

Call for consultant to conduct a scoping study on the organization of Quality Assurance in the Arab Region

1.0 Introduction

The Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental regional network that includes Arab Countries as full members or potential to be full members. . It has 10 full members and 5 associated member who constitute 72% of the Arab Countries. One of the main objectives is to build capacity at national and regional levels to help Arab Countries to establish, expand or improve their higher education quality assurance systems, to establish a mechanism of cooperation in the field of quality assurance in higher education; to initiate and sustain regional and international cooperation in quality assurance in higher education and to develop a system for capacity-building for QA bodies. The ANQAHE website is www.anqahe.org

ANQAHE developed a scoping study in 2008 supported from a World Bank /UNESCO developed grant facility. The study assessed the situation of each quality assurance organization in the region and identified gaps and areas for future action. Accordingly, ANQAHE would like to conduct a new scoping study to compare the situation of the quality assurance in the last 3 years from 2008 to 2011, and expand the study to collect and analyses the status & the impact of the Quality Assurance in the Arab region on higher education institutions and the education of the country as a whole.

A scoping study will help the ANQAHE board prepare short-term and long term strategies on the specific activities to be undertaken. The study will consist of two steps:

- (a) The development and distribution of a survey questionnaire to the 22 Arab countries to assess the QA system in their respective countries and to study the impact of QA system on HEIs & their countries.
- (b) A report of the survey outcomes with a comprehensive analysis of its implications for quality assurance in the region.

The survey will cover areas such as legal basis and governance of the QA body the resources, its objectives, selection and training of reviewers, site visits, and coordination among the various QA players in the country, good practices and approaches to quality. It will also focus on the internal Quality assurance system, public information, decision & appeal of the quality assurance agencies. The study will point out on the accreditation of cross border education and the joint programs. The impact of establishment of quality assurance agencies on the HEIS & the education of the countries will be researched in this study.

2.0 Objectives

The objectives of this study is to

- Assess the situation of quality assurance organizations in the Arab Region
- Identify gaps
- Analyze of the impact assessment of QA in the region.
- Design a plan for future action

3.0 Call

As part of the activities under component “capacity Building of QA in the Arab Region” ANQAHE is hereby seeking Consultant to carry out a study in the 22 Arab countries... Based on the results of the assessment, a capacity building program comprising seminars and specialized courses will be developed and implemented to reach an establishment of a regional QA framework

In order to achieve the objectives of the Project, the ANQAHE is specifically seeking applications from experienced and qualified quality assurance specialists and analyst to serve as a Consultant for the Studies. The Consultant will be expected to analyze current trends and developments in the field of quality assurance in the Arab Countries. He or She will be expected to catalogue current and on-going quality assurance activities, programs, including assessment of national quality assurance and accreditation situations. He/she will in addition, need to identify and assess the various national capacity needs.

4.0 The Consultant

The consultants must be practitioners or specialists or analyst in Quality Assurance, with appropriate university degrees, not below a Masters. The Consultants will be expected to show proven records and evidence of past activities in the indicated region of study.

5.0. Terms of Reference

The Consultant shall:

- a. Design a survey that should be approved by ANQAHE board. Collect and analyze up-to-date information on trends and developments of the quality assurance in the Arab region. This will involve cataloguing current and on-going quality assurance activities, program, initiatives; including assessment of national quality assurance and accreditation situations. The Consultant will therefore need to further identify and assess the various national capacity needs.
- b. Carry out a survey of the current status and state of quality assurance in each of the Arab countries
- c. Develop draft plan for a Capacity Building Seminar/ Workshop for the Region
- d. Develop an impact assessment study in QA in the Arab region.
- e. Produce a report on all the above for consideration.

The Consultancy will be supervised by the ANQAHE Secretariat

6.0 Deliverables

0. Report on matters set out at 3.0 above
1. Draft program for training workshops, based on needs assessments from each of the the Arab country.

7.0 Time Frame/Reporting

The Consultant will develop a questionnaire before the 1st week of October 2011.

ANQAHE will agree on the questionnaire before the second week of October 2011.

The consultant will distribute the questionnaire in the first week of November 2011.

The consultant will analyze the questionnaire by the end of December 2011.

First report will be drafted by the end of January 2012.

Final draft will be completed by the 15th of February 2012.

All the reports generated in this study will become properties of the ANQAHE.

8.0 Remuneration:

The Consultancy which is on part-time basis is for a period of 16 weeks and will attract a reasonable remuneration. Applicants are however expected to provide a budget that includes their proposed remuneration in the application. Selected consultant will be paid 30% of the agreed consultancy fees upon signing the Agreement, another 30% upon receipt of the draft report and the balance upon the receipt of the final report.

9.0 Mode of Application

Interested consultants should submit their applications electronically, including full Curricula Vitae (detailing qualifications and work experience), work-plan and budget, either by fax (+2-2 25340343) or e-mail to the undersigned not later than two weeks from the date of this advertisement.

Please send your proposal to the following e mails:

The President of ANQAHE: Dr.Nadia Badrawi on nadia@badrawi.com

The Secretary General: Dr. Tariq Al-Sindi : on tariq.alsindi@qaa.edu.bh