



Agensi Kelayakan Malaysia
Malaysian Qualifications Agency

ASEAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

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Outline

- ⦿ Topic- AQA or AQF
- ⦿ ASEAN-Education
- ⦿ AQAN
- ⦿ ASEAN Higher Education Space- HE system, QA and QF
- ⦿ Activities -ASEAN CTS, AUP, AQAN
- ⦿ ASEAN Qualifications Framework

★ASEAN – Cooperation on Education (SEAMO)

- December 2005 ASEAN leader set new directions for regional collaboration... convene ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting regularly.
- Promoting 'ASEANness'
- Strengthening ASEAN identity through education
- Building human resources in the field of education ; and
- Strengthening ASEAN University networking

NEED FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS-NATIONAL AND REGIONAL

- Globalization led to reforms in national higher education –structure and an assurance system
 - Quality of graduate for national needs socio-economy development, sustainability & competitiveness
 - Globalization and mobilization
 - Confidence in the HE system
 - A suitable QA body and systems
 - Regionally calls for initiatives towards harmonization
- **ASEAN's diversity- a major challenge**

ASEAN



SEAMEO-RIHED-INITIATIVES ON HARMONISATION OF HE

- SEAMEO –RIHED-South East Asia Minister Education Org.-Research Ins in Higher Education.
- Initiatives on harmonization of higher education
- Roadmap towards a higher education common space (2008) with priority area-QA, education, credits transfer system, mobility and life long learning
- Key benefits-closer relationships, access, mobility, costs saving, co-operation and alignment to other regional developments

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

- Philippines- long history of a formal quality assurance and accreditation system
- Emerging QA system in the mid 1990s
- Ease due familiarities in QA matters - INQAAHE and APQN
- Initiatives by ASEAN Universities Network and UMAP at regional level
- Bilateral initiatives
- SEOMEQO-RIHED and MQA – key role in establishing AQAN

ASEAN QUALITY ASSURANCE NETWORK (AQAN)

- The Kuala Lumpur Declaration- ASEAN Quality Assurance Roundtable Meeting 6-8 July 2008
- Aims and Purposes- promote and share good practices of QA; collaborate in capacity building; share information to facilitate recognition; develop regional QA framework,
- Executive Committee with current secretariat at MQA
- Agreed themes and activities hosted by each member country
- Also encourage bilateral collaborations
- Long run- foundation for regional framework

The Malaysian Experience-an example

- Mass education
- Access and equity
- Diversity and dualism in QA
- National competitiveness agenda
- Impact of global higher education/quality assurance movement
- Led to
 - Consolidation – a single national QA system and Malaysian Qualifications Framework
 - Incorporating best practices-benchmarking for comparability, compatibility, confidence, and educational pathways and CQI
 - Strategy in quality enhancement and autonomy
 - Improvement of information systems
 - Internationalisation strategy-collaborations and networking

CURRENT STATE OF DEVELOPMENT - QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS, QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS



Members	QA Authority /body	QA Framework	National Qualifications Framework
1. Brunei	Brunei Darulsalam Accreditation National Council(1980)	Accreditation and recognition of programmes and institutions (admission, employment, approval of programmes and professional registration)	Under construction
2. Cambodia	Accreditation Committee of Cambodia 2003	Accreditation of degree conferring institution. Compulsory. Provisional and full accreditation	No formal framework
3. Indonesia	Badan Akreditasi Nasional- Perguruan Tinggi (BAN-PT) (National Accreditation Authority for Higher Education)	Mainly Programme and limited institutional accreditation . Compulsory.	Laws
4. Malaysia	Malaysian Qualifications Agency (merger between LAN and QAD)	Programme accreditation and institutional audits	Malaysian Qualifications Framework

7. Philippines	Commission on Higher Education/Federation of Accreditation Agencies-several voluntary agencies-PAASCU,AACUP	Programme and Institutional Accreditation. Voluntary	Philippines National Qualifications Framework
8. Singapore	Higher Education Quality Assurance Section, Ministry of Education.	Institutional Audit-Internal and external service. Quality Assurance Framework. Compulsory	Nil
9. Thailand	Commission on Higher Education. Office for National Education on Standards and Assessments (ONESQA)	IQA- 9 quality components External QA-7 quality standards	National Qualifications Framework
10. Vietnam	General Dept. for Testing and Accred), Ministry of Education	Programme and Institutional Accreditation	(NI)

Promoting ASEAN Identity-

Building Foundation for harmonisation

- ⦿ Understanding national higher education systems and policies
- ⦿ Capacity building-QA frameworks-internal quality system and external reviews
- ⦿ QA officers internship and network
- ⦿ Training national assessors and sharing assessors for AQAN
- ⦿ Encourage institutional collaborations and student mobility (credit transfers arrangements)
- ⦿ Bilateral and multilateral cooperation
- ⦿ Internationalisation initiatives to support curriculum development and recognition

AN ASEAN QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK?

A long journey begins with small steps.

- ◎ Learn from others
- ◎ Challenging diversities
- ◎ Phase 1-National systems
 - Reforms in higher education system and the institutions
 - Collaborations amongst institutions (local /external)
 - Develop a credit framework arrangements between institutions (on going)
 - Adoption of international best practices-developing an suitable model

Building Foundation

- Capitalise work done - ASEAN Credit Transfer Scheme/ASEAN-EU/ACTS (formula)
 - Benchmarking by programmes between member countries
 - Proper information centers
 - a national qualifications framework
 - Building confidence of national systems
 - **AQAN- initiatives – Quality, sharing and caring**
- Phase 2
- Developing a regional framework



CHALLENGES AHEAD

- ⦿ “Globalisation of higher education even in SEA requires some sort of framework.”
- ⦿ Diversity and uniformity
- ⦿ Language & culture
- ⦿ Stages of development
- ⦿ Eased by commitment to assist members



Thank you

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