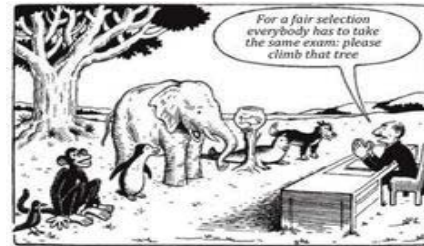


International Practice and Nepalese Quest of QAA

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Our Education System

"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid."

- Albert Einstein

Students can escape
bad teaching



...but they can't escape
bad assessment

(David Boud)

Initiation

- ▶ Everyone wants quality
 - Product
 - Service



Quality

Broadest Sense:

quality is a degree of excellence

Narrower Sense:

conformance with requirement

Summary:

Quality is based on a negotiation between stakeholders to recognize, as far as possible, their needs

Quality is the responsibility of everybody

Quality Is NOT

Quality is not perfection, a standard, a procedure, a measure or an adjective.

No amount of inspection changes the quality of a product or service.

Quality Processes

Quality is assessed in order to determine whether it meets the standard set and to lay the basis for improvement.

However, quality assessment *per se* is no guarantee of quality improvement.

Quality Processes

Within educational quality improvement, four strongly correlated components can be distinguished:

- 1) There should be clear goals and objectives for a curriculum. Similarly, there should be objectives and standards set for the educational methods employed and also the systems and staff being used for delivery.
- 2) There should be clear methods for the evaluation of all courses. Ideally, these should be subjected to both internal and external
- 3) A system for internal quality assurance should be in place by which the improvements identified consequent to assessment (both internal and external) can be considered, then actions agreed, acted upon and implemented.
- 4) Subsequently, it is helpful to review those changes which have been implemented to be sure that they have achieved the desired effect in bringing about both change and improvement.

Quality Framework

Framework for quality assurance includes both internal and external elements.

The external process is built on, and is preceded by, the internal process.

- ▶ Internal evaluation comprises monitoring, student evaluation and a method of institutional self-evaluation.
- ▶ External evaluation comprises Peer Review

Definition

Quality assurance is the systematic review of educational programs to ensure that acceptable standards of education, scholarship and infrastructure are being maintained.

World Trend

- ▶ The US has the oldest tradition of external evaluations of universities dating 1880s forming first regional accrediting agencies with particular focus on educational standards and admissions procedures.
- ▶ At the beginning of the 1990s, fewer than half of the European countries had national quality assurance programs
- ▶ By 2003, almost every European country had a quality assurance program implemented and operating

QAA in Nepal

- ▶ UGC introduced the system in 2007 under System Capacity Building
- ▶ SHEP established QAA as a successful model for the transformation of institutes of Higher Education
- ▶ Consequently, UGC regularized the system
- ▶ HERP emphasizes on QAA
- ▶ UGC made it mandatory for all HEIs recently

Accreditation



QAA Steps

QAA implemented in 4 steps:

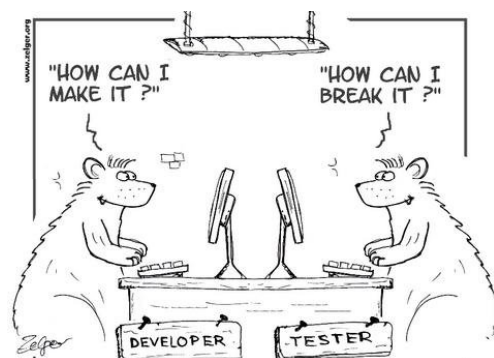
- UGC conducts awareness, motivation and orientation programs
- Institutions conduct self assessment using QAA criteria, standards, and modality set up by UGC which also provides technical support
- Assessment, diagnosis and suggestions for improvement by PRT for ensuring required standards
- Accreditation upon satisfactory follow up action by the institutions, and monitoring follow up by UGC for sustenance of accredited status

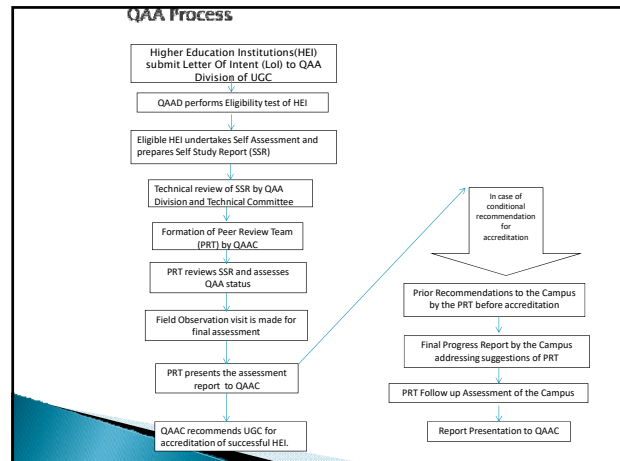
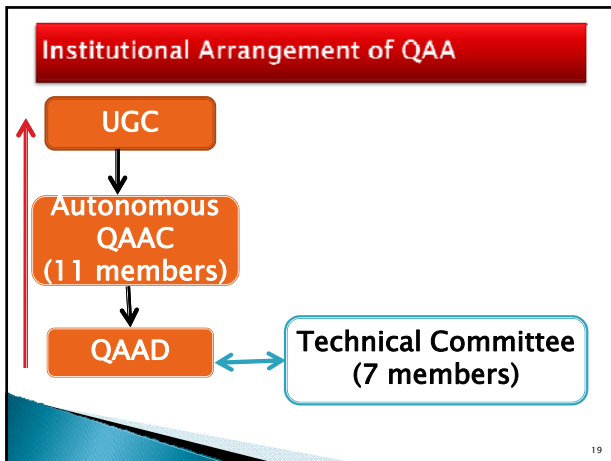
Scope

- ▶ Covers quality audit by PRT
- ▶ Also covers higher education institutions (Public, Private and Community)
- ▶ Both institutions and programs
- ▶ Only institutional accreditation at present
- ▶ Be extended to programs as well later

Provisions

- ▶ Facilitation, consultation, seminars and trainings for the stakeholders
- ▶ Fund support for preparation of SSR to community and constituents campuses and submission for peer review and accreditation BUT no fund support to private affiliated campuses
- ▶ Community campuses and Universities can claim performance grants on the basis of QAA cycle completed and accredited.
- ▶ Publicize dissemination of QAA reports through UGC/QAA web-site
- ▶ Undertake QAA process periodically (Every Five Years)





- ### Eligibility Criteria
- ▶ **At least 50% full time qualified faculty member.**
 - ▶ In case of HEIs offering professional courses, they should meet the minimum criteria stated by the professional councils.
 - ▶ The organizational structure of the HEIs must be explicitly expressed in schematic responsibility and examination responsibility.
 - ▶ **Executive Head and Head of Departments (HoDs) must be full time qualified faculties.**
 - ▶ HEIs must have produced at least 2 batches of graduates or 5 years of operation.
 - ▶ Abiding by the rules and regulation of individual affiliating university, the HEIs must not have multiple affiliations from more than one university.
 - ▶ The HEIs must formulate specific budget for the promotion and sustenance of research culture within the institution.
 - ▶ The minimum number of students should be 150.

- ### Additional criteria for Private HE
- ▶ Institutions running on leased properties must have a plan for institutional sustainability and continuity including their own infrastructure development and commitment to implement the plan within five years.
 - ▶ The institutions must have set aside at least 10% of its total budget for the academic/ institutional development.

- ### Cultivating New Attitudes
- ▶ In the end, quality assurance has to be a process of “self-regulation”
 - ▶ Without a commitment at all levels of an institution, the process doesn’t work—there is no quality assurance



