

## **The Third Cycle Institutional Accreditation Planning Project ( II )**

This study aims to design the handbook structure and the standards of the third cycle institutional accreditation. The study uses document analysis and expert focus meetings as research methods to draw conclusions. The study has the following findings: it is advisable for institutional accreditation for (1) adopting an empowerment model; (2) prolonging the onsite visit days; (3) constructing a self-assessment report framework to guide the universities to improve; (4) offering two layered standards and indicators to guide universities' performance; (5) publishing the overall result of the accreditation and diversifying the validity periods; (6) promoting a five-year interval institutional evaluation; (7) stressing the coherence of evaluation indicator structure; (8) Focusing on the outcomes and strengthening the linkage with the university's mid and long-term development plan; (9) emphasizing the student's learning results and outcomes at different educational levels. The study proposed the above night conclusions and corresponding advices with resepect to the future implementation of the third cycle higher education institutional accreditation.

Key words: institutional accreditation, risk-based indicators, empowerment, acccrediation length