Thematic Peer Group C Quality Assurance

Third meeting
Ghent, Belgium/Flemish Community
15-17 January 2020

State of play of
Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

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Set up of Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

BPSG QA:

- Chaired by 3 co-chairs: Belgium/Flemish Community, Cyprus and Georgia
- 37 countries take part (Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium/Flemish Community, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, UK – Scotland)
- 8 stakeholder organisations (EI-IE, ENQA, EQAR, EURASHE, ESU, EUA, European Commission, UNESCO)
- Mix of participants: opportunity and challenge

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Working methods within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- 3 overall meetings of full peer group (Georgia, Cyprus and Belgium)
- BFUG Secretariat provides the BPSG with a dedicated web-page under http://ehea.info/page-peer-group-C-QA
- First overall meeting:
  - Take into account the needs of the member countries as indicated in the implementation scorecard and the survey
  - Create work plan, the working methods, timeline of activities and the expected outcomes
  - Define the topic of the PLA back-to-back with 2nd meeting
- Second overall meeting:
  - Main aim: setup cooperation based on action plans
  - Matching for staff mobility project/small projects
  - Forward looking discussion on QA – basis for report
  - PLA on European Approach for QA of joint programmes
- Third overall meeting:
  - Share outcomes of the work so far of the Bologna peer group
  - Report on the related EU-projects
  - Define further needs for the future

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Subthemes Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- legislative framework in line with the ESG
- ensuring effectiveness of internal quality assurance arrangements, including the use of QA results in the decision-making process and quality culture as well as links to learning and teaching
- external quality assurance
- the role and engagement of stakeholders in QA (students, teachers, employers)
- cross-border QA
- European Approach to accreditation of joint programmes.

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Messages from BICG and BFUG

Messages to Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Aim:

- Real progress in the implementation of QA in the countries, not on policy work
- Tangible results/examples of good practice still difficult, but increased activity and cooperation
- Importance of stable participation and channeling results to the right players at national level.

BICG will send survey to all peer group members to measure your experience and the impact of the peer support in your country.:

- Has this type of work brought benefits?
- Has it met your expectations?
- Do they suggest changes?
- What kind of support would countries need?
- Frequency of the meetings OK?
- Did you manage to feed back results, ideas etc. at national level?

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Timeline Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Concrete dates:

- Country templates collected by 31 January 2019
- Action plan sent to BICG February 2019, but ongoing
- Interim report to BICG by October 2019
- Final report towards BICG and BFUG by end March 2020
- BFUG Croatia May 2020: discussion on the outcomes of the pilot peer support approach

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Feedback Peer Group Projects

KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

- European funding to support the work of the BPSG
- KA3 for policy support for Bologna process
- Deadline 20 November 2018
- Start projects May 2019
- 2 year projects

Specific for BPSG on QA:
- 2 Overall projects
- 2 Projects on subthemes

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2 Overall projects to support the full peer group

1. **Bologna Peer Group on QA: organisation**

   - Project partners:
     - ✓ PP1: Ministry of Education and Training, Belgium/Flemish Com.
     - ✓ PP2: The National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, Georgia
     - ✓ PP3: Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus
   - Work packages:
     - ✓ 3 peer group meetings (Georgia - 2 days – Dec 2018, Cyprus – 3 days – May/June 2019, Belgium - 2 days – January 2020)
     - ✓ Second meeting combined with PLA
   - Funding:
     - ✓ 212 920 Euro of which EU grant requested: 170 336 Euro
     - ✓ Travel costs for participants: 360 euro/meeting
     - ✓ Accomodation costs for participants: 120 euro/day
     - ✓ Based on real costs, template for reimbursement will be sent

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2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Overall aim
- support the professional development of staff by offering a work placement at another QA agency/ministry/organisation

Description
- all members of the peer group can send and receive staff for a limited period of time.
- mobile staff members write an observation report according to a fixed format detailing their experiences at another QA agency/ministry

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

- Project partners:
  - ✓ PP1: Ministry of Education and Training, Belgium/Flemish Community
  - ✓ PP2: The National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement, Georgia
  - ✓ PP3: Ministry of Education and Culture, Cyprus
- Work packages:
  - ✓ 2 Matchmaking committee meetings (Georgia - 3 days - Sept 2019, Cyprus – 3 days - Sept 2020)
  - ✓ QA staff mobility (Oct 2019 - May 2020)
- Funding:
  - ✓ 292 965 Euro of which EU grant requested: 234 372 Euro
  - ✓ Travel costs for participants: 360 euro/meeting
  - ✓ Accomodation costs for participants: 120 euro/day with max of 14 days

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

- Call 1
  - ✓ Deadline 31st August 2019
  - ✓ 47 applications from 26 countries/organisations
  - ✓ 8-10th September 2019: Matchmaking Committee Meeting Georgia
  - ✓ Applications evaluated and suggestions made:
    - Approval
    - Approval on condition of improvement of application form
    - Approval with suggestion of host country
  - ✓ Feedback to applicants 16/9 to 1/10/2019
- Call 2
  - ✓ Deadline 29th of November 2019
  - ✓ 34 applications from 18 countries/organisations
  - ✓ 15th January 2020: Matchmaking Committee Meeting Belgium
  - ✓ Feedback to all applicants will follow asap
  - ✓ Most on inst.&prog accreditation, stakeholder eng., legal framework & ESG

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Overall results of the calls:

- ✓ 15 countries/org applied only in one round
- ✓ 14 countries/org applied in call 1 as well as in call 2
- ✓ 10 member countries and 3 international organisations did not apply for staff mobility
- ✓ First call: most on inst.&prog accreditation, legal framework & ESG, internal QA
- ✓ Second call: most on inst.&prog accreditation, stakeholder eng., legal framework & ESG
- ✓ Developing countries: QA & ministry apply together -> nice progress together
- ✓ Mix of countries applying: range from red to dark green
- ✓ Host countries: range from orange to dark green
- ✓ Content is about the key commitments, but also about enhancement

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

2. Bologna Peer Group on QA: staff mobility project

Overall results of the calls:
- ✓ Link with action plan: good for applicants + stimulates to enhance the AP
- ✓ A lot of matches were made beforehand
- ✓ Max duration of 14 days was too long, average of 5 days
- ✓ Some good practice examples:
  - small group works together on same topic
  - twin exchange
  - complimentary learning in similar QA systems similar

Further steps:
- ✓ Deadline observation report: 1 month after the end of the mobility at the latest
- ✓ Encourage host reports
- ✓ Matchmaking committee meeting to review the observation reports: September 2020
- ✓ Dissemination activities
- ✓ Request Italy

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KA3 projects within Bologna Peer Support Group C on QA

Role and engagement of stakeholders in internal and external quality assurance

- Project partners:
  - ✓ Romanian Ministry of National Education
  - ✓ 3 European organizations: ENQA, EURASHE and ESU
  - ✓ 5 quality assurance agencies from Romania, France, Bulgaria, Denmark and R. of Moldova

- Activities:
  - ✓ Discussions with various categories of stakeholders
  - ✓ Sharing best practices
  - ✓ A study at EHEA member countries
  - ✓ Peer review activities with workshops
  - ✓ Peer learning activity
  - ✓ Development of a Guideline on involvement of stakeholders, with online PLA

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