



Agentur für
Qualitätssicherung
und Akkreditierung
Austria



The role of QA agencies in outbound TNE, the Austrian approach

INQAAHE Conference 2017:

“Between Collaboration and Competition: The Promises and
Challenges for Quality Assurance in Higher Education”

Manama / 1 March 2016 / Witzani, Neiser

The Austrian context

- **Little export but rigid legal system**
- **Role of AQ Austria**
- **Our experiences dealing in TNE**
- **Different models of TNE delivery**

4 crucial measures

- 1) **Awareness for procedure design**
- 2) **Specific training of experts**
- 3) **Importance of internal & external QA**
- 4) **Collaborations of QA agencies**

Shared responsibility?

Common agreement: procedures have to be fit for purpose

Criteria: specific vs. general

HEI and QA agency share responsibility

What is your...
...understanding?
...experience?

Criteria for TNE programmes

- the accountability and the responsibilities of the main institution and the other sites have been clearly defined and are adequate;
- organisation, management and support structures are established in the same quality as they are maintained at the other accredited sites;
- degree programmes which are offered at several sites are of uniform quality;
- offering degree programmes at an additional site does not lead to a lack of resources and, subsequently, a deterioration in quality at existing sites;
- all sites are included in the institution's quality management system;
- the respective national legislation is observed, and
- educational traditions and cultural differences regarding teaching and learning, including examinations, are respected.