



Australian Government

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

Academic Integrity

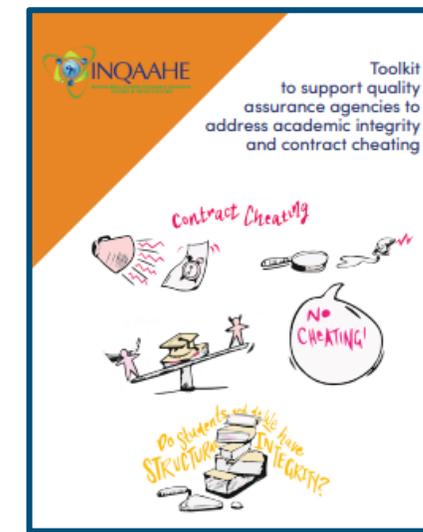
Safeguarding trust in higher education

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TEQSA
teqsa.gov.au

A brief (Australian) history



Legislation

HEIU

TEQSA

TEQSA obtained Australian Government funding to take on a national role tackling contract cheating and academic integrity

TEQSA committed to the development of further support resources. Increased focus in regulatory assessments.

Contract cheating website based in Sydney, Australia exposed by investigative journalists

TEQSA wrote to all higher education providers

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

TEQSA reviewed provider submissions and reported on initial responses

TEQSA published the *Good Practice Note: Addressing contract cheating to safeguard academic integrity* published

Academic integrity workshops for providers
Australia (19)
New Zealand (2)
Webinars (2)

Legislation

- ❖ Australian legislation passed in **August 2020** makes it an **offence** to provide or advertise academic cheating services in higher education
- ❖ The legislation is aimed at those **who provide cheating services**, not at students
- ❖ The offences and penalties the legislation creates apply whether the services are provided **from within Australia or from overseas**
 - Up to **two years in jail** or **AU \$110,00 fine**
 - Applications for **injunctions** to block website access



➤ Detection

- ❖ Commercial cheating service providers
 - Database of ~ 3,000 websites offering cheating services
 - But just 600 sites targeting students studying with Australian providers
 - Web traffic analytics for triaging

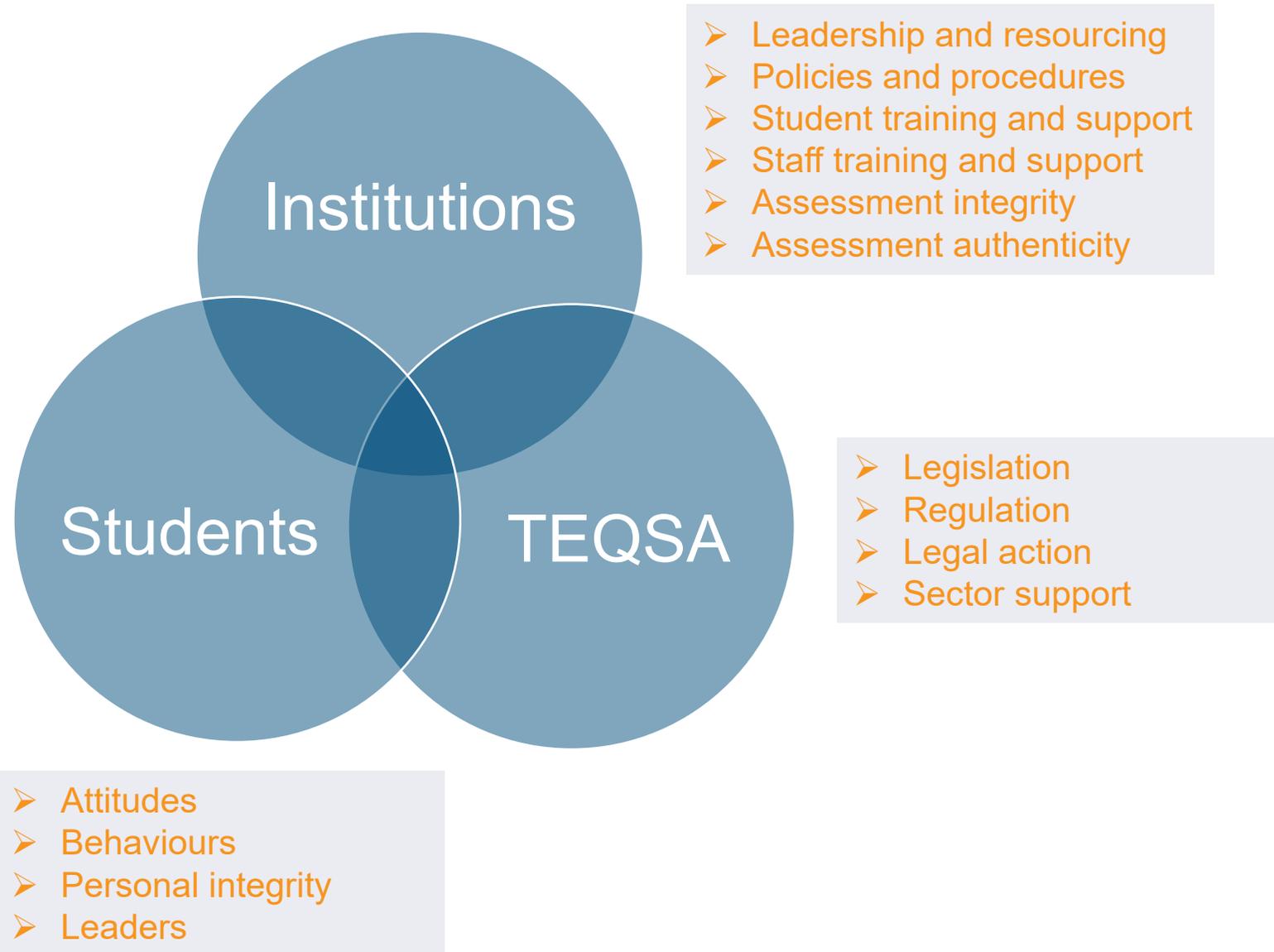
➤ Enforcement

- ❖ Over 150 websites blocked, accounting for around 70% of all Aus internet traffic to cheating sites
 - Next round of blocking in April
- ❖ Over 770 posts, profiles, pages and channels removed from social media

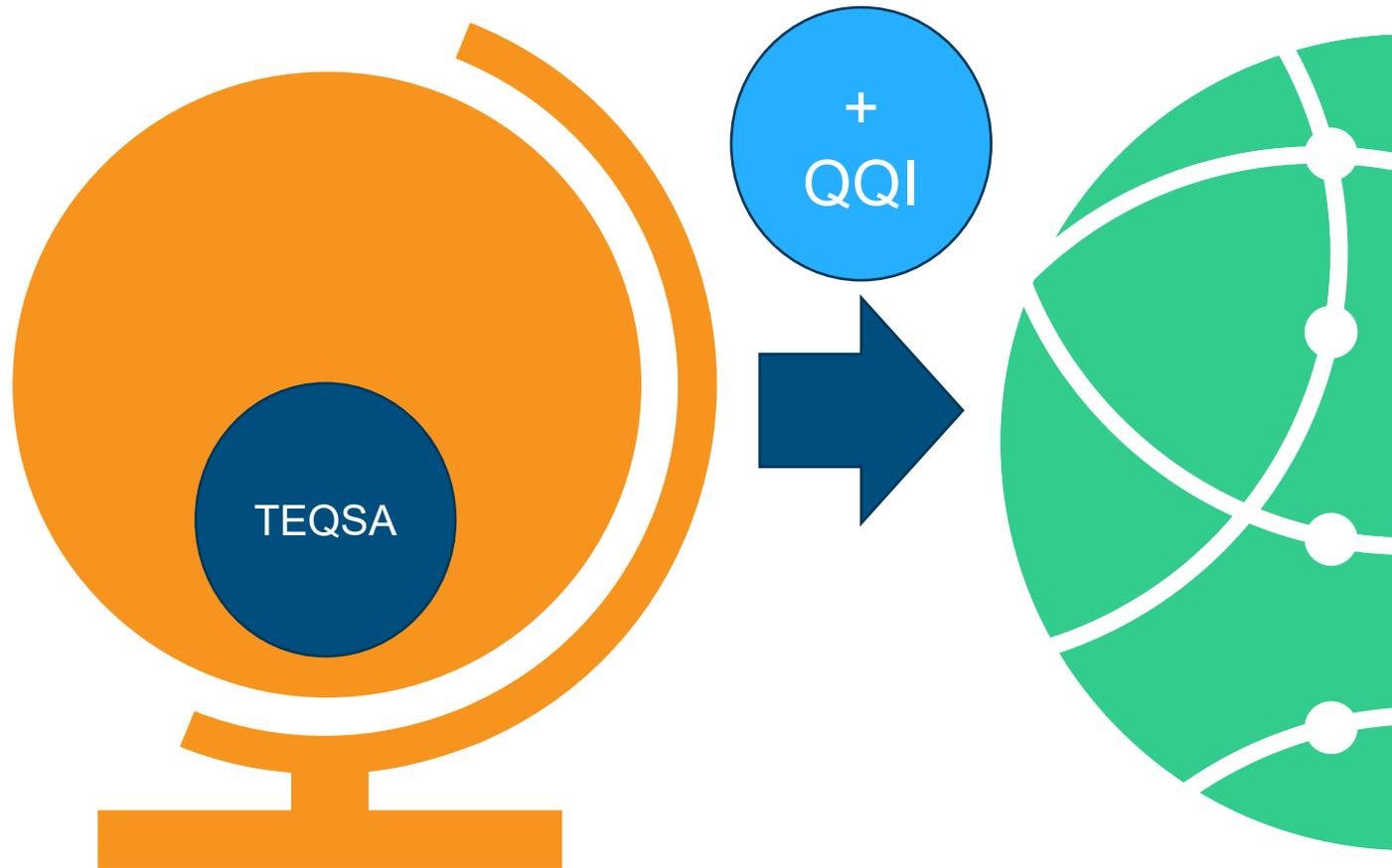
➤ Education

- ❖ Providers, academic staff, students, government
 - Toolkits, workshops, webinars, detection masterclass, advertisements

A national partnership approach



A global partnership approach



Global
Academic
Integrity
Network

Breadth of expertise and experience

- Quality assurance agencies
- Qualifications agencies
- Academic recognition bodies
- Higher education and further/vocational education

Terms of reference

- Explore overarching approaches to prevention
- Share information on emerging threats
- Highlight the reputational risk
- Agree and implement a shared communications strategy
- Disrupt the business model through global collaboration and calls for action

Quarterly meetings

- Focus topic for each meeting
 - Other types of academic fraud
 - Chat-GPT
- Guest speakers



Global Academic Integrity Network

“to provide an international platform and coordinating structure for discussion, collaboration, and information-sharing in relation to commercial contract cheating services”

Further resources

www.teqsa.gov.au

- [Videos to educate students about the risks of contract cheating](#)
- [Translated academic integrity resources for students](#)
- [Toolkit to support quality assurance agencies to address academic integrity and contract cheating](#)
- [Academic integrity toolkit](#)
- [Good practice note: Addressing contract cheating to safeguard academic integrity](#)
- [Substantiating contract cheating for symbol-dense, logical responses in any discipline, particularly mathematics](#)
- [Academic integrity in the creative arts](#)
- TEQSA Webinars on [the impact of ChatGPT on higher education](#)