ERASMUS + (EQASA)- 2ND TRAINING SEMINAR/WORKSHOP on QUALITY ASSURANCE

ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI - 600 025

15-17 Jan-2018 GENOVA-ITALY

PARTICIPATION REPORT

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Submitted to :

The Registrar, Anna University

Brief Report on the 2nd Training Seminar/Workshop held at University of Genova, Italy (15-17 January 2018)

(Prof. T. V. Geetha, Prof. T. Thyagarajan, Prof. R. Jayavel, Prof. N. Rajendran)

Preamble*

The EQASA (**E**nhancing **Q**uality **A**ssurance in **S**outh **A**sia Higher Education Institutions) Project (from September 2016 to September 2019) is promoted by the European Commission under the scheme of the Erasmus+ Program. Globalisation and knowledge-based economies demand highly trained graduates with high quality education. Against this background, EQASA, aims at supporting sustainable socio-economic growth in South Asia by strengthening institutional capacity in HEIs and enhancing the culture of QA.

The 3-year Project under the dynamic leadership of **Prof. Yiouli Papadiamantaki, Project Coordinator, University of Peloponnese**, is divided into three stages:

The **first stage** is to understand the current situation and draw comparative analysis of QA practice and needs at HEIs in seven countries (Greece, Spain, India, Afghanistan, Nepal, UK and Italy). This in-depth understanding moves EQASA to the **second stage**, namely, training & learning. South Asian HEIs will upgrade their human and technical capacities to be transformed into institutional capacity. In the **third stage**, South Asian HEIs shall conduct internal assessments and draft a 4 year QA strategic plan to orient their respective QA development. Constructive feedback will be given by the EU HEIs. In parallel, the consortium will organise focused activities to engage policy makers, authorities, students, employers, and local communities to improve QA practice in the region.

Partners

1. University of the Peloponnese, Greece – **Project Coordinator**

2. Agora Institute for knowledge management, Spain – **Academic Coordinator**

3. Anna University, India

4. Dr. Babasahed Ambedkar Marathwada University, India

5. Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Afghanistan

6. Nangarhar University, Afghanistan

7. Tribhuvan University, Nepal

8. Mid-Western University, Nepal

9. London Metropolitan University, UK

10. University of Genoa, Italy

Kick-off Meeting at Greece

In the EQASA kick-off meeting, held at Korinthos, Greece, 02/05/17-05/05/17, the administrative, organizational and financial aspects of the EQASA project were presented and discussed with all partners (mobility plan, action plan, setting up of administrative and quality boards) The basic principles of the European Quality Assurance system in Europe, characteristics of the national QA systems of all partners were also presented and discussed, making simultaneously some initial comparisons between European and Asian systems.

First Training Seminar/Workshop at India (Anna University)

Dr. N. Rajendran, Director, Centre for International Affairs and Local Project Manager Anna University, Chennai, India and his team conducted the First Training Seminar/Workshop at Anna University, Chennai, during 4-6 September 2017. The discussions include: the Importance of Quality Assurance & Management (QAM) in Higher Education: Rationale; Key Principles; Concepts; Principles of Good Governance of in Higher Education in relationship to key stakeholders most notably students and employers; Need for QAM and its role to address current challenges in our institution; Principles of Change Management, Building on SWOT analysis: Goal setting, change strategy adapted to your institution; Embedding QAM in organizational structures and roles etc.,

*Source: http://www.eqasa-project.eu

Second Training Seminar/Workshop at Italy (University of Genova)

The objectives of second workshop include: Constituent parts of a internal self evaluation report (SER), Basic information needed to face an external assessment and to prepare a set of simple metrics necessary for QA purposes, Existing or new organizational structures to collect and collate the information to prepare SER, Preparation of Strategic plan based on SWOT analysis, Technology to help prepare self and external assessment with consideration of national and international standards (eg., regulations, education systems, infrastructure) etc., The following are the highlights:

- **Prof. Yiouli Papadiamantaki**, Project Coordinator, University of Greece, coordinated the 2nd workshop
- **Mr Angelo Musaio**, Local Project Manager and Head of the International relations Service SRI), University of Genoa; Italy and his team conducted the 2nd workshop.
- **Prof. Yiouli Papadiamantaki,** Project Coordinator, University of Greece, presented the "Quality Assurance at the Institutional level templates and practices- case study"
- **Prof. Catherine and Prof Sahithi** from London Metropolitan University gave a presentation on , " UK Quality: A changing Land scape.
- **Prof Alfredo Squarzoni**, Professor Emeritus at Polytechnic School, Italy presented the " Quality Assurance and Assessment of Hr Edn – Italian System
- **Prof. T. Thyagarajan**, Director-IQAC, Anna University, presented the Indian system followed for: Constituent parts of a internal self evaluation report (SER), Basic information needed to face an external assessment and to prepare a set of simple metrics necessary for QA purposes, Existing /New organizational structures to collect and collate the information to prepare SER
- **Prof. T. V Geetha**, Dean and Director (Academic Courses) **Prof. R. Jayavel** (Director- Research) **Prof. N. Rajendran** (Director- International Affairs) , Anna Universities presented the case studies on QA aspects

followed by Anna university for academic, research and international collaboration, respectively
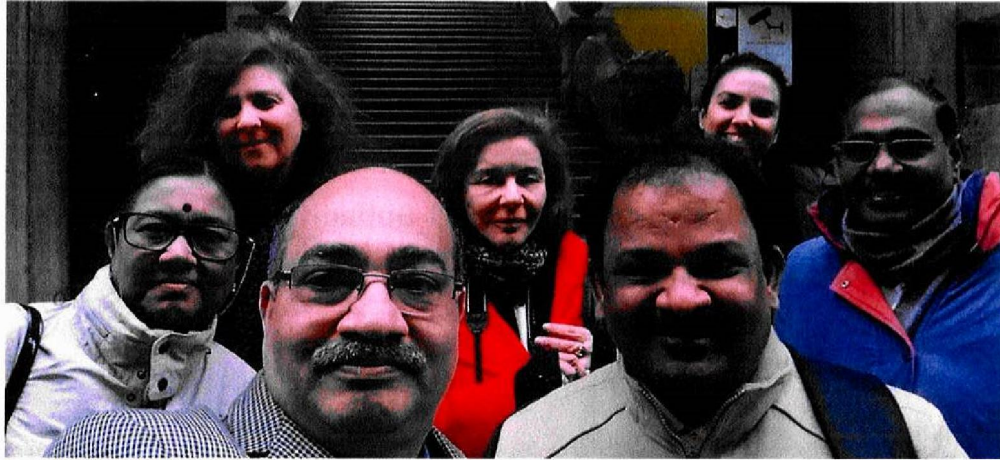
- **Dr Jagat Krishna** from Tribhuvan University, Nepal and Dr **Purna Man shrestha & Prof Anand Prasad Subedi** of Mid-West University, Nepal presented the strategic plan and principal bench marks followed in their respective universities.

Deliverables

Prof. Yiouli Papadiamantaki, Project Coordinator, University of Greece, concluded the 3-day Training Program with the following deliverables before the 3rd Training Program:

1. Scanned copies of Travel Reports and Boarding passes (Before end of Jan 2018)
2. Report on 2nd Training Workshop (to be uploaded in EQSA website- Before 1st week of February 2018)
3. Proposal for list of equipment & software to be procured (Before Mid Feb 2018)
4. Strategic plan for QA using SWOC (Before end of August 2018)
5. Self Evaluation Report for a UG/PG Program (Before end of December 2018)
6. Future Training Seminars/Workshops:
   a. 3rd Trg Seminar/Workshop: End of May (Nepal, Kathmandu)
   b. 4th Trg Seminar/Workshop: 1st week of September (Indian, Maharashtra)
   c. 5th Trg Seminar/Workshop: Mid December (Venue to be decided)

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Anna University Team Members with the Organizers of the QA Trg Program

Presentations by Prof T. V. Geetha and Prof. T. Thyagarajan on the QA initiatives of Anna University, to the participants, during the Trg Program