Announcement about the project on

“Development of quality assurance in Kosovo higher education - systemic and institutional approaches”

Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA) is currently conducting a broad process of revising its current standards and guidelines under the project “Development of quality assurance in Kosovo higher education - systemic and institutional approaches”, with the support of the Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, “EYE” project.

The project aims at:

- Identifying the characteristics of a national quality assurance system that contributes to the enhancement of education quality, while responding to the needs of the higher education institutions;
- Determining if the national external quality assurance system is fit for purpose and responds to the needs of the higher education sector in Kosovo;
- Collecting and analysing the perception of higher education institutions and other relevant stakeholders regarding the external quality assurance processes and internal quality assurance practices;
- Identifying examples of good practice from international study cases across the European Higher Education Area in terms of quality assurance systems, mechanisms and instruments;
- Aligning the Kosovo quality assurance model to the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (revised and adopted in 2015);
- Revising the KAA standards and procedures based on the collected data.

The final outcome of this research project is to support KAA in revising its procedures, based on a solid amount of data and legitimate contributions from the members of the national academic community, higher education experts, civil society and international good practices.
In this regard, the agency has initiated a process of consultation that implies:

- a national survey among the higher education institutions. A questionnaire has been sent to all institutions in order to collect general views of the involved staff and students representative in relation to the quality assurance processes at systemic and institutional levels.
- a national conference and workshop will take place on 30th of November - 1st of December that will bring together relevant stakeholders in order to take stock of the past developments in higher education and debate over the future of QA framework and policy making.

Based on the consultation process, KAA will elaborate a new methodology for external quality assurance and will make it public so as to give the occasion to all interested parties to contribute to the future framework for QA.

KAA is hoping that the project will bring fruitful contributions and engagement across the academic community so that the new framework would contribute to the enhancement of quality in higher education.

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