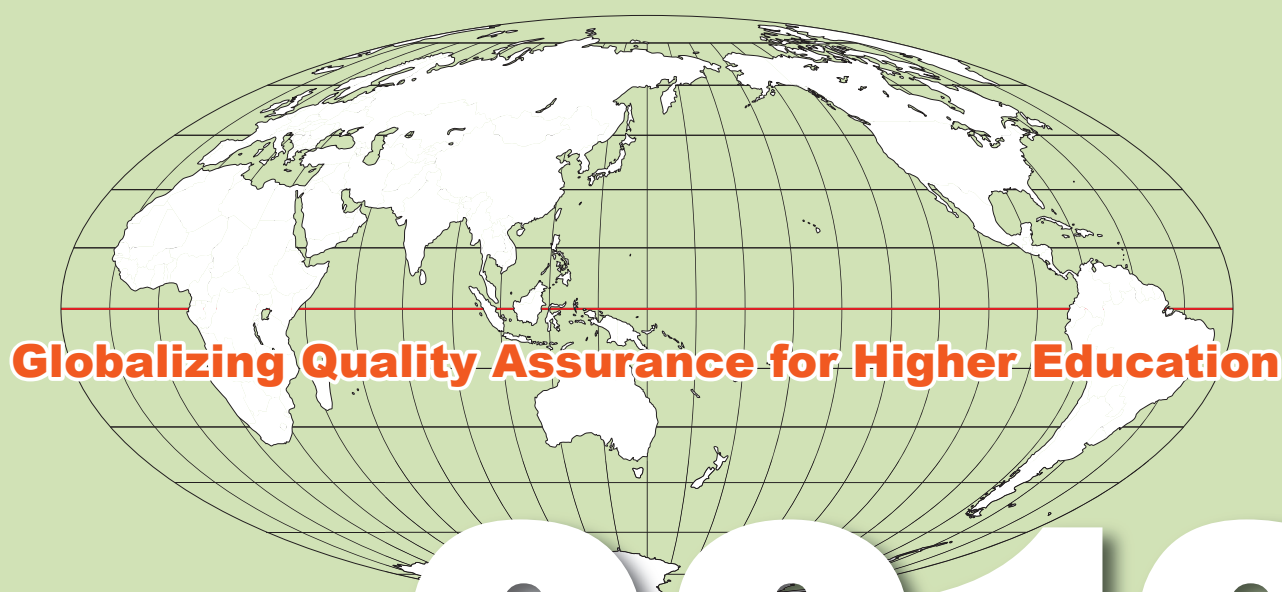


External Review of National Institution for  
Academic Degrees and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE)

## Self-Assessment Report



# 2012

**NIAD-UE**  
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## **Preface**

The National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE) was established in 1991 as the National Institution for Academic Degrees, which conferred academic awards in Japan outside the university sector. In 2000, it added the function of conducting evaluations and accreditations of higher education institutions. NIAD-UE has been formally recognized as an organization responsible for higher education quality assurance in Japan since it was designated as an incorporated administrative agency in 2004.

Over the last 20 years, NIAD-UE has been providing alternative routes to earning academic degrees (bachelor, master's and doctoral) for individual learners in non-degree awarding institutions, including those under the jurisdiction of ministries other than Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). To date, NIAD-UE has awarded academic degrees to approximately 58,000 individuals as the only institution besides universities that has degree-awarding authority in Japan. NIAD-UE is steadfastly working to enhance the international compatibility of its academic degrees.

As a quality assurance agency, NIAD-UE initially carried out 'trial university evaluations' on national universities. Upon this experience, NIAD-UE developed an evaluation methodology under the Certified Evaluation and Accreditation (CEA), a national quality assurance framework established under the Educational Law. Formally starting them in 2006, NIAD-UE carries out institutional CEAs for universities, junior colleges, colleges of technology, and professional graduate law schools of universities. In 2008 and 2010, at the request of the National University Corporation Evaluation Committee set up within MEXT, NIAD-UE conducted evaluations of education and research activities at all national universities and inter-university research institutes in Japan.

NIAD-UE carries out its evaluation and accreditation activities based upon an 'open' and 'evolving' concept. Every year, therefore, it conducts a study to verify the



effectiveness and appropriateness of its evaluation processes, and works to enhance its CEA quality based on the results. NIAD-UE has a research department that conducts studies on various quality assurance topics. In these ways, NIAD-UE is playing a leading role in enhancing the quality of higher education institutions in Japan, while strengthening the accountability of the higher education sector to society and contributing to the quality enhancement and distinctiveness of Japan's higher education institutions.

Going beyond these concrete evaluation and degree-awarding functions, NIAD-UE is also expected to take the initiative in fostering an 'evaluation culture' within Japan's higher education community. From this perspective, NIAD-UE has published a series of five *Evaluation Culture in Japan* volumes, the core parts of which are published separately in English and distributed abroad to elevate the international compatibility of Japan's quality assurance system.

NIAD-UE carries out its quality assurance activities taking into account of the latest international standards and trends. The basic policy of NIAD-UE's international collaborative activities is, through its evaluation and degree-awarding activities, to enhance the international recognition and compatibility of Japanese higher education and to strengthen the global competitiveness of its higher education institutions. To this end, NIAD-UE proactively engages in a range of activities to support higher education enhancement. These include organizing forums and seminars, developing information-dissemination tools such as the *Glossary of Quality Assurance in Japanese Higher Education*, *Information Package for Quality Assurance*, and a portal site for University Evaluation Information, working with overseas partners including study visits and collaborative projects under the Japan-China-Korea QA Council. Additionally, NIAD-UE participates actively in International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) and Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) as a regular member, and provides the members of quality assurance organizations in other countries with training programs designed for assessors. In such ways, NIAD-UE acts as an international 'bridge builder' between Japanese institutions in and their overseas counterparts.



## **Attainment of Mid-term Objectives and Plans for International Collaborative Activities**

Amidst an onrush of globalization, higher education institutions are expected to contribute to creating, transmitting and applying the kind of knowledge that responds to demands of 21<sup>st</sup> century society. In strengthening international competitiveness, the trend is for emphases to be placed on its economic and industrial aspects; however, the 21<sup>st</sup> century demands strengthening competitiveness from academic and cultural perspectives as well.

As Japan's leading quality assurance agency for higher education, NIAD-UE conducts institutional evaluations and accreditations and awards academic degrees to individuals by providing alternate routes for evaluating learning outcomes, while carrying out various international collaborative activities. NIAD-UE is also responsible for and working actively to nurture, develop and solidify an 'evaluation culture' within the Japanese higher education sector by providing a platform for discussing quality assurance and sharing information on it.

### **I. Research activities and the work of NIAD-UE**

NIAD-UE was established as a national body for the purpose of evaluating higher education institutions at a juncture when a system of quality assurance (QA) by third-party evaluation was formally introduced in Japan. Subsequently designated an incorporated administrative agency, NIAD-UE is proactively carrying out activities to enhance of the quality of Japan's higher education sector while working to create a vibrant evaluation culture in it.

#### **1. 'Open' and 'evolving' system of evaluation and accreditation**

Since its establishment, NIAD-UE has advocated an 'open' and 'evolving' system of evaluation and accreditation. From 2000 NIAD-UE conducted 'trial university evaluations' of national universities. Based on the results, in 2006 NIAD-UE began



carrying out institutional Certified Evaluations and Accreditations (CEAs) and CEAs for university-affiliated professional graduate law schools. Both have entered their second cycle.

Every year, NIAD-UE verifies its evaluation processes through a comprehensive survey carried out by distributing a questionnaire to all institutions and boards in Japan. Based on the results, NIAD-UE makes improvements to its CEA process. The results were also used to establish the evaluation criteria and methods for the second CEA cycle. The survey findings were analyzed based on all the evaluation reports of the institutional CEAs for colleges of technology conducted in 2010 and the CEAs for universities and university-affiliated professional graduate law schools in 2011. The analysis showed the CEA affect on improving education at the subject institutions, while also identifying common issues that exist among Japan's higher education institutions.

Verification/reviews of the 'National University Corporation Evaluation' have been conducted twice: the first in 2010 after a provisional evaluation was carried out, and the second in 2012 after the final evaluation process had been completed. The two verification/reviews showed a significant difference among the universities, which do not have the same objectives, in recognizing the importance and appropriateness of the evaluation, which affected its outcomes. The second phase of the National University Corporation Evaluation is being developed in light of these review findings.

NIAD-UE considers an analytical academic approach to be indispensable in conducting its questionnaire surveys on par with peer reviews and in designing its evaluation and accreditation processes. Accordingly, NIAD-UE's research department surveys the quality assurance trends of other countries and works to create new quality assurance concepts and methodologies. Its recent research projects have three core themes: 'learning outcomes and quality assurance,' 'human resource development for internal and external quality assurance,' and 'development of new evaluation methods.'





## **2. Quality assurance of academic degrees**

The Research Group on International Comparisons of Academic Degrees has been organized to study the theoretical bases of degree systems and conduct a comparative study of various systems around the world. The group comprises academics, MEXT experts, and NIAD-UE research staff. It has recently published a report on its comparative study of five countries. NIAD-UE's system of awarding degrees is underpinned by such research, and is recognized internationally as seen by the fact that its system is registered in INQAAHE's 'Good Practices in Quality Assurance' database.

NIAD-UE has recently been carrying out research on developing a new framework for assessing internationalization in Japanese universities and designing an international QA monitoring framework for a government-led trilateral exchange program ('CAMPUS Asia' \* pilot project) among Japan, China and Korea. Such research is closely aligned with Japan's national agenda. As an outcome of the research, the Institutional Thematic Assessment on Internationalization for Higher Education will be introduced in 2013 and made available to universities that request it. As learning outcomes are an essential element in quality assurance, NIAD-UE is working on analyzing learning outcome assessments and developing assessment methods, while conceptualizing models for learning outcomes. Research projects are also being carried out on the international recognition and quality assurance of academic degrees.

## **3. Providing information on quality assurance**

NIAD-UE publishes the annual academic journal '*Research on Academic Degrees and University Evaluation*.' The achievements of our research staff have also been published on the NIAD-UE website since 2011.

NIAD-UE also publishes a large volume of books, research reports and information. Some of international importance is translated into English (see Table 1). They have received high appraisal at conferences held by INQAAHE, APQN and other



organizations. The *Glossary of Quality Assurance in Japanese Higher Education* is distributed and highly appraised within Japan's higher education sector. So as to reflect the latest educational trends and stakeholder feedback, the *Glossary* has been reviewed and revised with new words added every other year since 2007. NIAD-UE also publishes the *Overview of Quality Assurance System in Higher Education of Japan* in both Japanese and English. These publications are compiled into a comprehensive 'Information Package' on Japanese quality assurance initiatives and systems. In working to promote mutual understanding between the Japanese higher education sector and its overseas counterparts, NIAD-UE widely distributes this package to quality assurance agencies both in Japan and abroad, including higher education institutions, educational ministries, and embassies. They are also made available in the form of files that can be downloaded from NIAD-UE's website, and there is a link to them on the UNESCO portal "Recognized Higher Education Institutions."

In addition, NIAD-UE publishes a series of *Overview of Quality Assurance System in Higher Education* in other countries, providing so far basic information in bilingual format on five countries: Australia, France, the Netherlands, UK, and USA. These publications serve as a tool to be used by Japanese institutions in effectively cooperating with their international partner institutions. Our webpage is regularly updated in providing information on quality assurance related to international joint education programs and recent quality assurance developments in other countries.

NIAD-UE holds an annual 'University Evaluation Forum' to promote quality assurance initiatives by Japanese higher education institutions. The forum focuses on key issues based on contemporary societal needs (see Table 2). Highly appraised, the forum is widely attended by a few hundred participants every year.

## **II. International Activities**

Worldwide, the majority of higher education institutions and systems have internal and external quality assurance programs, recognizing the importance of educational quality enhancement. In advancing Japanese higher education, international engagement in quality assurance is imperative. Accordingly, an important NIAD-UE



mission is to gain the trust of the international community in its quality assurance programs. Given this recognition, NIAD-UE is proactively devising and carrying out international collaborative activities.

## **1. International QA networks**

NIAD-UE actively discusses and exchanges views and updated information on QA with counterparts in other countries and regions by participating in international QA conferences (see Table 3) and engaging as a regular member of INQAAHE and APQN.

In close alliance with APQN, NIAD-UE works to enhance quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific region, providing its members with various opportunities, including:

- International workshop to share good practices within the international QA community (October 2011):

Fifteen experts from twelve APQN-member institutions participated in this Tokyo workshop. A total of forty-nine people including observers attended the event. It was highly appraised by the participants, and a summary of the proceedings was posted on the NIAD-UE website for the benefit of the region's higher education institutions.

- Training program for Vietnamese officials (December 2011):

At the request of APQN, NIAD-UE provided an intensive four-day training program for five officials of the General Department of Education Testing and Accreditation, Ministry of Education and Training (GDETA-MOET) of Vietnam. The program included a workshop and lectures, and visits to educational and QA institutions. Positive feedback was received from the participants.

- APQN board member and consultants:

NIAD-UE's vice-president is serving as an APQN board member for the 2011-2013 term, contributing to the development of quality assurance collaborative activities in Asia-Pacific region. Also, a professor of NIAD-UE was chosen as a registered APQN consultant.



## 2. International collaboration with overseas quality assurance agencies

Currently, NIAD-UE has memorandums of understanding for cooperation with 10 overseas quality assurance agencies (see Table 4). Centered around these partnerships, NIAD-UE acts as an international ‘bridge builder,’ conducting surveys and visits and holding discussions with overseas quality assurance institutions (see Table 5). Workshops and other activities for supporting quality assurance activities on an international level include the following:

- International workshop on *Information Package for Quality Assurance* in cooperation with UK and Chinese partners: the Quality Assurance Agency of UK (QAA) and Higher Education Evaluation Center of the Ministry of Education of China (HEEC) (Held in Bangkok, March 2010):

NIAD-UE organized this workshop with counterpart QA agencies to discuss the importance of mutual understanding and information sharing as pertains to international quality assurance. Inputs were provided by UNESCO, NIAD-UE, QAA, HEEC, and APQN. NIAD-UE reported the outcomes of the workshop in a parallel session on QA initiatives at APQN’s annual conference. Consequently, NIAD-UE’s initiative of publishing an information package was recognized as a ‘good practice’ for promoting mutual understanding among various QA systems.
- Training program for Indonesian assessors (October 2010):

NIAD-UE provided a training program for an Indonesian partner institution, Badan Akreditasi Nasional Perguruan Tinggi (BAN-PT).
- International symposium hosted by Taiwan partner institution (June 2011):

NIAD-UE presented updated information on Japan’s quality assurance at this symposium held by the Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), while gathering information on the latest developments in the US, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Taiwan. Following the symposium, NIAD-UE made a contribution to HEEACT’s journal for higher education (February 2012).
- European Commission Quality Assurance International Conference (December 2011):



NIAD-UE introduced its QA approaches in Japan and East Asia at the conference, and exchanged views and opinions on inter-regional QA collaboration.

### **3. Japan-China-Korea Quality Assurance Council**

Following the Japan-China-Korea Trilateral Summit Meeting held in 2009 where the three countries agreed to promote international cooperation in higher education, NIAD-UE took the initiative in establishing a framework to further collaborative approaches to quality assurance among the three countries. Consequently, with support from the three governments, the Japan-China-Korea Quality Assurance Council was established in March 2010 among NIAD-UE, HEEC (China) and KCUE (Korea) to facilitate from a QA perspective international collaboration between universities in the member countries.

The three QA agencies have met four times so far, and have established three project groups on the following themes:

- PG1: Enhancing Mutual Understanding
- PG2: Cooperation in QA of International Education Programs
- PG3: Staff/Expert Exchanges

NIAD-UE's role in the Council is to lead the PG2 in producing joint guidelines for international quality assurance among the three countries. The Council agreed to undertake joint monitoring of the CAMPUS Asia\* pilot programs with a view to identifying good practices and common issues, and disseminating them broadly to Asia's various higher education sectors. The monitoring process will be carried out in two phases over five years. The first will be implemented in 2013.

In Japan, NIAD-UE set up the CAMPUS Asia Provisional Committee, which develops program monitoring criteria and methods. NIAD-UE presented its concept for monitoring pilot programs at an international conference on CAMPUS Asia hosted by a Korean university in February 2012.



NIAD-UE also works to support higher education institutions by providing them with opportunities to discuss ways of advancing educational collaboration within the East Asian region. Inviting partner quality assurance agencies from Asia to it, NIAD-UE organized and chaired a working group session at the 'International Symposium on Exchange among Universities with QA in the East Asian Region' hosted by MEXT in September 2011, in which ideas were exchanged among representatives of higher education institutions in the region.

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\*CAMPUS Asia: 'Collective Action for the Mobility Program of University Students in Asia.'

This government-led initiative seeks to strengthen exchange and cooperation among universities in Japan, China, and Korea. Aimed at developing collaborative educational programs, each project is implemented by a consortium of universities from the three countries. So far, 10 projects have been selected via joint screening by the three countries.



## **Next Step: Further Developments and Future Challenges**

### **I. Research activities and the work of NIAD-UE**

Working to improve its evaluation and degree-awarding programs, NIAD-UE's research department carries out holistic, comprehensive studies and research on third-party and external quality assurance practices, the condition of various degree systems, and the international compatibility of degree and evaluation systems. In doing this, it carries out research to verify the level of quality-evaluating and degree-awarding programs in light of the performance of such programs in universities. The outputs and findings of this research are published and disseminated widely to stakeholders, not only in the form of academic papers but also guidelines and reference documents including data and indicators for practical use by higher education institutions. NIAD-UE also provides leadership and support to higher education institutions by devising proposals and putting together research reports and analyses aimed at promoting a vibrant and diverse higher education sector.

NIAD-UE's strategic priorities are as follows:

- 1. Basic research on evaluation methods, empirical research on evaluation development and verification, and research on the establishment and operation of universities' internal quality assurance systems**

NIAD-UE will continue to conduct studies and research aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of its evaluation and accreditation systems. To this end we will work to develop new evaluation systems and assess their performance after evaluations have been conducted. In collaboration with universities and other institutions, NIAD-UE will advance research on good practices with regard to internal quality assurance. The outputs and findings of this research and analysis will be made widely available through published papers and documents that higher education institutions can easily access and share. These results will be used to develop and provide training programs to foster quality assurance assessors and staffs in universities. NIAD-UE will work to instill greater efficiency in its evaluation and accreditation processes by creating more



effective evaluation criteria and, based on them, developing QA analysis methods that will utilize an information database tentatively called 'University Portrait.'

## **2. Basic research on degree-awarding methods, follow-up surveys on degree awardees, research on the structure and function of degree-related learning processes and on degree compatibility**

NIAD-UE works to award degrees in a lifelong learning environment. In that vein, we conduct basic research on higher education systems, particularly credit and degree compatibility, and publish the results in academic papers, while generating QA reference materials of usefulness to universities. We will continue to carry out follow-up surveys on degree awardees in order to improve our degree-awarding operations. The surveys will also look at their careers of NIAD-UE degree recipients and examine to what extent non-traditional academic degrees are recognized and useful in Japanese society. Furthermore, we will do research on the diversifying modes of learning and examine how NIAD-UE's degree-awarding system applies to them in terms of credit accumulation and transfer.

## **3. Study on the international compatibility of Japan's degree-awarding and evaluation systems**

In promoting students mobility, it has become increasingly important for each country to ensure the international comparability and compatibility of its higher education system. NIAD-UE will coordinate with researches and policymakers in this regard.

In particular, through a joint monitoring project for transnational collaborative provision with overseas partners, NIAD-UE will identify criteria and practices commonly used among higher education institutions and quality assurance agencies at an international level. Additionally, in a higher education environment that is rapidly changing with student mobility and diversification of learning modes, we will study a framework of providing well-researched, reliable information and responding to inquiries on quality assurance to institutions and prospective students.





The areas of research projects include:

(1) Quality assurance for transnational collaborative programs

Quality assurance is steadily gaining importance in programs to promote internationalization. Using the outputs from the joint monitoring project under the CAMPUS Asia, launched in 2011 in collaboration with HEEC and KCUE, NIAD-UE will draw up joint QA guidelines for transnational education to be applied by quality assurance agencies in Japan, China and Korea. In a domestic context, NIAD-UE will use these guidelines to further develop assessment criteria with international perspectives, which can help higher education institutions map out their internationalization initiatives. NIAD-UE will widely disseminate such information on the internationalization of higher education.

(2) Function of national information center

A new convention, *Asia-Pacific Regional Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education*, signed in November 2011 by UNESCO-member states, calls for a national information center on qualifications to be established in each state. NIAD-UE will study the functions of a Japanese national information center looking at various centers already established in the other countries and regions. Closely related to NIAD-UE's work on awarding degrees, this study will be coordinated with our other research projects on academic degrees including the compatibility of credits and recognition of degrees. The findings will be made available to stakeholders including higher education institutions and interested individuals.

## II. International Activities

NIAD-UE is intent upon being increasingly more active on an international level, with a view that international activities are advantageous in enhancing our work on evaluation, accreditation, and degree awarding.

The CEA system was formally adopted in Japan in 2005. Now, one cycle of the system has just been completed at NIAD-UE. Each Japanese quality assurance agency is still



in the process of improving its operations while verifying and the putting the new system into practice. Given the need for all of Japan's quality assurance agencies to meet the challenges of the new CEA system and make related operational improvements particular in the area of international compatibility, NIAD-UE can use its experiences with international activities to play a significant role in contributing to development of the Japanese quality assurance sector.

Toward making further contributions to enhancing Japan's higher education as a quality assurance agency, NIAD-UE will carry out its CEA activities while conducting thematic assessments on the states of (1) research activities, (2) community engagement/outreach, and (3) internationalization for higher education. Concurrently, we will apply our international agenda to research on developing possible schemes for assessing quality assurance in higher education that responds more closely to the demands of society.

In this context, it will be NIAD-UE's mission to build a stronger relationship of trust as a quality assurance agency within the international community. NIAD-UE will develop and advance its international collaborative activities even more proactively as it moves ahead.

Our primary activities for development:

### **1. Collection, compilation, and dissemination of information on international quality assurance**

NIAD-UE collects information and data on higher education overseas and disseminates them widely within the Japanese higher education sector so as to improve the international compatibility of its education provision and quality assurance. Our key role is to provide information and updates on international trends including QA good practices garnered through our activities in international networks and collaborative undertakings. On the other hand, to gain stronger international trust in Japan's higher education, it will be necessary to more vigorously disseminate information on its quality assurance initiatives to the international community. To



these ends, NIAD-UE will continue developing avenues for providing information on Japan's higher-education and quality-assurance systems and for sharing information on recent international trends and developments. Included among these avenues will be organizing seminars and workshops, publishing reports and booklets, and providing international updates on our website.

## **2. Annual NIAD-UE University Evaluation Forum**

NIAD-UE will continue to hold its annual University Evaluation Forum on timely themes coinciding with needs in higher education. While deepening the roots of an evaluation culture in Japan, these forums help to enhance the quality assurance activities of higher education institutions by sharing with them international trends in good practices.

## **3. International QA networks and international collaboration with QA partners**

Establishing international compatibility in quality assurance is becoming increasingly important in Japan. NIAD-UE will work to advance more projects and initiatives in this area in collaboration with overseas partner agencies, and will widely share its outputs and findings with higher education institutions in Japan. In particular, NIAD-UE is conducting a joint project with China and Korea to develop common guidelines for quality assurance in transnational collaborative programs. We will work to expand this kind of collaborative activity with other overseas quality assurance agencies.

## **4. Information on qualifications for higher education**

NIAD-UE will examine feasible ways of providing information through a national information center to be established in Japan based on the outputs of a study project that will be carried out by our research department on the function of the center as stipulated in the *UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education*.

## APPENDIX

### <Reference Data>

**Table 1: NIAD-UE's major Publications in English**

1. <i>Glossary of Quality Assurance in Japanese Higher Education (3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 2011)</i>
2. <b>Overviews of Quality Assurance Systems in Higher Education (Japan, USA, UK, Netherlands, Australia, France)</b>
3. <b>Key documents of NIAD-UE's Certified Evaluation and Accreditation : General Principles and Standards for Evaluation and Accreditation</b>
4. <i>Evaluation and Quality Assurance of Higher Education in Japan(February 2008)</i>
5. <i>Quality Assurance for Higher Education in Japan(March 2012)</i>

**Table 2: NIAD-UE University Evaluation Forum (2009-2011)**

Theme of the Forum	Participants	Satisfactory rate
Effective Use of Academic Resources for Enhancement of the Internal Quality Assurance System — For Developing University's Distinctiveness — (August 2009)	336	87.6%
Establishing a Quality Assurance System based on the Learning Outcomes – Effective Assessment, Visualization and Publication of the Learning Outcomes – (August 2010)	383	81.3%
New Paradigm of Quality Assurance in the Age of Globalization – The “Functions” Viewing from the Practices at International Organizations – (October 2011)	363	79.1%

**Table 3: Participation in International Network Conferences (2009-2011)**

Conference, Meetings	Year and venue
The 6th Japan-China Rectors Conference	Oct 2009, China
The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education (OBHE) 2009 Global Forum	Oct 2009, Malaysia
Global HR Forum 2009	Nov 2009, Korea
CHEA 2010 Annual Conference and National Accreditation Forum, International Seminar	Jan 2010, USA
APQN 2010 Conference and Annual General Meeting	Mar 2010, Thailand
AQAN Roundtable Meeting	Jul 2010, Indonesia

<b>The 2010 Strategic Leaders Global Summit</b>	Sept 2010, Australia
<b>2010 ASEM Accreditation International Seminar</b>	October 2010, Korea
<b>CHEA 2011 Annual Conference and National Accreditation Forum, International Seminar</b>	Jan 2011, USA
<b>APQN 2011 Conference and Annual General Meeting</b>	Mar 2011, India
<b>INQAAHE 2011 Conference</b>	Apr 2011, Spain
<b>UNESCO East Asia Summit Meeting on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications in the Asia Pacific Region</b>	Jun 2011, Thailand
<b>HEEACT International Conference</b>	June 2011, Taiwan,
<b>ASEM Seminar on Regional Quality Assurance</b>	Jul 2011, Germany
<b>2011 AQAN Seminar</b>	Oct 2011, Brunei
<b>The 7<sup>th</sup> Japan-China Rectors Conference</b>	Oct 2011, Kyoto, Japan
<b>The 2011 KCUE International Forum</b>	December 2011, Korea,
<b>Quality Assurance International Conference (EC &amp; Flemish Ministry)</b>	Dec 2011, Belgium
<b>CHEA 2012 Annual Conference and National Accreditation Forum, International Seminar</b>	Jan 2012, USA
<b>APQN 2012 Conference and Annual General Meeting</b>	Mar 2012, Cambodia

**Table 4: MoU Partner QA Institutions with NIAD-UE**

<b>Europe</b>	<b>Year of the MoU concluded</b>
<b>Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), UK</b>	<b>Feb 2007</b>
<b>Accreditation Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO)</b>	<b>Jun 2010</b>
<b>Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic)</b>	<b>Jun 2010</b>
<b>Evaluation Agency for Research and Higher Education (AERES), France</b>	<b>Mar 2011</b>

<b>Asia</b>	<b>Year of the MoU concluded</b>
<b>Higher Education Evaluation Center of the Ministry of Education (HEEC), China</b>	<b>Sep 2007</b>
<b>Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)</b>	<b>Mar 2010</b>
<b>Korean Council for University Education (KCUE)</b>	<b>Aug 2010</b>
<b>Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA)</b>	<b>Mar 2011</b>

<b>National Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (BAN-PT), Indonesia</b>	<b>Mar 2011</b>
<b>Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT)</b>	<b>Jun 2011</b>

**Table 5-1: Study Visits and Meetings with Partner Institutions (2009-2011)**

<b>Visit</b>	<b>Institutions visited</b>	<b>Month, Year</b>
<b>Study visit to UK and the Netherlands (study on higher education information and international credential evaluations)</b>	<b>QAA, NVAO, Nuffic</b>	<b>Jul 2009</b>
<b>Study visit to Australia (study on quality assurance system in Australia)</b>	<b>DEEWR, Universities Australia, Group of Eight, 4 other institutions</b>	<b>Oct 2009</b>
<b>Study visit to UK and Germany (study on Quality Assurance for International Collaborative Programs)</b>	<b>Universtiy of Reading, University of Leicester, University of Erlangen-Nurnberg</b>	<b>Dec 2009</b>
<b>Study visit to UK and the Netherlands (study on Quality Assurance for International Cooperative Programs)</b>	<b>Leiden University , University College London, 6 other universities</b>	<b>Feb 2010</b>
<b>Study visit to Europe (Austria, Germany, Sweden, and the Netherlands) (study on Quality Assurance for International Cooperative Programs)</b>	<b>University of Hohenheim, SNAHE, and 2 other universities</b>	<b>May 2010</b>
<b>Study visit to the Netherlands (Site visit of internationalisation as a distinctive (quality) feature for internationalisation as Observer)</b>	<b>NVAO, Nuffic, EUA</b>	<b>Oct 2010</b>
<b>Study visit to UK, France and Belgium (study on Quality Assurance for International Cooperative Programs, Site visit (as Observer) to Ghent University as Observer)</b>	<b>QAA, AERES, Ghent University, 2 other institutions</b>	<b>Nov 2010</b>
<b>Study visit to France (study on quality assurance system in France)</b>	<b>AERES, CTI, OECD</b>	<b>Jun 2011</b>
<b>Study visit to UK (study on recent QA matters in UK)</b>	<b>QAA, UUK, City University London, The Open University</b>	<b>Nov 2011</b>

<b>Study visit to the Netherlands and UK (study on the new Dutch QA system and work of Naric Centre)</b>	<b>NVAO, Nuffice, UK-NARIC</b>	<b>Feb 2012</b>
<b>Study visit to Thailand (study on the MIT Programme and iAward)</b>	<b>SEAMEO-RIHED, AUN</b>	<b>Feb 2012</b>

**Table 5-2: Workshops organised in collaboration with Partner Institutions (2009-2011)**

<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Partner institutions</b>	<b>Venue, Year</b>
<b>2010 International Information Package Workshop</b>	<b>QAA, HEEC</b>	<b>Thailand, Mar 2010,</b>
<b>Japan-Europe Quality Assurance Seminar</b>	<b>NVAO, Nuffic</b>	<b>Tokyo, Jun 2010</b>
<b>Japan-ASEAN Information Package In-House Seminar</b>	<b>BAN-PT, MQA, PAASCU, ONESQA, GDETA</b>	<b>Tokyo, Sep 2010</b>
<b>Training Program for Assessors in Indonesian Quality Assurance Agency</b>	<b>BAN-PT</b>	<b>Tokyo, Oct 2010</b>
<b>Japan-Australia Higher Education Quality Assurance Seminar</b>	<b>TEQSA, ALTC, Australian Embassy</b>	<b>Tokyo, Dec 2010</b>
<b>International Symposium on Exchange among Universities with Quality Assurance in East Asia Region, Working Group C</b>	<b>MQA, BAN-PT, HEEC, KCUE</b>	<b>Tokyo, Sep 2011</b>
<b>APQN/INQAAHE Workshop on Good Practices in Quality Assurance</b>	<b>APQN members</b>	<b>Tokyo, Oct 2011</b>
<b>APQN Training Program for the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training</b>	<b>The Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET)</b>	<b>Tokyo, Dec 2011</b>

