

International quality assurance systems in higher education vs. the Moroccan quality assurance system

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Introduction

The evolution of the higher education field

the globalization

lead

the higher education institutions

- to seek to satisfy national and international academic standards
- to set up quality assurance systems that enable them
 - to monitor and improve the quality of educational service offered
 - to establish confidence and professional recognition of diplomas.

Morocco has engaged in the development of a quality assurance system in its higher education system.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION-Definition

The quality assurance concept is generic in the higher education field.

Quality assurance in higher education can be defined as

- a set of predetermined systematic actions
- continuous process of evaluating the quality
- or planned and systematic review process

of:

- A system
- an institution
- or a program

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION-Definition

Focus on both accountability and improvement, providing information and judgments (not ranking) through an agreed upon and consistent process and well-established criteria to:

- determine that acceptable standards of education, scholarship, and infrastructure are being maintained and enhanced
- ensure that the producers or final users get a standard quality product or service.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION- components

A quality assurance system in higher education is a combination of one or more components.

The main ones are:

- accreditation,
- assessment ,
- and quality audit.

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DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- In the United States,
 - institutional accreditation,
 - program accreditation.
 - the assessment of institution and student learning
- In France,
 - entitlement (authorization) of programs,
 - institutional evaluation,
 - four-year contracts processes.

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DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- In the Netherlands and Germany,
 - the accreditation
 - the assessment
- In the UK,
 - academic subject review
 - institutional audit
 - Accreditation: institutional accreditation and program accreditation.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

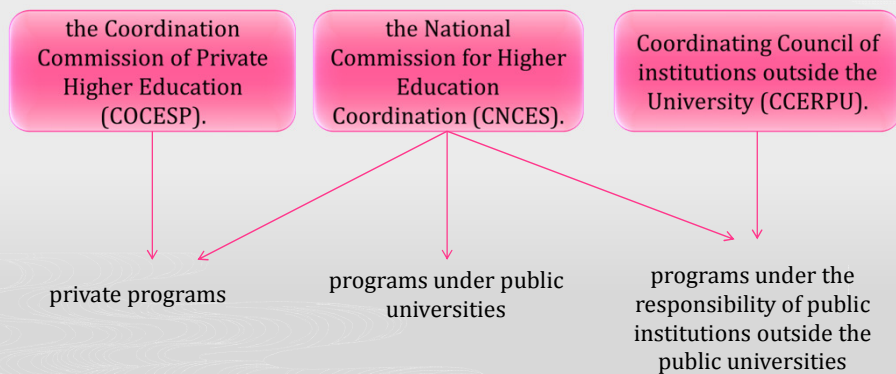
In Morocco the accreditation and the assessment process have complementary roles in the quality assurance process

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

■ Accreditation process

the accreditation is mandatory for all national higher education programs, public or private.



QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

■ Evaluation process

- the evaluation process is global, regular and concerns institutions and programs.
- The self-assessment
- the presentation of evaluation outcomes to national and regional elected agencies
- the communication of these results to the public

The evaluation should be conducted by autonomous and independent agencies such as

- the National Evaluation Authority (INE)

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

■ Achievements and Prospects

Morocco has created the main agencies needed for the functioning of its quality assurance system in higher education,

- CNCES in 2003,
- COCESP in 2005,
- INE under the Higher Education Council (CSE) created in 2006,
- CCERPU,
- quality assurance units have been created at some Moroccan universities.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

- The accreditation agencies created perform effectively their roles.
- Evaluation mechanisms are in place but they are not effective,
 - The quality assurance standards are being developed but still being validated.
 - nationwide, regular and external evaluations are not yet conducted.
 - internal evaluations (self-evaluation) were performed but their outcomes are not communicated and seldom used for the continuous improvement of the higher education system.

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QUALITY ASSURANCE IN MOROCCAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM


▣ Achievements and Prospects

How can we then overcome this and run the Moroccan quality assurance system?

We recommend

- ▣ the activation of the evaluation process i.e. accelerate the validation of the national quality assurance standards
- ▣ implement evaluations outcomes in the process of continuous improvement of Moroccan higher education system.

some universities have made significant progress in the implementation of a quality assurance system

 a benchmark would be very fruitful for the universities experiences.

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Thank you

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