CALL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROPOSALS 2023-2024

I. Background

As an integral component of INQAAHE's strategic plan for the period 2023-2027, there are two paramount objectives: bolstering research in the realm of quality assurance (QA) and fostering the development of membership capacity. To better serve members and ensure INQAAHE adds value to the operations and functions of its members, we offer the INQAAHE Funding Scheme (IFS). The IFS provides grants to INQAAHE members on competitive basis to promote implementation of innovative and enhancement projects aimed at enhancement of quality assurance systems worldwide.

The IFS is designed to:

- Create more capacity building for both advanced QA systems and developing ones;
- Increase opportunities for research and innovation in QA, in particular, the role of QA in the promotion of relevance of learning outcomes and employability;
- Enable enhanced cooperation among the INQAAHE members leading to a better understanding of the values, cultures and needs of different systems.

In the pursuance of the purposes, INQAAHE supports projects or initiatives that will support **research** in the field of quality assurance. (A separate call is issued for Capacity Building purposes).

II. Eligibility

This invitation is addressed to **all INQAAHE members**, whether Full or Associate or Affiliate.

Members can apply once every two years. Nevertheless, members can collaborate with other agencies as interagency collaboration is highly encouraged.

III. Types of proposals eligible for the Research and Innovation grant

This is an open call for any topic that will serve to advance capacity in providing higher education quality assurance.

- Studies or research projects that follow an empirical approach and report on the results of research projects or case studies.
- Essays covering an original discussion. These can refer to theoretical or methodological discussions, an analysis of published research, or of good (or bad) practices.
- Innovative experiences, which present, analyze and discuss these practices and their relevance to the enhancement or innovation of quality assurance processes.

Note that the research may build on existing funded research or projects (i.e., to enhance a quality assurance focus of an existing study/project).

IV.   Research and Innovation Award

INQAAHE will accept applications up to 2,500 USD which will be fully transferred against receipt of the final paper.

V.   Evaluation of proposals

The proposals will be evaluated against:

- **Completeness** of proposal application form;
- **Relevance** to the international, national or regional goals related to higher education quality assurance, and INQAAHE;
- **Appropriateness** of the theoretical framework, research design and methodology;
- **Feasibility** of the scope, timeline and resources;
- **Contribution** to the body of knowledge in the field of quality assurance and higher education;
- **Qualifications** of the primary researcher(s) and others involved in the project;
- **Appropriateness of budget** requirements for the study.

VI.   Timeline

The proposals, mid-term, and final reports are to be submitted to the INQAAHE Secretariat at secretariat@inqaahe.org by the following deadlines:

1. Submission of the proposal: December 15, 2023
2. Notification to successful applicants: January 31, 2024
3. Mid-term report: as agreed
4. Final report: March 31, 2025

VII.   Dissemination

INQAAHE requests that all research/study activities acknowledge INQAAHE as a funding partner and, where appropriate, utilize the INQAAHE logo. Activities may include, meetings, consultations, presentations, communications, materials, marketing, etc.

Note that the final report to INQAAHE must include a project summary for posting on the INQAAHE website (pending Board approval).

INQAAHE reserves the right to disassociate with the study should the Board feel the research or innovation outputs or activities conflict with INQAAHE's mission and values or do not uphold the stated project purposes.

Applicants can choose to submit their final paper for publication in the journal *Quality in Higher Education.*

INQAAHE Funding Scheme
Research and Innovation Proposal Template

1. **Project Title**

2. **Name of the Researcher(s)** (include agency affiliation and contact information.)

3. **Status with INQAAHE** (e.g., full member, associate, affiliate.)

4. **Partnering organizations (if any)** (include primary contact information.)

5. **Project abstract** (150 words)

6. **Statement of the purpose or goals of the research** (250 words)

7. **Summary of the theoretical or conceptual foundation for the work** (250 words)

8. **Description of the research design and methodology being used** (500 words)

9. **Theoretical and/or practical significance and implications of the research** (200 words)

10. **Project Timeline** (include key milestones and projected completion date.)

11. **Dissemination plan** (indicate how you will share the findings of the work) (100 words)

12. **Budget** (please include information on other funding sources.)

13. **Curriculum Vitae** of Primary Researcher(s) (and abbreviated vitae of other researchers.)