



THE AFRICAN QUALITY ASSURANCE NETWORK (AfriQAN)

ANNUAL GOOD PRACTICES WORKSHOP FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE PRACTITIONERS

20th – 22nd March 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

Introduction

The Association of African Universities (AAU) is an international non-governmental not-for-profit organization set up by the universities in Africa to promote cooperation among themselves and between them and the international academic community. As the representative voice of higher education in Africa, AAU aims to raise the quality of higher education in Africa and strengthen its contribution to Africa's development by, *inter alia*, providing support to their core functions and facilitating critical reflection on, and consensus building around, issues affecting higher education and the development of Africa.

The African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN) was set up by the AAU in 2007 as a regional umbrella organization for quality assurance agencies in Africa, and to provide information to quality assurance practitioners on the continent on current thinking on the subject. The Quality Assurance Unit of the AAU currently serves as the Secretariat for AfriQAN. The establishment of the African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN) by the AAU to serve African higher education quality assurance stakeholders is an acknowledgement of the importance of establishing robust quality assurance systems as necessary instruments for addressing Africa's higher education challenges.

The Network has undertaken training programmes for staff of national regulatory agencies (NRAs) and Quality Assurance units of African universities through workshops, staff exchange and related activities. Although these programmes are still in demand, there is the urgent need for continuous capacity building on quality assurance for personnel of national quality assurance agencies (NQAAs) and higher education institutions with a view to strengthening quality culture in African higher education community.

This need has become more urgent because of the lack of sufficient quality personnel to NQAAs and higher education institutions across Africa. The few with knowledge of quality assurance issues as they retire leave with all that they know about quality assurance especially in areas of recent developments in the field such as African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM), Pan African Quality Assurance Framework (PAQAF), and Addis Ababa Convention. The universities and NRAs may therefore be deprived of these continental and regional initiatives, destitute of skills and enlightenment fundamental to advancing quality assurance issues, and hence the universities and quality assurance units they manage will be poorly served in terms of recent developments on quality assurance, which may have salutary effects on efficient and effective running of the universities.

Moreover, as more universities emerge in response to high population growth and the corresponding increase in the number of student population, these new institutions need to be enlightened on the importance of promoting quality assurance in their new institutions. Additionally, given the proliferation of public and private universities in Africa in general and in Nigeria in particular, there should be regular meeting of the university leaders on quality assurance and governance issues to assure quality of educational delivery and promote international competitiveness.

Consequently, AAU-AfriQAN would like to build on its current quality assurance initiatives and experience by mounting an Good Practices Workshop Series in order to enlighten the personnel of NRAs and highr education institutions on current developments on quality assurance arena and provide a forum where they can share ideas and learn from one another for the good of higher education in Africa.

The Good Practices initiative is expected to significantly contribute to strengthening the capacity of the universities to deliver on their core business. Knowledge gained will be shared among institutional colleagues and other stakeholders, as well as guide and inform current work, structure and future programming on quality assurance on campus.

Objectives

The objectives of the 2019 Good Practices Workshop are to:

- share information on good practices and new developments in the field of quality assurance in higher education among NRAs and university personnel;
- Share identified quality assurance good practices and what makes a good university vice chancellor;
- Strengthen the professional capacity of emerging NRAs and Quality Assurance units in universities; and
- Assist and support discussions on Quality Assurance issues through exchange of ideas and information.

Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes from the exercise include:

1. Strengthened quality assurance capacity of NRAs and higher education institutions.
2. Common knowledge of good practices and recent developments on quality assurance.
3. Promotion of QA culture among higher education institutions.

Good Practices Faculty

The Good Practices resource persons are seasoned and internationally reputed quality assurance experts such Prof. Peter Okebukola (former NUC Executive Secretary and current President of GUNi-Africa), and Dr. Rispa Odongo, International Quality Assurance Consultant.

Good Practices Target Audience

1. Personnel of African universities (public and private) and other Higher Education Institutions responsible for Quality Assurance.
2. Personnel of NQAAs in Africa.
3. Others interested in Quality Assurance.

Good Practices Course Content

The Good Practices workshop facilitators will develop the workshop modules which will address good practices on Quality Assurance based on practical experiences. Each workshop will be participatory and based on real-life experiences of what works and what does not work in quality assurance. The content will include:

- Good Practices in Quality Assurance in Africa.
- New Developments in Quality Assurance.
- What Works and What does not Work in Quality Assurance.

Course Fee Per Participant: t.

The registration fee per participant is as listed below and this covers the workshop package, including course materials, tea breaks, lunches, meeting rooms, facilitation and related logistics. **Participants will however cover their cost of air ticket and accommodation.**

Participants from institutions in Kenya	US\$300
Participants from outside Kenya	US\$400

Registration/Payment: Participants should register online using the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GoodPrac19>. Invoices can be requested for payment and payment can also be done on site in Nairobi.

Closing date for registration is Monday, 18th March 2019.

Duration: Three (3) days

Date: 20th – 22nd March 2019

Venue: UoN Towers 4th floor

Time: 9.00am – 4.30pm daily

Accommodation: Nairobi Safari Club aka Lillian Towers @**US\$ 90** (bed and breakfast). Each participant will pay for his/her own accommodation.

Other hotel options will be made available.

Institutions are strongly encouraged to send at least 2 participants.

For further information, please contact:

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