APQN Workshop
(Bangkok, 2 March 2010)

Internationalizing Quality assurance: the importance of information sharing

Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić
UNESCO Division of Higher Education

LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR ACADEMIC MOBILITY: CONVENTIONS (December 1, 2009)

Region	Secretariat	Adopted	Number of parties	SIDS / UCSIS	Last ratification	Last meeting
Africa	UNESCO Dakar	Arusha 1981	22	Seychelles and Holy See	2008	Addis Ababa, Sept 2009
Arab	UNESCO Beirut	Paris 1978	14	None	1991	Beirut, March 2006
Asia & the Pacific	UNESCO Bangkok	Bangkok 1983	21	Maldives and Holy See	2008	Manila, May 2009
LAC	IESALC Caracas	Mexico 1974	19	Cuba, Suriname, and Holy See	2007	Caracas, October 2006
MED	UNESCO Paris	Nice 1976	12	Malta and Holy See	2007	Split 2005
Europe	UNESCO/ CEPES & Council of Europe	Lisbon 1997	47	Malta and Holy See	2008	Bucharest, June 2007

The Lisbon Convention

Convention on the recognition of qualifications concerning higher education in the european region

(The European Treaty Series, n°165, Council of Europe - UNESCO joint Convention)

Lisbon, 11 April 1997

The Parties to this Convention,

Conscious of the fact that the right to education is a human right, and that higher education, which is instrumental in the pursuit and advancement of knowledge, constitutes an exceptionally rich cultural and scientific

1997

General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)

UNESCO and CBHE

US/OECD 2002 Forum on GATS

'Trade, Education and the GATS: What's In, What's Out, What's All the Fuss About?'
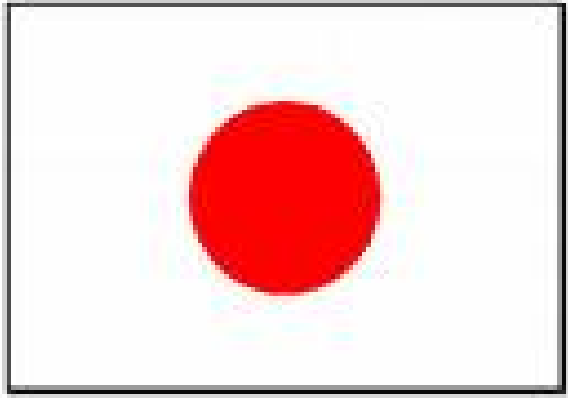
Pierre Sauvé (OECD)

Marjorie Peace Lenn

"brought the notions of quality assurance, accreditation and qualifications recognition to the top of the trade in education agenda"
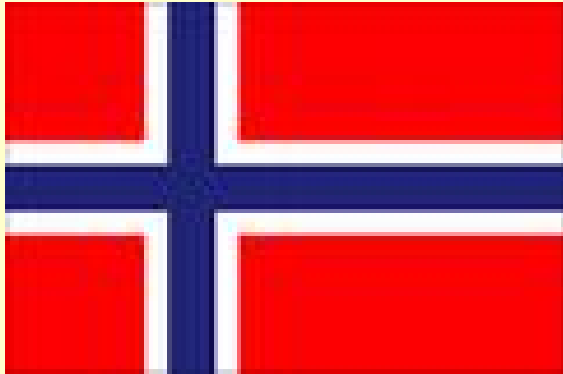
Dirk van Damme

Japan

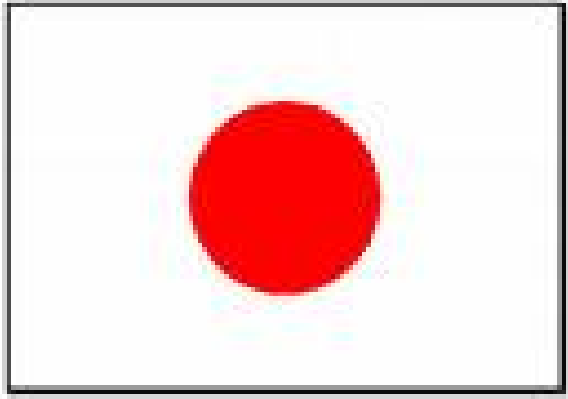"the importance of UNESCO's role in the global debate"

Norway

Norway

- See trade and education in a common and wider perspective

- Form a coalition of dedicated countries
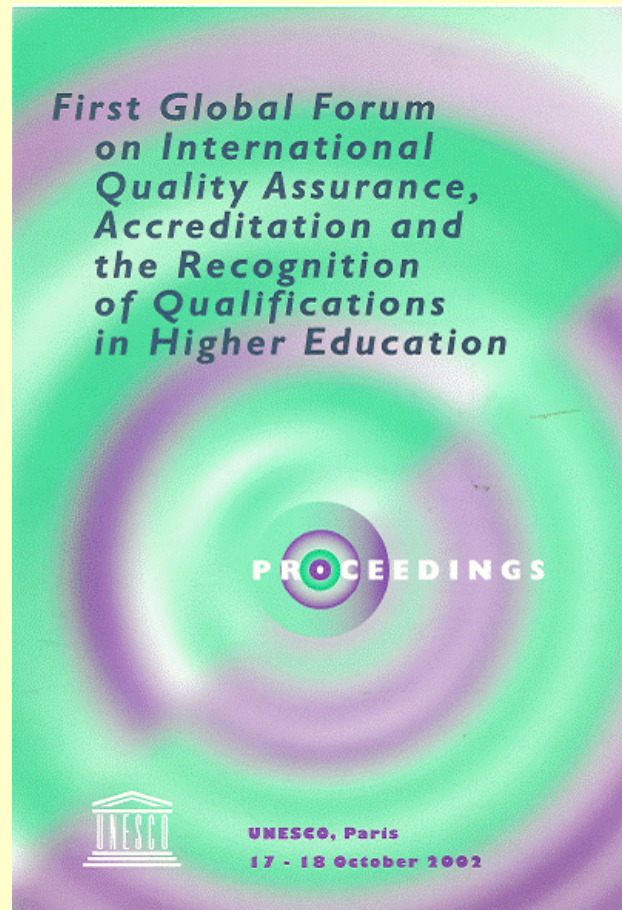
- OECD and UNESCO to work together

Japan

- The importance of UNESCO

- Quality assurance and qualifications recognition

- Information network for CBHE

UNESCO and CBHE

First Global Forum
on International
Quality Assurance,
Accreditation and
the Recognition
of Qualifications
in Higher Education

PROCEEDINGS

UNESCO, Paris
17 - 18 October 2002

2002

Why UNESCO?

GLOBAL OUTREACH THROUGH:

Standard-Setting :
- UNESCO Conventions for the
- Recognition of Degrees in Higher Education;
- 2005 Guidelines for Quality Provision in CBHE

Capacity-Building:
- UNESCO Global Forum on QA, Accreditation and the Recognition of Qualification (2002; 2004; 2007)
- UNESCO-World Bank Global Initiative GIQAC

Clearinghouse
- Study Abroad
- Portal on HEIs
- Effective International Practices for Degree Mills

UNESCO's work

GLOBAL OUTREACH THROUGH:

- UNESCO Global Forum on QA, Accreditation and the Recognition of Qualification (2002; 2004; 2007)
- UNESCO's 6 recognition conventions
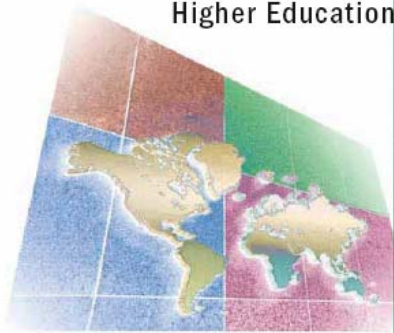- UNESCO-World Bank Global Initiative GIQAC

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Guidelines for quality provision in cross-border higher education UNESCO and OECD

Guidelines
for Quality Provision
in Cross-border
Higher Education
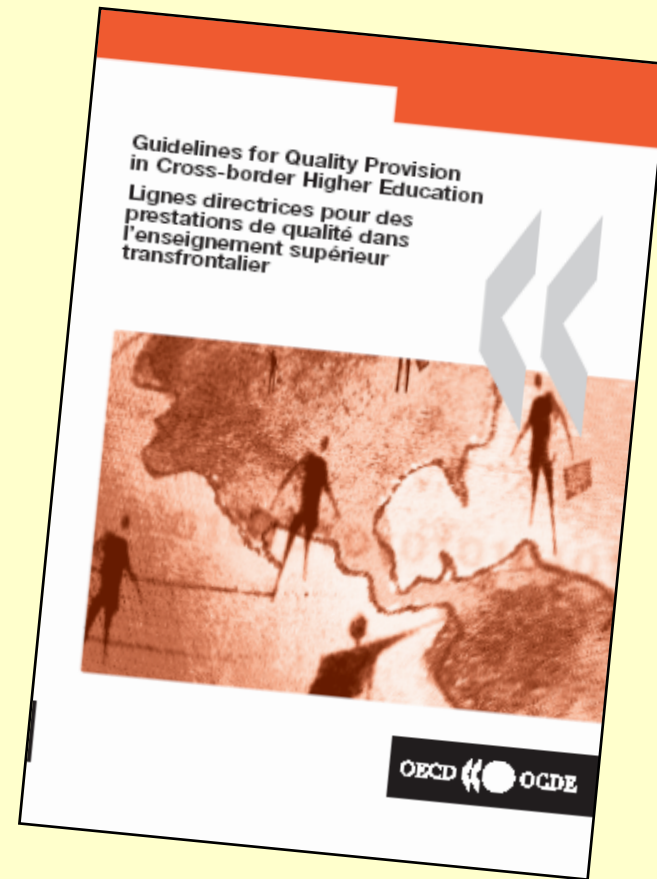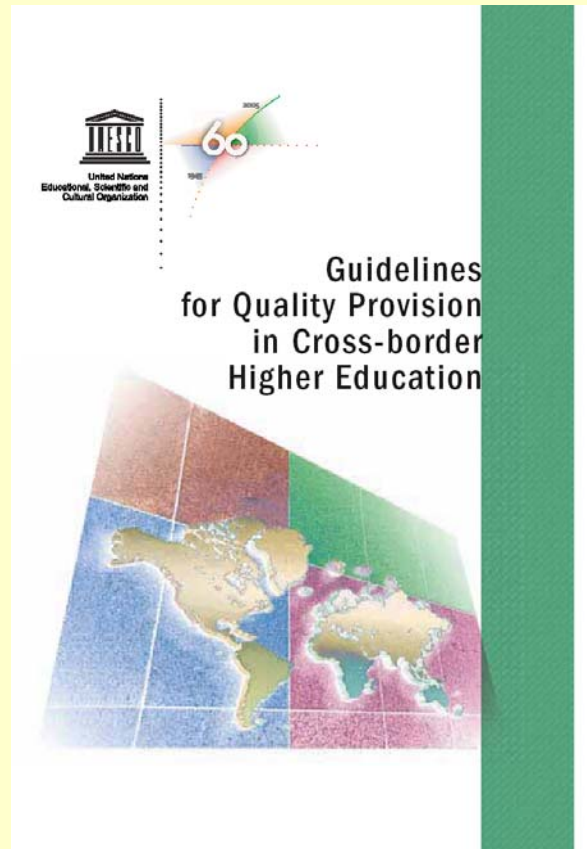
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Lignes directrices
pour des prestations
de qualité dans
l'enseignement supérieur
transfrontalier

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture
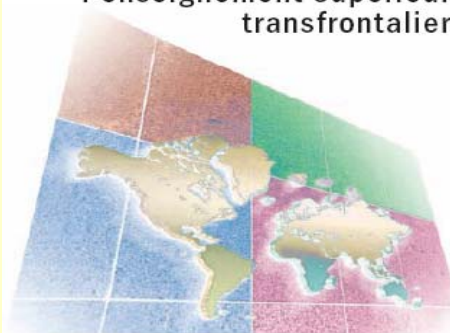
Directrices en materia
de calidad de la educación
superior a través
de las fronteras

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Руководящие принципы
для обеспечения
качества в
трансграничном
высшем образовании

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

مبادئ توجيهية
بشأن جودة
التعليم العالي
الموفر عبر الحدود

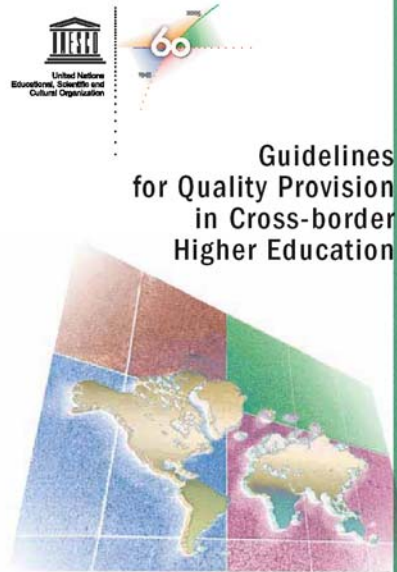منظمة
الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم
والثقافة

保障跨国界
高等教育办学质量
的指导方针

联合国教育
科学及文化组织
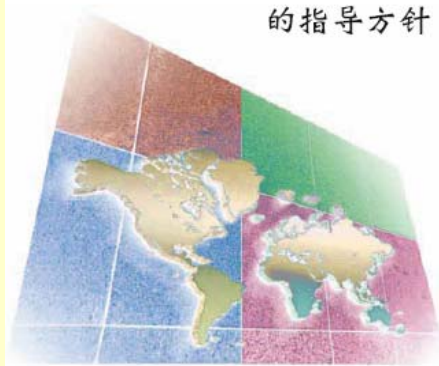
WHY THE GUIDELINES?

- Growth of cross-border higher education: distance education, franchises, branch campuses;

- GATS and Higher Education

- Need to provide an EDUCATIONAL response to maximize opportunities, minimize risks

GUIDELINES FOR QUALITY IN CROSS-BORDER HIGHER EDUCATION

Recommendations to
6 Stakeholders:
- Governments
- Higher Ed. Institutions
- Students Bodies
- QAA Bodies
- Academic Rec. Bodies
- Professional Bodies;

The Process

- Drafting group: 3 meetings 2004-2005
- Multiple stakeholder input: 94 governments, quality assurance agencies, recognition and student bodies, institutions, NGOs
- Written consultations
- Political support : OECD – UNESCO
- Launch end 2005
- Report back 2007

The scope of the Guidelines

- Voluntary and non-binding BUT

- Stamp of two IGOs: UNESCO and the OECD

- Addressing Governments but recognizing the role of NGOs and Student Organizations.
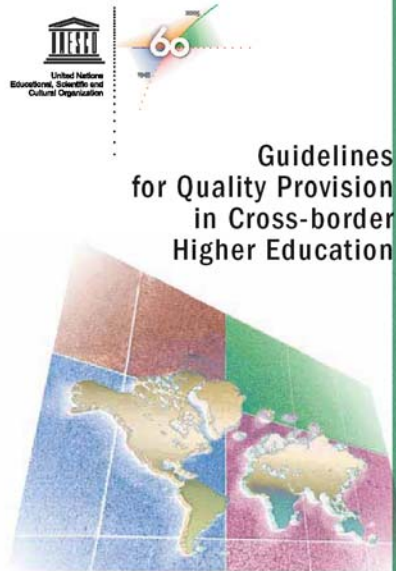
GUIDELINES FOR QUALITY IN CROSS BORDER HIGHER EDUCATION

Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-border Higher Education

Recommendations to 6 Stakeholders:
- Governments
- Higher Ed. Institutions
- Students Bodies
- QAA Bodies
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- Professional Bodies;
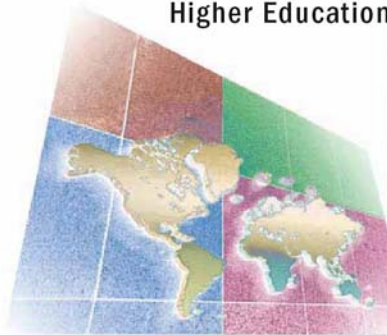
The Principles

- Responsibility for partnerships, sharing, dialogue, mutual trust and respect between sending and receiving countries

- Recognition of national authority and of the diversity of systems

- Recognition of importance of international collaboration and exchange, internally, externally

- **Access to transparent and reliable information**

Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-border Higher Education

MAIN UNDERLYING MESSAGES

- The quality of cross-border higher education is a shared responsibility between importing and exporting countries

  – Quality assurance should cover cross-border education in all its forms (student, academic, programme and institution mobility)

  – Stakeholders should collaborate internationally to enhance the transparency about the quality of HE and about HE systems

  – Cross-border delivery should have the same quality as home delivery

Recommendations to 6 Stakeholders:
- Governments
- Higher Ed. Institutions
- Students Bodies
- QAA Bodies
- Academic Rec. Bodies
- Professional Bodies;

Guidelines
for Quality Provision
in Cross-border
Higher Education
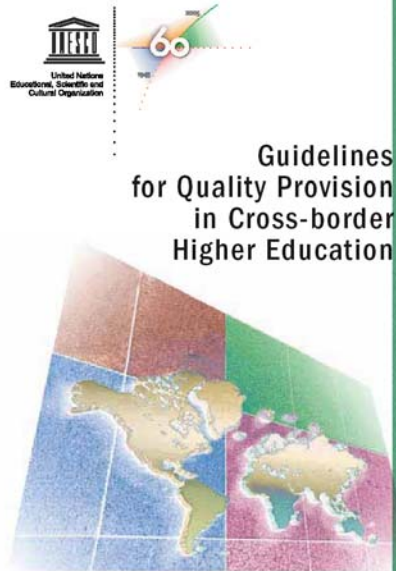
**Recommendations to
6 Stakeholders:**
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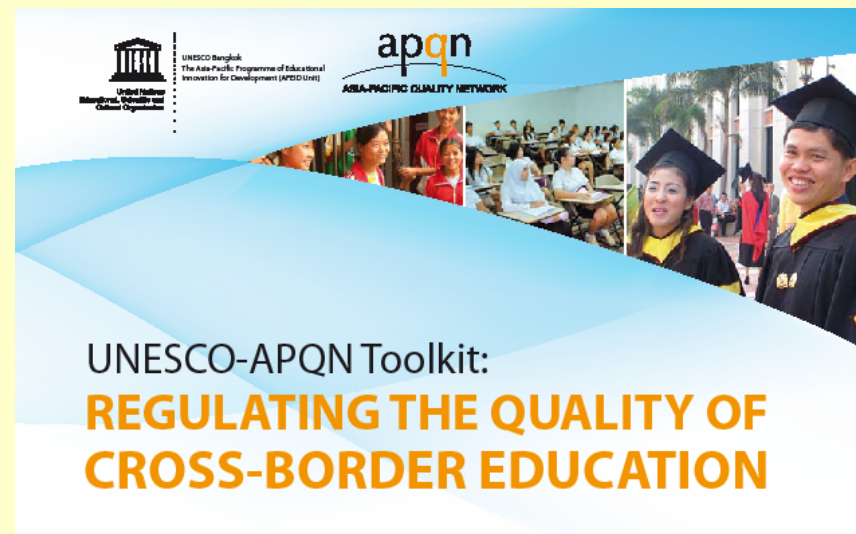- Academic Rec. Bodies
- Professional Bodies;

MAIN IMPLICATIONS FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

- *Quality assurance* and *Recognition*
  - have a comprehensive quality assurance system, internal or external
  - have fair mechanisms for recognition of qualifications

- ***Transparency and accessibility of information***
  - **be transparent about what you do and make the relevant information accessible internationally**

- *Collaboration*
  - Strengthen your collaboration with other stakeholders nationally, regionally and internationally

Capacity Building – Some Existing Tools

External quality assurance:
options for higher education managers

Module

Making basic choices for external quality assurance systems

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

International Institute
for Educational Planning

UNESCO Bangkok
The Asia-Pacific Programme of Educational
Innovation for Development (APEID Unit)

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

apqn
ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

UNESCO-APQN Toolkit:
**REGULATING THE QUALITY OF
CROSS-BORDER EDUCATION**

Capacity building: Guide to GATS
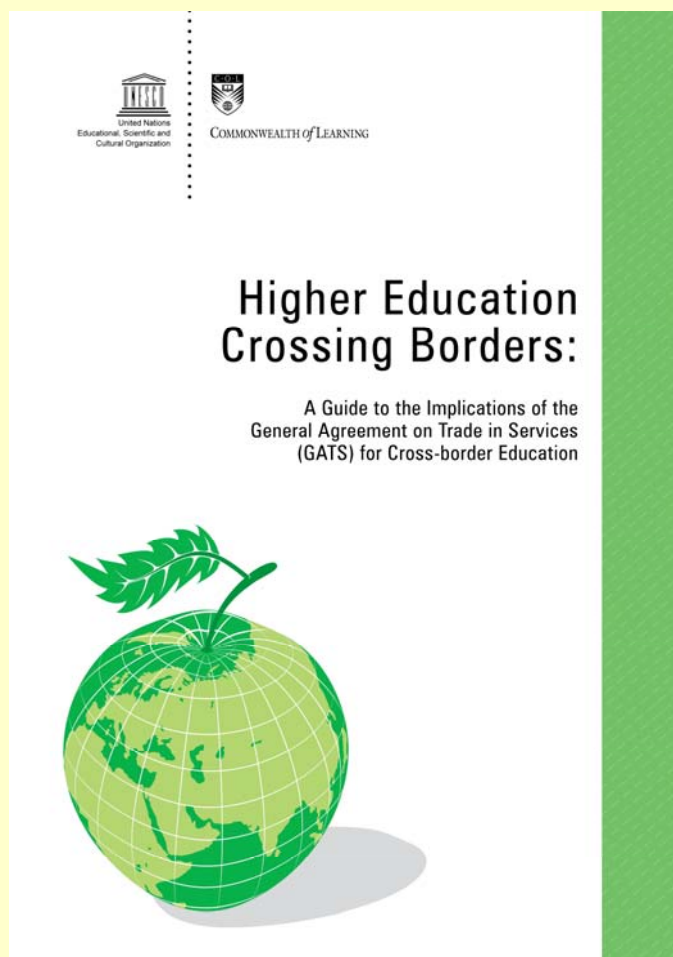
- Provides basic information on principles and rules of GATS;

- Discusses major issues related to the HE sector in the context of the application of new multilateral trade rules;

- Analyses challenges government officials and academic leaders face related to regulation of CBHE in a trade environment

Information on the Portal

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

EDUCATION

Text | Sitemap | [ ] OK | Advanced search | English | Français | Español

UNESCO.org / Education / Higher Education / UNESCO Portal on Higher Education Institutions / List of Pilot Countries

▸ **Themes**

▸ Early Childhood
▸ Primary Education
▸ Secondary, Technical & Science Education
▸ Higher Education

▸ Literacy
▸ HIV & AIDS Education
▸ Teacher Education

▸ All themes

▸ **Worldwide**

▸ Africa
▸ Arab States
▸ Asia and the Pacific
▸ Europe and North America
▸ Latin America and the Caribbean

▸ **Communities**

▸ Associated Schools (ASPnet)
▸ Network on Technical and Vocational

UNESCO Portal on Higher Education Institutions

Canada

- Institutions recognized by competent authorities
- Programs recognized by competent authorities
- Information for students planning to study in the country
- Information on higher education system
- Foreign credential assessment and recognition
- Information on financial assistance opportunities
- Cross-border higher education
- National information centre

The Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials was established after Canada ratified the UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region, in 1990, to assist Canada in carrying out its obligations under the terms of this convention. **English** | **French**

National Focal Point:

Yves Beaudin - National Coordinator
Email: y.beaudin@cmec.ca

For a definition of what "Recognized Higher Education Institution" means in Canada: **English** | **French**

1. Higher Education Institutions recognized by competent

▸ **Project**

▸ About us
▸ List of Pilot Countries

▸ **Services**

▸ Study Abroad
▸ Guidelines for "Quality provision in cross-border higher education"

▸ **Interactive tools**

▸ Discussion Forum

▸ **Features**

▸ Quality Assurance and Recognition
▸ Cross-Border Higher Education
▸ Recognition of Qualifications

Intranet local   150%

Background

- This Portal is a follow up to the UNESCO/OECD Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-border Higher Education

- Targets students, employers, and other interested parties (e.g. credential evaluators)

Overview of the Portal Project: Role of participating countries

- Country information on this portal is managed and updated by relevant authorities in participating countries.

- Pilot Phase: January 2006 to January 2008

Information on the Portal : Country Template

- Institutions recognized by competent authorities
- Higher education programmes recognized by competent authorities
- Information for students planning to study in the country
- Information on the higher education system
- Foreign credential assessment and recognition
- Information on financial assistance opportunities
- Cross-border higher education
- National Information Centre
- Other information sources
- Definition of key terms

Joining the Portal

2 main documents

- A letter confirming the interest of the Member State in participating in the UNESCO Portal Project

- The return of the signed 'Designation of a National Focal Point' form

National Focal Point (NFP)

- Validating information on the country page

- Verification of the exactitude and pertinence of the resources

- Providing/updating the title and short description to be provided for each list

National Focal Point

- Carrying out liaison and follow up actions in the country with regard to the project;

- Representing your country at Steering Group Meetings

Getting your country page up

- Receipt of your country's NFP form
- Sending of the draft form for information on country resources
- Review of the information, ensuring technical specifications
- Uploading a draft page, and asking for validation

Getting your country page up

- NFP informs of any changes

- UNESCO makes change, asks for validation

- Validation received, page goes online

Capacity Building

- Development of national pages

- Translation of national pages

- Awareness Raising Workshops

Current Participating Countries
February 2010

- Argentina
- Armenia
- **Australia**
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- **China**
- Costa Rica
- Cyprus
- Cuba
- Croatia
- Egypt
- Ireland

- Jamaica
- **Japan**
- Kenya
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Mexico
- **Malaysia**
- Namibia
- **New Zealand**
- Nigeria
- Norway
- **Pakistan**
- Paraguay

- Saudi Arabia
- Sweden
- **Thailand**
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

Countries being processed
February 2010

- Austria
- Chile
- Colombia
- Dominican Republic
- Guyana
- **India**
- **Indonesia**
- Iran
- **Kazakhstan**

- Panama
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Switzerland
- Uruguay
- **Uzbekistan**

Join the Portal!

- Contact:
  - Zeynep VAROGLU
    UNESCO Division of Higher Education
    z.varoglu@unesco.org

BEWARE

DEGREE MILLS & BOGUS COLLEGES

Sonoma State University

The Trustees of

The California State University

on recommendation of the Faculty have conferred upon

Robert L. Baird

the degree of

Bachelor of Science

in Business Administration (Marketing)
with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto.

Given this twenty-second day of May, two thousand and four.

Governor of California and President of the Trustees

Chancellor of The California State University

Chair of the Board of Trustees

President of the University

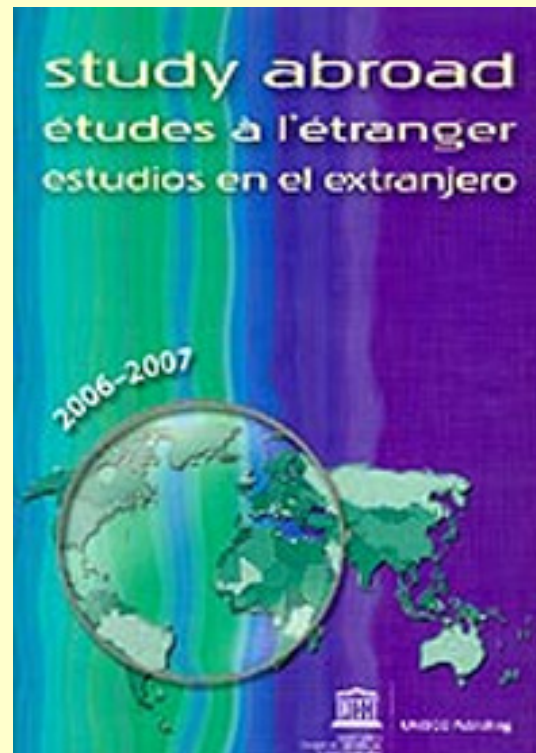# WHY DEGREE MILLS?

- High demand for Higher Education

WHY DEGREE MILLS?

- More study abroad

WHY DEGREE MILLS?

"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."

- The Internet

Our Campus

Bogus Institutions misusing UNESCO's name

- All levels of abuse and use. The claims may range from 100% false to not quite untrue

- A multitude of modes:

  - all modes are about establishing a false connection or emphasizing a real link with UNESCO to give the impression of being an internationally recognized provider of higher education

  - One institution may use 1-3 different modes

  - Institutions change rapidly

ACADEMIC FRAUD

Bachelor, Master and Doctorate Degree Programs

Al Qasim University

Distance Learning Degree Completion
Programs Since 1991 Competency-based for working Adults

Home | General Information | Degree Programs | Admission Information | How it Works | Apply Online | Alumni

Scholastic Procedures | Financial Information | Registered Student Login | University Alliance | Accreditation | Contact Us

Accreditation

St. Regis is Nationally Chartered (1984) and FULLY ACCREDITED by the Higher Education Commission of the Education Ministry of Liberia, which grants recognition to post-secondary education institutions in Liberia including University of Liberia and Cuttington University College.

The Republic of Liberia is one of the earliest United Nations Educational Organization UNESCO Higher Education Partners, and a historical American colony. St. Regis University is accredited as a degree-awarding post-secondary institution of higher education in the form of a university by the National Commission on Higher Education, the only Higher Education accrediting authority of the Ministry of Education in the Government of Liberia.

Federal accreditation by a National Government repr_____
college or university, and the validity of awarded aca_____

'Degree evaluators in the United States and abroad _____
accredited by a nation's Ministry of Education, it is vie_____
nationally recognized degree in other countries.'

St. Regis University is dedicated to meet and often e_____
education credentialing in the Distance Education a_____

From 'The Perspective' (Atlanta, Georgia): "Liberian G_____
2003".

For telephone or postal verification accreditation, y_____

The Embassy of Liberia
5201 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20011
(202) 723-0437

www.liberianembassy.com

For telephone or postal verification accreditation, you may contact:

UNESCO Division of Higher Education - Tel: (+33.1) 45681106

➢Support for UNESCOs framework

➢Links to UNESCO

Educational Accreditation Association

Recognizing Excellence

Home	←
Institutions	←
Complaints	←
Advertisements	←
Contributions	←
Application	←
Contact Us	←
UNESCO	←
World Health Org.	←

About EAA
Information, Policies, Requirements, Procedures, and More

This Page is divided into several informative sections. **CLICK** on the section title below, or **SCROLL** down to the desired section. We hope you find this information helpful. Thank you for your interest.

EAA Code of Ethics   **Accreditation Information**

EAA Mission Statement   **Credentials**

Why Be EAA Accredited   **Sponsor / Contributor Information**

General Information   **Advertiser Information**

Policies

Direct links to UNESCO & World Health Org

EAA and its accredited institutions accept and adopt "The Recommendations of the World Conference on Higher Education, sponsored by UNESCO", and the applicable sections of the "UNESCO Guidelines for Quality Provision in Cross-Border Higher Education"

d encourag
nd staff.

titution or person is discriminated against or de   se of; Gender, Race,
n, Religion, Economic Status, Class or Social Sta

Require without preference or favortism, all accredited institu   nowledge, and abide
by the Ethics Code, Accreditation Requirements and   nstitutions.

Part 1

Intergovernmental organizations:

    - Combating degree mills by putting in place structures and processes to support the internationalization of higher education.

    - Helping students find their way around in this new world

Part 2

What can you do about degree mills?

- No magic bullet

- Action on various fronts

CHEA
Council for Higher Education Accreditation

UNESCO
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Toward Effective Practice: Discouraging Degree Mills In Higher Education
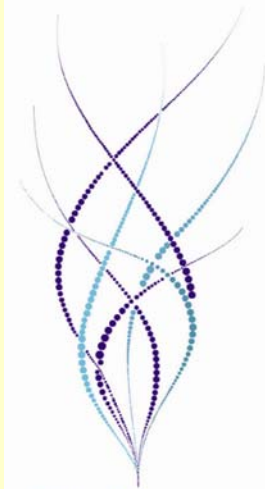
Council for Higher Education Accreditation

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The World Conference on Higher Education
Paris - July 2009

WCHE
Communiqué

WCHE
Communiqué

Quality Assurance

**APQN Workshop
(Bangkok, 2 March 2010)**

THANK YOU!

**Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić
(s.uvalic-trumbic@unesco.org)**