG-QA (evaluation and audit) and on self-assessment and training of African QAA experts in conducting agency reviews

- **1 QA agency review Mali and 6 'consultancy visits'** to emergent QA systems in Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Algeria, Angola, and DRC

- **2 policy workshops –** Francophone (covering the 6 Francophone countries) and Angola (Lusophone) promoting the impacts of the ASG-QA on QA system development

Component 3 — Policy

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

- Technical Working Group produced a proposal for **the phased development of the Pan-African Continental Accreditation Agency (PAQAA)** and ran a public consultation to this effect. Recommendation are provided to the AU Commission on the next steps for the PAQAA set-up.

- **Task Force developed and published a User's Guide for the ASG-QA,**

- **365 HE professionals** undertook the MOOC Series on Comparative Regional Integration in Higher Education.

- An African Book Series on Higher Education is published, with coordination by 6 CESA HE Cluster coordinators

- **A mapping study of comparative** HE data collection practices in Africa highlighting regional data frameworks, and a road map for enhanced and coherent African HE data collection.

- **The ACTS discussions** are re-launched through virtual and physical workshops with major African stakeholders.