Quality assurance in Latin America, Mexico as a case study

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Mexican national education system

- 35.7 million students.
- 30.2% of the total inhabitants of Mexico.
- 22.8% of the population is between 4-15 years old.
Higher Education System

- Bachelor 88%.
- Graduate 8%.
- Professional Technical Education 4%.
### Enrollment of the Mexican Higher Education System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of institution</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Universities</td>
<td>1,844,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technological Institutes and Universities</td>
<td>742,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONACYT Research Centers</td>
<td>4,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Universities</td>
<td>1,291,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,882,625</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANUIES was founded in 1950 and since then has played an active role in the development of higher education in Mexico.

ANUIES is a Non-Governmental organization that gathers the most important 180 Institutions: public, private and research centers.

It thus covers almost 70% of the total student enrollment in Mexico.

90% of the total R&D in Mexico is performed by the ANUIES Institutions.

ANUIES promotes integral management practices, teaching, research as well as cultural promotion.
Strategic Plan of ANUIES

• Support our Higher Education Institutions to reach international quality and standards.

• Support Higher Education Institutions to have a greater impact on the development of their regions.

• Promote national, international and corporate cooperation.
Definition of Quality

“An education system that integrates the dimensions of relevance, ownership, equity, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sufficiency.”

National Institute for the Evaluation of Education
In the late 1980s, Mexico initiated a fundamental transformation of higher education, which focused on modifying the profile of the traditional university.

We worked to diversify its social and political academic functions through a variety of institutional options and modalities for educational training.
What Role does Quality Assurance play?

Higher Education must be characterized by freedom of thought which should support the quality assurance programs to strengthen institutions. Mexico has driven mechanisms to achieve this.

The most important mechanisms are the evaluations conducted by:

- Committees for the Evaluation of Higher education (CIEES).
- Council for Higher Education Accreditation (COPAES).
- General Degree Exit Exams (EGEL).
- National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT)
Inter-institutional Committees for the Evaluation of Higher Education, (CIEES). Its functions are diagnostic evaluation of educational programs and institutional functions, the accreditation of programs and academic units, the dissemination of projects and advising HEIs.
Areas and Evaluation Categories

The evaluation process of a program includes the review of many aspects that are grouped into four areas, ten categories and numerous indicators.

**Intentionality**
- Regulations and general policies
- Planning - evaluation

**Context and Processes**
- Educational model and curriculum
- Students
- Academic staff
- Support services for students

**Infrastructure**
- Facilities, equipment and services

**Impacts and Results**
- Academic productivity (teaching and research)
- Partnerships with sectors of society
- Trajectory, perspectives and social impact of the program
CIEES

Each category includes various indicators. Some of the most used in the evaluation process indicators are:

- Institutional regulatory framework
- Organizational climate
- Educational Model
- Curriculum
- Graduate profile
- Teaching and learning evaluation
- School career
- Academic Staff
- Classrooms, laboratories and workshops, library, infrastructure program, facilities and equipment maintenance
- Monitoring graduates
- Terminal efficiency
The Council for Accreditation of Higher Education (COPAES) is the only body authorized by the Federal Government through the Ministry of Public Education (SEP) to supervise and give formal recognition to organizations whose purpose is to assure educational programs of higher education in Mexico.
Accreditation Process

Application:
Higher Education Institutions

Self-assessment:
Higher Education institutions

Continuous improvement:
Based on the recommendations of the Accrediting Organization

Evaluation:
Peer reviewers

Opinion:
Accrediting Organization
The National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) is a public agency of the Mexican federal government dedicated to promote and stimulate the development of science and technology in the country.

The National Quality Graduate Program (PNPC) recognizes the quality in national graduate programs through rigorous evaluation by academic peers, and is awarded to programs that have fulfilled the high standards of quality and relevance.
Evaluation Process of the National Quality Graduate Program, CONACYT

The assessment model in the PNPC is qualitative-quantitative and assesses the performance of relevance and quality standards.

Peer committees base their recommendations on:

1. Self-evaluation.
2. Fulfilling the evaluation criteria and guidelines contained in the document “Assessment and Monitoring of Graduate Programs”.
3. Statistical program information.
5. Interview with the Program Coordinator.
6. Record of the program and the comments it has received, if any, previous assessments.
Levels PNPC

The programs are approved in the process of academic evaluation and are integrated into the Register of the National Quality Graduate Program which is composed of four levels:
To the future:

• We need our students to connect globally even without leaving the country (Global profiles).

• We need to understand the global (local-national-international) competencies (professional and human) and knowledge required.
Globally pertinent model

Professional and human competencies and knowledge (multidisciplinary)

Pertinent academic programs (Certificates, Bachelor, Masters, PhD, Consulting, Research, etc.)

Students graduation and performance

Global Evaluation
US-Mexico initiative

• May 2013, President Obama and President Peña Nieto announced a new bilateral mechanism of cooperation: FOBESII.

• May 2014, the Secretaries John Kerry, Antonio Meade and Emilio Chuayffet officially launched FOBESII.

• Proyecta 100,000: Mexican initiative which aims to increase the number of Mexican students in the U.S. to 100,000 and the number of American students in Mexico to 50,000 by 2018.

• We are currently working with the following associations of higher education institutions in USA: AACC, AASCU, ACE, AICCU, APLU, CIC, CONAHEC, HACU, and UC System.
US-Mexico initiative

Close collaboration with Mexican Consulates to promote international intensive programs for Mexican students.

- **Mexican General Consulate in Sacramento**: University fair “Steps to College”.

- **Mexican General Consulate in San Diego**: Intensive program at the border that includes programs of Internships and research, as well as student mobility opportunities.

- **Mexican General Consulate in San José**: Short stay summer program for Mexican students in the Silicon Valley.
US-Mexico initiative

• Professional internship program for academic exchanges staff of Mexican higher education institutions between the USA Embassy in Mexico, ANUIES and SUNY.

• International program about bilateral public policies with Washington.

• **ANUIES - NASA’s Johnson Space Center. Partnerships Program.** The program will integrate scientist, students, developers and businesses from both countries in the developing of topics that are needed at NASA but also in Mexico.
Thank you!

More information:
www.anuies.mx

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ANEXOS
The Accreditation Board of Higher Engineering Teaching, AC; (CACEI) is a civil association, its main objective is to ensure that higher education institutions (HEIs) provide quality education for future graduates; through the accreditation of educational programs in this field of knowledge.
CACEI

1. Academic staff
2. Students
3. Curriculum
4. Assessment of learning
5. Comprehensive training
6. Support services for learning
7. Linking-Extension

8. Research and Technological Development

9. Infrastructure and equipment

10. Administrative / Financial Management
Criteria

Criteria: the perspective from which each case, indicator or category is evaluated. They are the benchmarks defined a priori, based on which value judgments are issued. The most used in the framework of CACEI are:
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

• Seniority of the university.
• The number of students enrolled and graduates or graduates with a corresponding degree, according to the criteria established by the General Assembly.
• Having quality levels, development and academic consolidation.
• Having favorable recommendation of the National Council.
• Be approved by the General Assembly.
### Evaluation and Selection Process in ANUIES

#### 180 Most Important HEI’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Universities</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Centers</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities and Technological Institutes</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Universities</td>
<td>30</td>
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