

2013 INQAAHE AGM & Conference

Sub-theme: Globalizing forces and national/regional goal

Challenges for the Internationalization of National Quality Assurance
Agencies in the Asia Pacific Region - Case Study of Taiwan's Quality
Assurance Agencies

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Higher Education in a Globalizing Society

- Globalization
- Cross border higher education
- Internationalization
- International competition for students and resources
- Quality issue
- Cross border quality assurance
- Internationalization of quality assurance

Outline of Presentation

- **Quality assurance of cross -border higher education**
- **Internationalization of the QA agencies of the Asia Pacific Region**
- **Internationalization of Taiwan's accrediting agencies**
- **Challenges**
- **Conclusion**

Quality assurance of cross –border higher education

by world bank (2007)

- *accreditation in the receiving country*
- *accreditation in the sending country*
- *regional accreditation*
- *cross border quality assurance*

Type one:

accreditation in the receiving country accreditation

- Carried out by local quality assurance agencies
- provide not only information to local stakeholders but also legitimacy.
- be costly and the standards for cross-border provision may differ

Type two:

accreditation in the sending country

- conducted by the quality assurance agencies in sending countries
- accreditation consequences may not be recognized
- English and Australian accrediting bodies

*Type three:
regional accreditation*

- the cross border programs will be conducted by multinational agencies, such as FIBAA, ASIIN, or EQUIS.

*Type four:
cross border quality assurance*

- conducted by foreign quality assurance in the local environment, such as AACSB international.
- It can provide information to local and international students
- delink from local authorities or accrediting bodies.

Global development of Cross border of QA

- European countries
 - *accreditation in the receiving country/ regional accreditation*
 - enhance the mobility of students and graduates with accredited or quality assured qualifications
- US
 - *accreditation in sending country* (40 American accreditors / over 385 institutions and programs / 52 countries)
 - international Principles
- Asia and other regions
 - *cross border quality assurance*
 - have no capacity to undertake incoming and outgoing cross border education reviews
 - Taiwan government is going to give recognition to international accreditors
 - Japan will review the qualification of international accreditors if they apply for governmental recognition voluntarily

International attention

- Several international and regional organizations have been discussing international standards
 - The International Association of University Presidents (IAUP)
 - INQAAHE, UNESCO, the World Bank, ,and OECD

Internationalization of the QA agencies of the Asia Pacific Region

- institutions in Asia are encouraged by governments to seek international accreditation, particularly from the US accreditors
- a new concern of national accreditors' internationalization in Asia is growing
- a question will be raised: who should be responsible for quality of cross-border higher education and students' rights?

Current review of international capacity of Asian National QA agencies (I)

- belong to the category of “*cross border quality assurance*”
- Examining 14 Asian QA agencies
 - confined to national contexts
 - no international guidelines or principles for cross-border education
 - don't include international reviewers.
 - do not have an office responsible for international affairs or exchanges.
 - there is very limited information in English regarding accreditation policy, standards, and outcomes

Current review of international capacity of Asian National QA agencies (II)

- Several strategies and policies
 - sign collaborative agreements with foreign agencies, invited international experts
 - set up an office of international affairs,
 - enriched their English-language website, and so on.
- the internationalization policies and practices in most Asian Pacific nations are still lacking a quality assurance dimension, except in Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong

Role of International Network on assisting capacity-building of Asia national accreditors

■ INQAAHE

- *The Guidelines of Good Practice in Quality Assurance* (GGP)
- revised in 2006

■ APQN

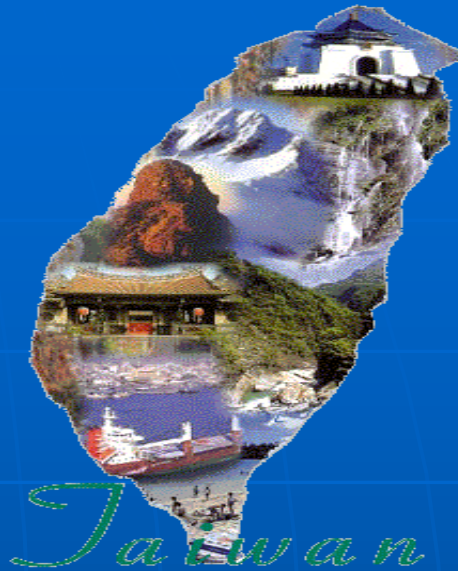
- the *Chiba Principles* in 2008

■ Standards of internationalization

- cooperation with foreign agencies, the building of capacity for cross border accreditation, exchange of experts and staff and information, mutual observations of each others accreditation procedures, joining international networks, etc.

Quality assurance system in Taiwan higher education

Taiwan



- Area : 35, 980 square Km²
- Population : 23.124 million
- Capital : Taipei
- Taiwan President Ma, the alumni of Harvard University , most top governmental officials got Ph.D. degrees from American /ivy league universities
- The best Chinese treasures museum
National Palace Museum
- Talented and friendly people, powerful IT industry, food and Chinese culture



Taiwan
Touch Your Heart



Fact Sheet in Taiwan Higher Education

1. Number of universities and colleges

Increased by **120%** in the past 10 years with more than 163 institutions
(1/3 national U; 2/3 private U)

2. Student enrollment

With a total number of 1.3 millions increased **65%** with a number of **33751 Ph.D students, 183401 graduate students, 1 million undergraduates**

3. University Entrance Exam admission rate

More than **98%** in 2010

4. Net enrollment in higher education/ /Gross enrollment

55.3% (total number of 18-22 year-old students studying at a university and a college / school-aged population between 18-21 years old)

5. Gross enrollment rate increased

78.6% (total number of students studying at a university and a college / school-aged population between 18-21 years old)

6. Tuition

1800 USD for National universities / 3300 for Private universities

7. GDP average

20,000USD in 2010

National Quality Assurance Framework in Taiwan Higher Education

- Two regional and three professional accreditors
 - Taiwan, including Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT in 2005)
 - Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association (TWAEA in 2003)
 - Taiwan Medical Accreditation Council (TMAC in 1999)
 - Taiwan Nursing Accreditation Council (TNAC I 2006)
 - Institute of Engineering Education Taiwan (IEET in 2003).
- From centralization to decentralization
 - A decentralized system in higher education evaluation is being formed completely

International accreditation

- Five business schools in Taiwan have gained AACSB's International Accreditation
- One got MSCHE 's accreditation in 2010
- exempt from HEEACT's accreditation

Internationalization of Taiwan's accrediting agencies

- Taiwan's national and professional accrediting agencies operating locally are attempting to build their capacity and promote an international outlook through internal and external approaches
 - being challenged by international accreditors undertaking programmatic or institutional accreditations
 - Exempt policy

Internal and external approaches

- do self-evaluation, conduct meta-evaluation research projects to realize their strengths and weaknesses (HEEACT)
- modify standards of accreditation into outcomes-based standards to meet the global trend (HEEACT, IEET)
- promote mutual recognition of review decisions to enhance student mobility. (IEET)
- establish partnerships with foreign accrediting organizations (HEEACT, IEET, TMAC)
- participate in an international network of quality assurance in higher education to gain domestic and international recognition. (HEEACT, IEET, TMAC)

Table 2 : Number of International Activities of HEEACT, TMAC and TNAC

Council	YEAR	Total No. of Abroad Visits	Activities		Total No. of Visitors/ Delegations	Activities		
			Abroad Visits (Visit QAs)	Conferences (INQAAHE, APQN and those held by QAs)		Visiting	Conferences Intel. Participants	MoU with QAs
HEEACT	2008	4	1	3	45	25	20	-----
	2009	7	2	5	48	28	20	ONESQA, Thailand
	2010	11	2	9	45	15	30	NAAC, India
	2011 (Up to the present)	2	1	1	-----	-----	-----	AACCUP, Philippine, Romania
	Total		24				141	
TMAC	2008	6	6					
	2009	2	2		7			
	2010	2	2		2			
	Total		10			9		
TNAC	2008				1			
	2009				2			
	2010				2			
	Total		0			5		

International activities by Taiwan QA agencies

- TWAEA, HEEACT and IEET set up an office of international exchanges with some full time staff.
- none of the five have operated cross-border QA,
- IEET has implemented “mutual recognition” with other WA members.
- HEEACT and TMAC will include international reviewers in 2011.
- HEEACT, IEET and TMAC have invited their foreign partners as international observers for on-site visits.
- With regard to English information on websites, HEEACT and IEET are more advanced than the other three

Challenges for Taiwan's accrediting agencies

- risk being criticised for assisting “cultural imperialism,” which raises the serious issue of national interest over higher education, particularly in institutional accreditation.
- the international reviewer's training and recruitment policy.
- Communicating in fluent English with a visiting international reviewer
- The translation of materials or documents into English on websites
- insufficient human resources
 - all accreditors have to rely on only 1 to 3 staff in office of international exchange to communicate with international reviewers.

Summary

- The explosion of cross-border higher education has led to the internationalization of QA in Asia
- National QA agencies are being pressured by the fact that more and more universities seek international accreditation.
- National QA agencies are forced to upgrade their capacity in internationalization for future progress

Final remarks

- It is now very important for Asian national quality assurance agencies to build their international capacity by joining global networks. At this moment, only do Asian national accreditors work together to share QA resources, their competitive edge will be possible enhanced.

2011 HEEACT International

**Conference & Workshop and IREG-6
*Internationalization of Standards in Higher Education :
Accountability, Student Learning Outcomes and
Collaborations in Quality Assurance Agencies*
Workshop: Graduate Tracking Mechanism**

June 2-4, 2011



***Academic Rankings and Advancement of Higher
Education: Lessons from Asia and other Regions***

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Thank you all for listening!!

Questions and Comments
Higher Education Evaluation
& Accreditation Council of Taiwan