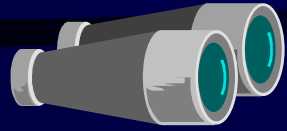


The implementation of the ESG in Hungary

Tibor Szanto

Hungarian Accreditation Committee

Bologna Seminar, Berlin, 15-16 February 2007



Overview

- I. The HAC
- II. ESG Part 1 in Hungary
- III. ESG Part 2 in Hungary
- IV. ESG Part 3 in Hungary
- V. Comments on the ESG

I.

The HAC



Established by HE Act in 1993

National agency, wide scope of activities

Accreditation: compulsory (HEA)

Accreditation + advice (account. + enhanc.)

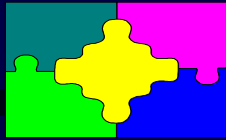
Body (29 + non-voting, 3 year term), Secretariat
+ disciplinary subcommittees

Public service organisation (July 2006 on)





Funded from state budget + expert fees (~ 10%)

www.mab.hu/english/index.html

I.



Activities of the HAC

	New	Operating
Institution		
Programme		

Shift: institution – QA system (meta-accr.)

programme – disciplinary accr. (parallel accr.)

II.

ESG Part 1, QA of HEIs in Hungary



HAC survey in 2004, QA at HEIs

- 68 HEI (72 in 2006), 49 responded (72%)
- 2/3 of all HEIs has QA org. or person resp.
- 1/3 student involvement
- QA system: 28% yes – 22% in progress (19 -15)
(obligation by 2002, prescribed by HEA!)
- needs analysis: 1/2 of all HEIs have conducted
(among students, instructors)
- satisfaction surveys:
 - students 2/3
 - instructors, alumni 1/3

HAC survey cont'd



Difficulties of HEIs

- resistance / reluctance of staff
- lack of capacity and competence

Gains, results

- information, documentation
- objectivity in (performance) assessments
- clarification of roles and responsibilities

Advice to others

- QA not for its own sake
- tailor-made models, fitness for purpose
- involvement of all

II.

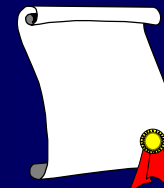
ESG Part 1, Current situation in H.

a) Influence of ready-made models (ISO, EFQM)

- national grants (NDP I., EU) – 4 consortia (~20 HEIs)
all 4 based on EFQM, 2 taking note of ESG
- Quality Award in HE to be introduced
by Minister (EFQM based, special committee)

b) HAC initiatives

- translation of ESG, letter to HEIs, website
- ESG in institutional accreditation (2006/07 on)
conference for HEIs, training of experts (VCs)
- Place of Excellence Awards (disciplinary accr., 2005 on)



III.

ESG Part 2, External QA in Hungary

New elements introduced (HEA 2005) [ESG 2.1 + Part 1]

- quality development programmes at HEIs
- yearly report on HEI's website

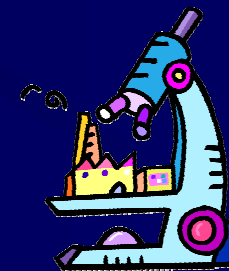
Refinements, enhancement possible

2.2 goals, procedures: impact assessment

2.3 criteria: consistency in application

2.4 fitness of processes: training of experts, involving foreign experts

2.8 system wide analyses, R+D



IV.

ESG Part 3, QA agency in Hungary

New elements introduced (HEA 2005)

3.4 resources:

- state financing: fixed proportion of HE budget
- expert fee on launching progs. and doct. schools

3.7 refined appeals procedure (*HAC Appeals Committee*)

Refinements, enhancement possible

3.5 Mission Statement in separate document

3.6 indep. from HEIs: adherence to the *Code of Ethics*

3.8 accountability:

- quality policy document
- external review planned for 2008

II-IV.

ESG in Hungary, summary

No dramatic changes needed

Some new elements introduced (HEA 2005)

Refinements (always) possible

Theory (regulations) – practice →

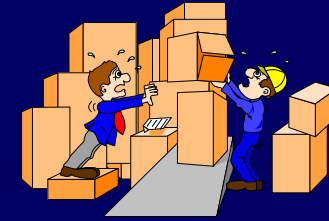
→ Need of monitoring

- HEIs themselves
- the national agency (→ system wide reports!)
- agency to be reviewed (second time)



V.

Comments on the ESG

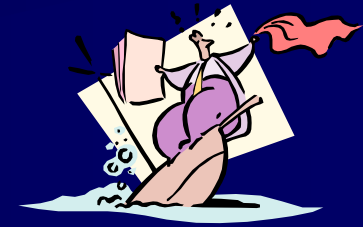


Some „simple” tasks ahead:

1. Refinements as to terminology
2. Standards – guidelines, clarification
(e.g. appeals procedure)
3. Operationalisation (examples of evidence)
4. Advice to HEIs and agencies (and governments?)
5. Collecting feedback, good practice

V.

Comments₂



Some other considerations:

6. General interpretation of standards

- Reference points or norms?
- Relative or absolute interpretation?

ESG: „generic principle” (rel.) > „specific requirement” (abs.)

7. But then how to interpret „compliance” to ESG? (ENQA membership! Consistency of decisions?)

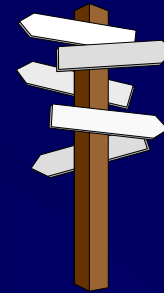
8. How to proceed with the European Register?!

V.

Comments₃

Some basics of life (and QA...)

9. No „perfect” system (HEI, agency) exists
(there is always room for improvement)
10. Continuous improvement: a basic principle of QA
11. Back to operationalisation of ESG:
 - Defining minimum level („threshold”) of compliance?
 - Creating scales, grades?That would be the formal way out.
12. Is there another way to choose?



Thank you for your attention!

