



ERASMUS MUNDUS

Promotion of European Higher Education – Action 3

Projects on QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality Assurance is a key term in higher education worldwide. It is strongly linked to any measures taken by higher education institutions to monitor and evaluate their academic programmes. It is also linked to the concepts of recognition and accreditation of diplomas, degrees and study periods abroad. Quality assurance is an ongoing process that involves many actors from academics and students to external experts and national accreditation authorities. The projects listed below focus on this very important aspect of higher education in specific disciplines or geographical areas. Their outputs are crucial for promoting a culture of quality, competence and excellence in higher education.

FEATURED PROJECTS

- **LINKING-MED-GULF (2012-2014)**
Synergies and Innovation Linking Europe, the MENA region and the Gulf in Higher Education & Research
- **FRINDOC (2012-2015)**
Framework for the Internationalisation of Doctoral Education
- **ARCHI MUNDUS (2011-2014)**
Building up quality in Architectural Education
- **JISER-MED (2010-2012)**
Joint Innovation & Synergies in Education and Research – Mediterranean region
- **JOQAR (2010-2013)**
Joint Programmes: Quality Assurance and Recognition of degrees awarded
- **FASTQUAD (2007-2010)**
Facilitating students' mobility service including quality insurance dimension

This information sheet is one of a series that show Action 3 outcomes in particular regions of the world, or on specific themes. You can find the whole series at:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/results_compendia/selected_projects_action_3_achievements_activities_en.php

Please note that venues or dates of events are subject to change; checking the project's website for latest details on events is recommended.

LINKING-MED-GULF

Synergies and Innovation Linking Europe, the MENA region and the Gulf in Higher Education & Research (2012-2014)

Coordinated by	University of Barcelona, Spain
Coordinator contact	Ramon Torrent Macau (email: rtorrent@ub.edu)
Website	http://www.ub.edu/LinkingMedGulf/en/index.html
Partners	Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Jordan, Morocco, Oman, Tunisia

Linking-MED-Gulf wishes to **act as a link between Europe, its MENA (Middle East and North Africa) neighbours and the Gulf in the Higher Education and Research Area**. Linking-Gulf is intended to contribute to the development of long standing relations between the regions by generating links among them. This 2 year and 3 months project will also look forward to generating synergies with other Erasmus Mundus Action 3 and European Commission funded projects, which are active in the Mediterranean and in the Gulf in order to look for good practices that could multiply the links between the European countries, its MENA neighbours and the Gulf.

Linking-MED-Gulf that aims at continuing the path opened by the JISER-MED project by consolidating mutual understanding and long term partnerships between the regions by:

- improving the level of **awareness of the Bologna Process** in the MENA and Gulf Countries;
- strengthening relations between **Quality Assurance (QA) and Higher Education and Research**;
- discussing the relationship between the **University and Industry** in the regions;
- contributing to the **interdisciplinary policy debate** in furtherance of increased participation and mutual understanding among different stakeholders and;
- ensuring sustainable means of multiplying and disseminating successful experiences of joint actions in the areas of HE and Research.

Outcomes

- comparison studies on **QA issues, research papers**,
- round-tables, forums, focus groups with **students, employers and university leaders**,
- **workshops** and **seminars**
- dynamic **website portal**, to foster active participation and debate among stakeholders in Linking-Med-Gulf.

Events

[Kick off meeting](#), 21-22 January 2013, Barcelona (Spain)

[AECHE 2013](#), 30-31 May 2013, Barcelona (Spain)

[EAIE Conference](#), 13 September 2013, Istanbul (Turkey)

FRINDOC

Framework for the Internationalisation of Doctoral Education (2012-2015)

Coordinated by	European University Association, Belgium
Coordinator contact	Thomas Jorgensen (email: thomas.jorgensen@eua.be)
Website	http://www.eua.be/FRINDOC.aspx
Partners	Italy, Norway, United Kingdom China, South Africa,

The 3 years project FRINDOC aims at providing a comprehensive overview of good practices and valuable experiences for universities. The project will develop a framework containing a **statement of good practice on internationalisation** and an **online tool for universities to aid planning and implementation of internationalisation strategies for doctoral education**. It will be a comprehensive strategic tool for planning, promoting and supporting mobility in doctoral programmes enabling universities to attain a united picture of strategic goals, capacity and possibilities to implement the right structures for their particular profile. In addition it will promote Europe as an attractive regional partner and enhance its international visibility.

Outcomes

- Statement of good practice
- Online tool
- Induction seminar
- Evaluation seminar
- Launch event

Events

Kick-off meeting, 7 December 2012, Brussels (Belgium)

Steering committee meeting, 13 June 2013, Brussels (Belgium)

ARCHI MUNDUS

Building up quality in Architectural Education (2011-2014)

Coordinated by Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)
Coordinator contact Prof. Dr. Constantin Spiridonidis (email: spirido@arch.auth.gr)
Website <http://www.archi-mundus.net>
Partners: Belgium, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain
Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Uruguay

The project will run for 2 years and 4 months and will bring the non-European partners closer to the way European Schools of architecture adapt their curricula in the contemporary request for quality in Architectural education as it is expressed and defined in the under-construction European Higher Education Area. It will facilitate collaboration among the partners on the further development and the implementation of competences-based architectural quality. The activities will also create the conditions for future mobility between the partners and to establish links and communication channels for future projects.

Outcomes

The project is expected to generate outputs of three different types:

- The partners involved will gain consciousness-knowledge about the contemporary dynamics and trends related to the quality of architectural education. This is a key issue that all educational institutions have to approach in order to assure a competitive education for the future architects. Thus the main generic output would be to develop collectively **a quality culture in architectural education** among the partners involved;
- The project will generate **four international conferences/workshops** that will be used to disseminate information but also as debate-based events;
- **Digital books**, that will present the experiences and good practice examples related to curricula structures and teaching/learning practices developed to assure to the graduates competences that are corresponding to high quality architectural profiles.

Events

ARCHI MUNDUS Conferences / Workshops

1-3 March 2011, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

14-16 February 2013, Montevideo, (Uruguay)

December 2013, Panama City (Panama)

Consortium meetings November 2011, Guatemala City (Guatemala); May 2012 Santiago de Chile (Chile); August-September 2012, Chania (Greece), November 2012, Brussels (Belgium)

JISER-MED

Joint Innovation & Synergies in Education and Research – Mediterranean region (2010-2012)

Coordinated by	The University of Barcelona (Spain)
Coordinator contact	Esther Martra (email: emartra@ub.edu)
Website	http://www.jiser-med.org/
Partners	France, Italy, Spain Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

JISER-MED is a 2 year project that wishes to act as a bridge between Europe and its neighbours in the Mediterranean region in the Higher Education and Research Area. The project aims at promoting the Erasmus Mundus objectives in the framework of a **Euro-Mediterranean partnership**. One of its specific objectives is to **increase the international dimension of quality assurance for Higher Education** from a **Mediterranean perspective**.

Outcomes

The project's main outcomes are:

- a **survey to students** from the Mediterranean region who studied in the EU;
- a **comparison study on Quality Assurance** issues;
- **research papers** on strengthening the relations between Higher Education & Research;
- a dynamic [website portal](#) to foster active participation among stakeholders.

Events

[JISER-MED Kick-off Meeting](#)

17-18 January 2011, Barcelona (Spain)

[Coordination Meeting](#)

30-31 May 2011, Amman (Jordan)

[2-day Conference on Quality Assurance, Employability and Internationalisation](#)

21-22 November 2011, Amman (Jordan)

[Conference on Mobility and Higher Education](#)

23-24 April 2012, Tangiers (Morocco)

[Final conference - Policy Awareness Seminar on the Euro-Mediterranean region](#)

29-30 October 2012, Palma de Mallorca (Spain)

JOQAR

Joint Programmes: Quality Assurance and Recognition of degrees awarded (2010-2013)

Coordinated by	Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (The Netherlands)
Coordinator contact	Mark Frederiks (email: m.frederiks@nvaio.net)
Website	http://www.eaconsortium.net/main/projects/joqar
Partners	Austria, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom Australia, Colombia

This is a 3 year project whose overall purpose is to ensure that Erasmus Mundus programmes are facilitated in the areas of accreditation and recognition. Single accreditation procedures are promoted through the activities of this project. More specifically, its objectives are to develop a multilateral recognition agreement regarding QA and accreditation results and to establish a European coordination point for external QA and accreditation of joint programmes.

Outcomes

The following outputs/products are foreseen:

- observation missions between QA and accreditation agencies;
- on-line report on transferable methodology for including agencies in the multilateral recognition agreement;
- a feasibility study for setting up and maintaining the coordination point and applying a methodology for the single accreditation of joint programmes;
- 4 pilot procedures and a pilot evaluation form regarding joint programmes;
- "knowledge base", a website electronic database;
- guidelines regarding the award of degrees and diploma supplements for HEIs;
- principles report on recognition of degrees .

Events

ENIC-NARICs workshops

2 workshops where the good practices will be discussed with ENIC-NARICs

October 2011 (The Netherlands)

May/June 2012 (Spain)

Joint Programmes Dissemination Conference

20-21 June 2013 (Spain)

FASTQUAD

Facilitating students' mobility service including quality insurance dimension (2007-2010)

Coordinated by	Pierre Mendès France University -Grenoble II (France)
Coordinator contact	Pierre Bailly (email: pierre.bailly@upmf-grenoble.fr)
Website	http://inter.nstu.ru/erasmus/index.shtml
Partners	Finland, Italy, Romania, Spain, Russian Federation

This is a 3 year project that was developed in order to facilitate student mobility and more specifically contribute towards an **easier access to European Higher Education** especially for **students coming from the Russian Federation**. Workshops and seminars as well as experts visits were organised in order to analyse how to set up mobility facilitating services and how to develop guidance for improving students' mobility. In addition the project developed a methodology of evaluation and quality assurance that guaranteed the level of acquired competences.

Outcomes

The activities resulted in the following outcomes:

- introduction of mobility facilitating services to the partner Universities: international academic mobility flows were organised;
- a database that allows academic staff to co-supervise mobility programmes;
- "Applicant Documentation and Instruction Kit", a standardised kit for students.

Events

[How to manage mobility programmes](#)

Seminar - May 2008, Saratov (Russian Federation)

[Managing the modalities of double diplomas](#)

Seminar - November 2008, Saint-Petersburg (Russian Federation)

[What is the meaning of evaluation and quality assurance concepts?](#)

Workshop – April 2009, Yekaterinburg (Russian Federation)

[Final Conference](#)

FASTQUAD results & outcomes, September 2010, Novosibirsk (Russian Federation)