INQAAHE 14th Biennial Forum 2024
Call for Proposals

Transforming Society: Social Responsibility through Quality Assurance of Tertiary Education

10-12 June 2024
Bucharest (Romania)

Hosted by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS)

INTRODUCTION

The International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) invites you to submit proposals for our 2024 INQAAHE Forum, hosted by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS).

In an ever-evolving global landscape, tertiary education stands as a cornerstone of societal development. It not only equips individuals with knowledge and skills but also bears a profound social responsibility. The INQAAHE Forum offers the tertiary education and quality assurance community an opportunity to delve into the transformative potential of quality assurance through the multifaceted dimensions of tertiary education's social responsibility.

Understanding the dimensions of social responsibility in tertiary education

Tertiary education institutions are more than centers of academic excellence or professional development. They possess immense power to drive positive change in society, and quality assurance could spearhead their social responsibility. Quality

assurance can serve as a transformative catalyst, a concept we will explore through four subtopics:

1. *Fostering Civic Engagement:* This subtopic will delve into strategies and initiatives in internal and external quality assurance aimed at nurturing a sense of active citizenship among the student body. Discussions will revolve around the role of quality assurance in shaping responsible and engaged citizens, through innovative pedagogical approaches, community involvement, and other mechanisms.

2. *Bridging the Gap to Quality Education for All*: This subtopic will examine the practical steps institutions can take in their internal quality assurance protocols to create inclusive learning environments, enhance diversity, and provide quality education that transcends socio-economic disparities. In the pursuit of social responsibility, the objective is clear: to break down barriers to education and ensure equitable access for all students, regardless of their socioeconomic or cultural backgrounds and languages.

3. *Designing Curricula for Societal Impact*: This subtopic will explore approaches to internal and external quality assurance that ensure the relevance and effectiveness of curricula for great social impacts. Discussions will include the role of QA in influencing institutions to craft curricula that not only empower students with knowledge and skills but also equip them to make a tangible impact on society.

4. *Fostering Opportunities for All Ages:* This subtopic will examine how internal and external quality assurance of tertiary education can play a pivotal role in facilitating continuous learning for individuals of all ages. Topics will examine how quality assurance can help upskilling and reskilling programs, online education, and workforce development initiatives aimed at creating new professional opportunities. Social responsibility involves opening new pathways for lifelong learning, skill enhancement, and professional growth.

A Forum to discuss, collaborate, spark ideas, and reap value for participants

Through insightful discussions and shared experiences, the forum aims to equip participants with a holistic understanding of how tertiary education can shape a better future for individuals and society.

What is in store for you?

- **Dynamic Dialogue:** Engage in thought-provoking discussions with fellow practitioners and experts in quality assurance. Share your experiences, successes, and challenges, and gain fresh insights that you can apply daily.

- **Global Perspectives:** Connect with a diverse network of stakeholders from around the world. Discover innovative QA practices and strategies that transcend borders and contexts.

- **Daily Impact:** The forum is not a space for theorizing but a space for producing through a "hands-on" methodology. Be inspired by innovative methods and approaches that push the boundaries of quality assurance.

The Forum will open-up a range of opportunities for you to delve deeper into these themes and issues through:

- Pre-Forum workshops.
- Interactive-Forum Sessions
- Regional networks meeting.
- Networking opportunities

FORUM GUIDELINES

INQAAHE invites its members to be protagonists of the Forum by presenting proposals around the 4 sub-topics stated in the introduction of this call:

1. A practical problem or approach recently or currently being considered by a member quality agency, where other participants might benefit from or contribute to solving the problem. These proposals will address **sub-topic 2** (*Bridging the Gap to Quality Education for All*) **or sub-topic 3** (*Designing Curricula for Societal Impact*).
2. More forward-looking, system level, questions of how a quality assurance might contribute to delivering system level policy intent or reform. Such proposals will address **sub-topic 1** (*Fostering Civic Engagement*) **or sub-topic 4** (*Fostering Opportunities for All Ages*).

Proposals of the first type will be considered in a **roundtable format**, (see source) and proposers should be prepared to facilitate around 6 tables of 8 people in thinking about their topic.

Proposals of the second type will be considered in a **design-thinking workshop (see source)**, where again the proposer should be prepared to facilitate around 6 tables of 8 people in thinking about their topic.

In both types of proposal, the facilitator will be assisted by voluntary table lead and a rapporteur. Instructions will be provided for all participants in all methodologies.

Straightforward presentations without the scope for delegates to work together on thinking through contemporary issues pertinent to the sub-topic are unlikely to be selected. There is a limit to the numbers of proposals that can be selected. Therefore, INQAAHE will only select those proposals that clearly address topics relevant to one of the sub-topics and are appropriate to the intended session format.

Each proposal should set out the following:

- The intended session format;
- The selected Forum sub-theme;
- The specific topic covered;
- The presenter(s);
- The organization(s) of the presenter(s);
- A 100 – 150-word abstract;
- An outline description of no more than 1,000 words;
- The aims and intentions of the author(s) for the proposal;
- The approach adopted to deliver the session and engage participants, including any specific audio-visual requirements.

Each proposal must be labelled as follows:
- Type of proposal format, number of the subtheme, last name of the author/co-authors (i.e., 1,2_martin-jara, which means it is a #1 proposal under subtheme 2, submitted by Martin and Jara).

FORUM WORKSHOPS

INQAAHE is delighted to invite proposals for pre-Forum workshops to discuss. Proposals should address one or more of the four subtopics of the Forum.

There is a limit to the numbers of proposals that can be selected. Therefore, INQAAHE will only select those proposals that clearly address topics relevant to one of the sub-themes and are appropriate to the intended session format.

Each proposal should set out the following:
- The selected Forum sub-theme;
- The specific topic covered;
- The presenter(s);
- The organization(s) of the presenter(s);
- A 100 – 150-word abstract;
- An outline description of no more than 1,000 words;
- The aims and intentions of the author(s) for the proposal;
- The approach adopted to deliver the workshop and engage participants, including any specific audio-visual requirements.

Each proposal must be labelled as follows:
- Subtheme number and last name of the author/co-authors (i.e., w2_martin-jara, which means it is a workshop proposal under subtheme 2, submitted by Martin and Jara).

DEADLINE AND TIMELINES

- **20 December 2023:** all proposals must be submitted to INQAAHE.
- **15 January 2024:** contributors are notified on their proposal acceptance.
- **15 March 2024:** the final version proposals are submitted to the INQAAHE Secretariat.
- **30 April 2024:** publication of the Forum materials is completed.

FORUM REGISTRATION

Please note that in submitting a proposal, all authors are accepting that, if selected, it is their responsibility to register for the Forum. Information on registration fees will be available on the INQAAHE as well as Forum website shortly.

Proposals should be sent to the INQAAHE Secretariat at secretariat@inqaahe.org.

CONTACT US

For further information and questions regarding the submission of proposals, please contact the INQAAHE office at:

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