

Comparative analysis of QA systems in Taiwan and Australia

This study aims to compare and analyze the Higher Education Quality Assurance systems in Taiwan and Australia and to investigate the feasibility of developing a cross-border joint review model by examining their respective accreditation mechanisms at the program level. The main objectives of the study are 1. To understand the higher education and quality assurance systems in Taiwan and Australia; 2. To understand the operational pattern and accreditation mechanisms of THE-ICE in Australia; 3. To analyze and compare the accreditation standards and procedures of HEEACT and THE-ICE. In order to achieve the above objectives, this study was conducted by literature analysis and online international workshops, and the conclusions of the study are as follows: 1. Taiwan and Australia have very similar higher education and quality assurance systems, and both have established national quality assurance agencies. However, since Australia has introduced the national qualification framework, its quality accreditation mechanisms are more comprehensive than that of Taiwan; 2. The nature of HEEACT and THE-ICE is very different. Although they are both quality assurance agencies, there are significant differences in their organizational structure, tasks, compositions of the Board, and quality assurance mechanisms; 3. THE-ICE and HEEACT have different orientations in the design of accreditation standards. The main difference is that THE-ICE focuses on specific professional disciplines while HEEACT on a set of non-disciplinary common standards that applies to all programs.

Key words: Taiwan, Australia, Higher Education, Quality Assurance, QA Agency