



AQAS

AGENTUR FÜR
QUALITÄTSSICHERUNG DURCH
AKKREDITIERUNG VON
STUDIENGÄNGEN E.V.

COST EFFECTIVENESS IN QA

INQAAHE Webtalks
8 February 2024

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AQAS - OUR CONTEXT

- Established in 2002 by HEI as a **membership organisation** – 94 national and international members (voluntary)
- **non-profit organization**; HEIs are charged for the costs of accreditation.
- Non field specific agency: methodology applicable for all fields of study
- Accreditation body with **most output in EHEA**, (10.000+ reports in DEQAR)
- Registered in Germany (amongst other agencies – **competitive market**)
- **Actor and facilitator** of **internationalisation** processes (e.g. Bologna)

EFFICIENT OR CHEAP ?

- Quality assurance has a cost and good quality assurance needs to provide added value!
- Many QA agencies in Europe struggle with financial sustainability to achieve their mission
 - Too little resources for too many activities
 - Limited budgets do not lead to less expectation
 - QA as “easy solution” to address challenges in HE policy/sector
- There is a minimum cost to QA to provide meaningful outcomes (expectation management)



COOPERATION OR COMPETITION ?

- Efficiency is often driven by external factors (competition)
- Cooperation can increase efficiency (cross border QA)
- Competition requires framework (regulation)



ARE WE READY TO BE EFFICIENT?

- Are we preventing efficiency by asking too much?
- What is the balance of evidence required vs. evidence we can process?
- There are methodological limits – could less be more?



What do you think?



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