

COMMENTS ON STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND THE CHANGING FACE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE

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OUTLINE

- Adoption of Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) approach in Europe and Africa
- Political support
- Implementation of SLO and quality assurance in Europe and Africa
- Qualification frameworks, SLOs and Quality Assurance



1. ADOPTION OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

Europe

Mainly through Bologna Process

Africa

- Some African countries adopted a competence-based approach to teaching and learning from 1997;
- SLOs became a priority since with adoption of LMD reform in 2005



ADOPTION OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

- Africa
- Evidence on mismatch between skills acquired in universities and skills required by world of work;
- In 2012 survey by Economist magazine. In South Africa 600,000 graduate unemployed and at the same time 800,000 vacancies



2. POLITICAL SUPPORT (1)

In Europe

- Implementation of the Bologna process involved Ministers responsible for higher education

Africa

- All the reforms of higher education proposed since 2007 were adopted by Ministers responsible for higher education and implemented under their coordination

POLITICAL SUPPORT (2)

Africa

- Reforms related to accreditation and quality assurance were adopted by Heads of States
- Example: Pan African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (Okebukola and Fonteyne, 2015)



3. IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIATIVES RELATED TO SLOs and QUALITY ASSURANCE

Europe :

- Tuning initiative

Africa

- Tuning Africa
- Pan African University
- African Centres of Excellence in S&T (43)



3. IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIATIVES RELATED TO SLOs and QUALITY ASSURANCE

Africa

- ICQAHEAs –GUNI-Africa and partners
 - Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation Initiative (Joint AU/EU Initiative) implemented by a Consortium of African and European institutions
 - African Quality rating mechanism
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4. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORKS

- Defined in terms of SLOs
- Number of NQFs increased between 1995 to 2015:
 - Global level: 6 to 150;
 - Africa: 1 to 14
- RQFs 0 to 8 including 2 in Africa
- NQFs and RQFs are now used for recognition of qualifications

THANK YOU

