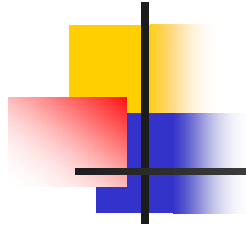




TNE in the Asia-Pacific and the Impact of UNESCO-OECD Guidelines

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The Landscape...

- Cultural, linguistic, social, political and economic pluralities
- Many growing economies
- Increasing attention to HE and its quality
- Increasing regional cooperation



Regional Initiatives

- APQN
- ASEAN
- AUN
- AUAP
- SEAMEO
- UNESCO
- UMAP



Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

Membership as at 30 November 2008:

24 Full Members

9 Intermediate Members

5 Associate Members

21 Institutional Members

7 Observers

Formally established in 2004 – Meet every year

– World Bank DGF for 2005-2007 – GIQAC

funding in 2008 - www.apqn.org



Mission

- To enhance the quality of higher education in Asia and the Pacific region through strengthening the work of quality assurance agencies and extending the cooperation between them.



The Purposes of APQN...

- to promote good practice in QA
- to facilitate research in the region into the practice of quality management ...
- to provide advice and expertise to assist the development of new QA agencies
- to facilitate links between quality assurance agencies and acceptance of each others' decisions and judgements
- to assist members of APQN to determine standards of institutions operating across national borders



APQN...

- to permit better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region
- to assist in the development and use of credit transfer schemes to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders
- to enable members of APQN to be alert to dubious accrediting practices and organisations
- where appropriate, represent the region and promote the interests of the region, e.g. vis-à-vis other networks and international organisations



QA Developments in Asia Pacific...

- Survey of APQN members in Kuala Lumpur, 2006
- Survey of APEC Economies, 2006
- UNESCO report on the implementation of the Guidelines, 2007
- Survey of the Brisbane Communiqué invitees – 2007
- APQN conference in Tokyo - 2008



QA in Asia-Pacific

- two-thirds of QA agencies are recent initiatives
- uneven development in the national capacity
- on-going changes in fairly stabilized QA systems
- regional co-operation in QA is strong
 - information exchange among QA agencies
 - dialogue on issues of common interest
 - mutual trust
 - cooperation
- QA of TNE is still not adequately covered
- ministries have a regulatory role
- national policy frameworks vary



TNE in Asia-Pacific

- Increasing volume of TNE
- Changing rationale



Changing rationale

- Aid and scholarship
- Capacity development
- Mutual understanding
- Using spare capacity
- Full cost recovery
- Revenue generation



Views on TNE...

- View 1: TNE should be promoted in all forms – profit or no-profit - for academic reasons.
- View 2: TNE is a disadvantage to developing countries and should be strictly regulated.
- View 3: Trade in TNE is assuming a significant dimension. A facilitative framework that will promote good trade in TNE is essential.



Disadvantages...

- Lack of capacity of the developing countries to participate effectively in the global trading system
- Economic and revenue-generation rationales of CBE
- threat to national sovereignty and culture
- uni-directional flow of CBE activities
- detrimental to the developmental strategies



In summary...

- Divide between exporting and importing countries
- Information gaps and mistrust in QA
- APQN is making a difference...
- Members expressed interest in good practices...
- UNESCO-OECD Guidelines facilitated that discussion



Why UNESCO-OECD Guidelines?

- CBHE in all modes in the scope of QA
- strengthening the network initiatives
- information dissemination
- adherence to 'Code of Good Practice'
- mutual recognition agreements
- cooperation with other stakeholders
- international orientation of the QA processes

Underlying principle: promote mutual trust, dialogue, sharing of responsibilities, and cooperation among all stakeholders



APQN Actions...

- Workshop for members
- Tool-Kit in two stages with UNESCO-Bangkok
- Online Course with IIEP
- Resource material translation – Chinese
- Follow-up through the Secretariat



UNESCO-OECD Guidelines...

Awareness

- Most are familiar with the Guidelines
- Majority through conferences of APQN, INQAAHE and UNESCO

Implementation

- various initiatives – diversity in interpretation and approaches
- Some areas need a lot more attention



Actions taken by members

- included the Guidelines in the official website
- distributed the Guidelines as e-documents
- translated the Guidelines into the local language
- printed brochures and distributed to appropriate audience
- informed the stakeholders through other national initiatives
- used other conferences as platforms for discussion



Alignment ...

International dimension in QA

- membership in the governing bodies
- membership in advisory bodies
- membership in the review panels
- involvement in the development of procedures and guidelines for QA
- participation in meetings and workshops
- regular/formal information exchange
- staff training



Alignment...

- review of procedures by another peer QA agency
- participation in projects
- bilateral comparative analysis of QA processes
- review against the Guidelines for Good Practices of INQAAHE
- benchmarking projects
- formal and informal links



Relevance...

- positive attitude
- support for the Guidelines
- found the Guidelines relevant
- some good practices
- requires more attention to capacity building
- requires more support for implementing the Guidelines



Future Directions...

- Guidelines need not be revised at this stage
- encourage implementation
- compile practical information on good practices
- compile possible pitfalls in CBHE/TNE
- provide information on QA procedures in other languages



Thank You
