

International perspectives:

# Changes in Quality Assurance

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# Outline

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ Multiple Contexts for Quality Assurance
- ◆ Student Learning Outcomes
- ◆ Professionalisation of Quality Assurance
- ◆ Quality Assurance of External Quality Assurance Agencies
- ◆ Concluding Remarks

# Multiple contexts for QA

- ◆ Institutional: eg institution, department, discipline, local or international partnerships
- ◆ National: government, HEI community, professional bodies
- ◆ Regional: governmental policy cooperation, trade agreements, quality assurance networks, institutional, eg EUA and AUN
- ◆ Global: International organisations, eg OECD and Unesco, INQAAHE, international professional accreditation, eg Washington Accord and EQUIS

# Multiple contexts for QA con't

## CONSEQUENCES

- ◆ Need for adaption to various contexts
- ◆ Need for alignment of procedures
- ◆ Cooperation in various settings
- ◆ International peers
- ◆ Emerging market for QA

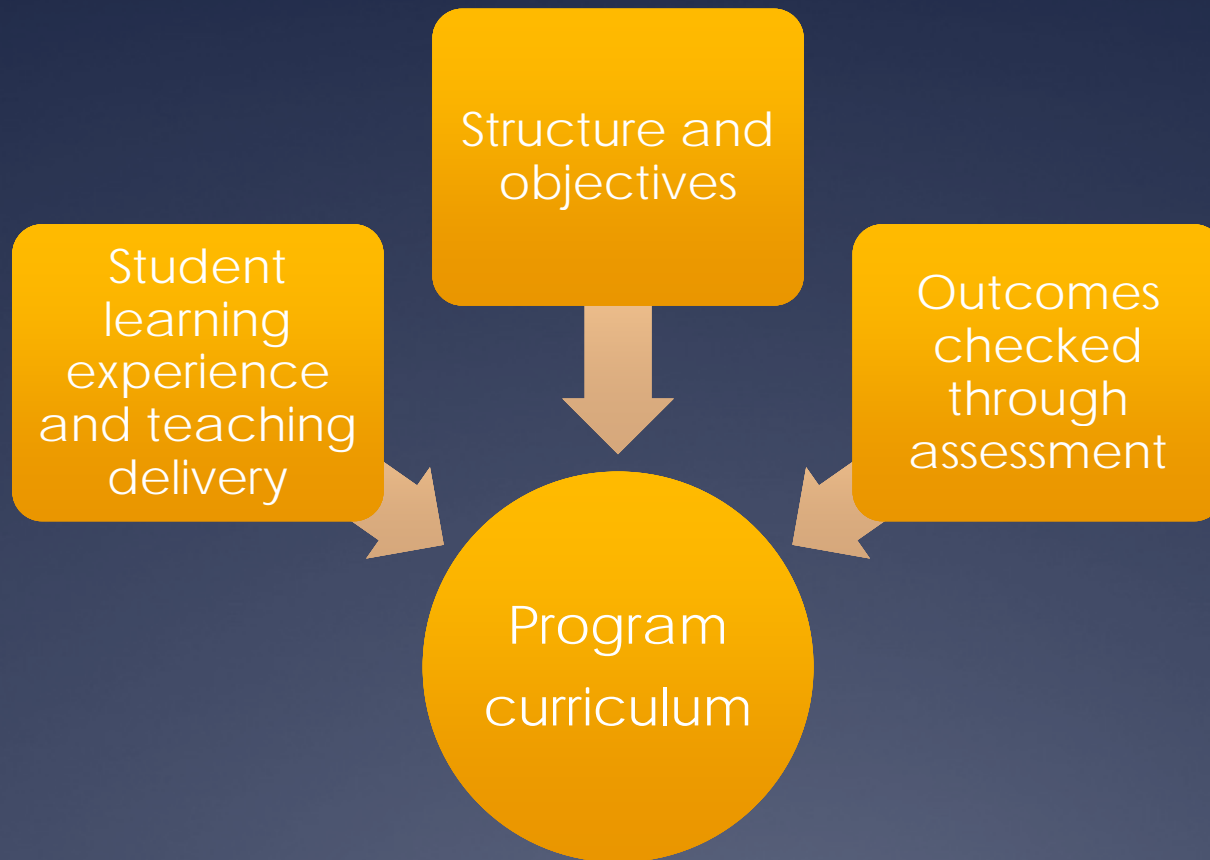
# Traditional QA focus



# Emergence of QFs

	QF type	Level of development	Number of countries
Total  0= no info 1= starting 2= established 3=advanced	National QFs	0	94
		1	83
		2	16
		3	8
	Regional QFs	0	122
		1	68
		2	12
		3	0
	Transnational QFs	0	168
		1	34
		2	0
		3	0

# Outcomes-based QA focus



# Student Learning Outcomes and QA

## CONSEQUENCES

- ◆ Paradigm shift
- ◆ Rethinking of program planning at national and institutional level
- ◆ Re-training of peers and staff in external QA agencies
- ◆ Multi-sectoral quality assurance



# Professionalisation of QA

- ◆ An increasingly complex environment
- ◆ Changes in educational policy
- ◆ Continuous life cycles of quality assurance approaches

# Professionalisation of QA con't

## CONSEQUENCES

- ◆ Expanding internal and external QA entities
- ◆ Specialised peer concept with need for continuous training
- ◆ Specialised division of labour among peers

# QA of external quality assurance agencies

- ◆ Increasing formal measures for quality assurance of external quality assurance agencies
- ◆ Variety of purposes
- ◆ US has been at the forefront
- ◆ INQAAHE Guidelines for Good Practice
- ◆ European Standards and Guidelines and the European Quality Assurance Register

# Concluding remarks

- ◆ More complex contexts for quality assurance
- ◆ Continued development in requirements and thus need for development of QA procedures
- ◆ Specialization and professionalization of peers and staff of QA agencies
- ◆ Demand for more formalised accountability from a varied group of users
- ◆ Increasing need for highest quality in quality assurance due to the expansion of education.

Thank you for  
your attention

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