

Towards a quality assurance culture in Libyan higher education system

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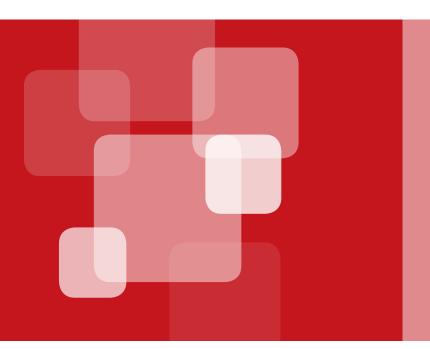


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Who is involved?

The project consortium consists of four European and three Libyan institutions. The composition of the partners took into account their function, status and location.

On the European side, the engaged HEIs from Spain, Ireland and Sweden has a solid background and well-developed system in QA. They will share the experience with the Libyan counterparts at institutional level, whilst the Sweden national QA agency will discuss plans, self-assessments and evaluation for QA as an external body.

In Libyan, both public and private universities are involved in the project, including one of the biggest and oldest universities, University of Benghazi (previously known as Garyouni University). Given the increasing number of students enrolled in HEIs, private universities also play a crucial role in higher education in the country.

OUTPUTS of FOCUS

FOCUS will produce tangible and intangible quality outputs, which are:

- ▶ Comparative analysis and benchmarking of QA practice
- ▶ 5 targeted training workshops
- Online training materials
- Modernised QA unit
- ▶ 2 self-assessment reports in each partner university
- ▶ Enhanced QA culture in Libyan universities
- Mutual understanding and knowledge transfer between EU and Libya

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What is FOCUS?

FOCUS, Fostering quality assurance culture at Libyan universities, is a TEMPUS IV co-funded project that aims at supporting the modernization agenda of Libyan universities through the promotion of quality assurance (QA) culture. Specifically, a sustainable quality assurance system and mechanism will be developed.

How to FOCUS?

To achieve the objectives of FOCUS, numerous assignments are divided in a systematic and logical sequence.



An in-depth analysis and benchmarking exercises will be carried out. It allows both Libyan and EU partners to understand the strengthen and weaknesses of the current QA situation. Training needs will be pinpointed and derived from the report for the next stage.



5 workshops will be held to train the appointed Libyan QA managers and staff. Training topics will be set according to the previous analysis and the materials will be available on the project website for wider outreach.



All the participated Libyan universities will establish or upgrade their QA office that monitor and supervise the institutional QA development and progress. Managers or staff of the offices will be given an opportunity to learn the daily operation of a QA unit in a European country. Subsequently, strategic action plans will be drawn for its long term development.



After the intensive trainings, Libyan partners will turn theory into practice. They will apply the knowledge acquired to conduct self assessments at the university. This pilot action is expected to replicate to other programmes or services within the institutions as well as other HEIs in the country.