
Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programmes in Germany

Accreditation Council ■■

**Export of German Higher Education- the
German country report**



Focus of the country report

- ❖ CBHE, not joint programmes
- ❖ Focus: export of CBHE


Main models of German higher education abroad funded by the DAAD

- ❖ German study programmes abroad
- ❖ German backed universities
- ❖ Branch campuses
- ❖ developed and funded by the DAAD

Facts and figures

- ❖ Engineering and Natural Sciences
- ❖ About 20.000 students enrolled in 70 CBHE projects
- ❖ Most students in Egypt, Jordan and China

National legal framework

- ❖ Higher Education Acts of the Länder contain
 - ❖ .. obligations to accredit Bachelor and Master programmes
 - ❖ .. provisions that foster international cooperation of German HEIs
 - ❖ .. possibility to develop joint study programmes and to award double and joint degrees.
 - ❖ No special regulation concerning CBHE
 - ❖ Academic recognition of foreign qualifications: Lisbon Recognition Convention
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CBHE policies and strategies

- ❖ Internationalisation Strategy of the German Federal Government and the German Länder
- ❖ “Code of Conduct for German Higher Education Projects Abroad” by the German Rectors’ Conference and the DAAD



Funding of CBHE projects

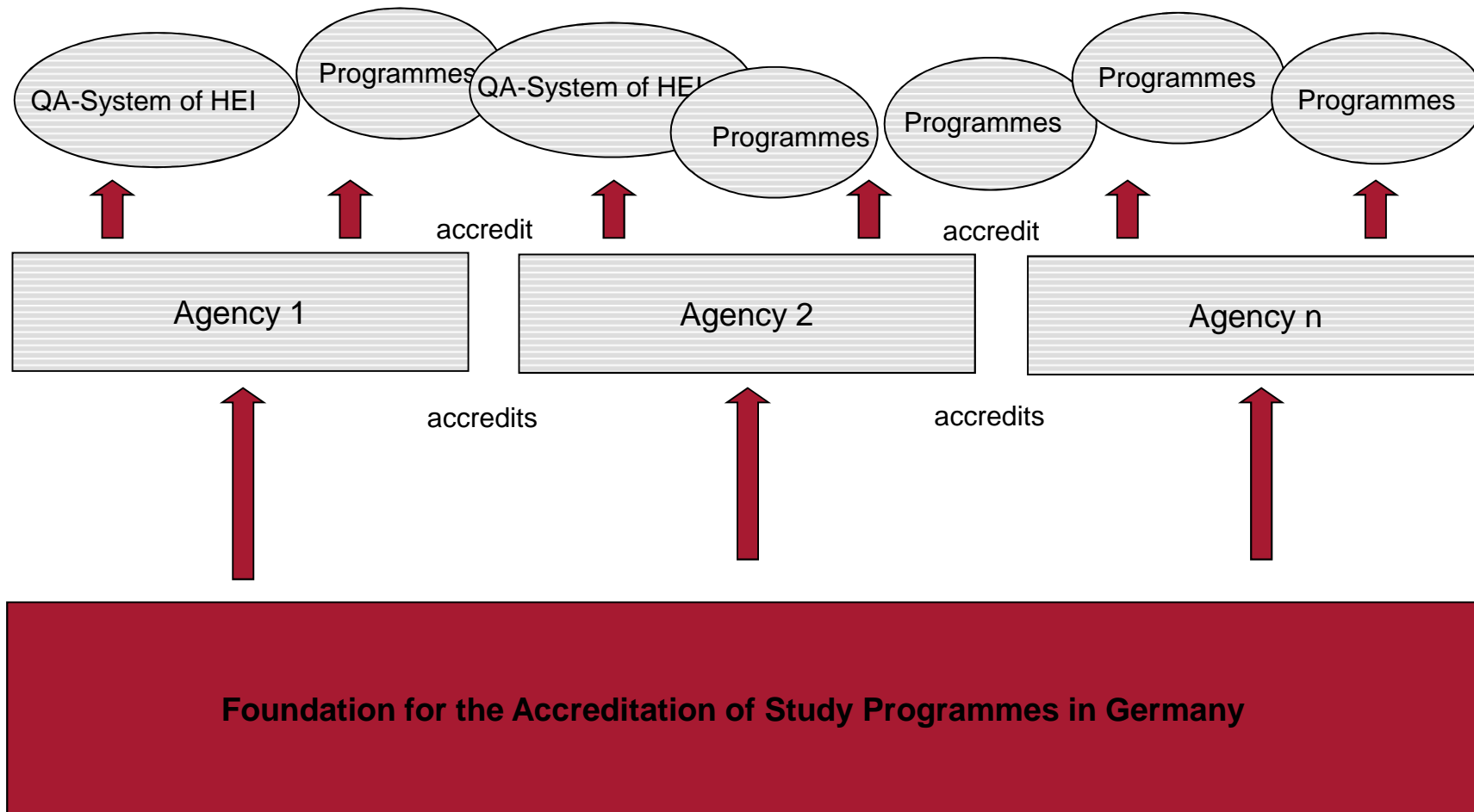
Public funding is..

- ❖ .. administered by the DAAD ...
- ❖ .. with funds from the Federal Ministry for Education and Research, the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

German CBHE projects are also funded by governments of

- ❖ ..host countries,
 - ❖ ..private donors,
 - ❖ ...tuition fees and
 - ❖ ...funds of the German Länder.
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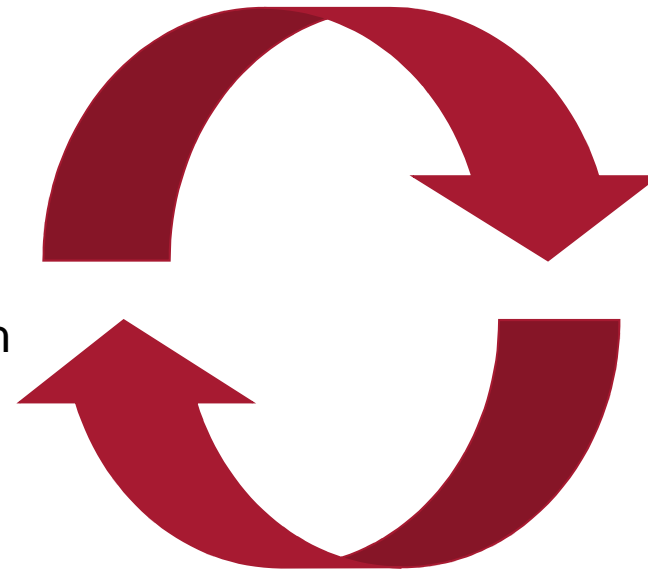
QA of CBHE – Actors involved




Criteria for QA of CBHE I

- ❖ “Rules for the Accreditation of Study Programmes and for System Accreditation”, developed by GAC

- ❖ Fitness of und fitness for purpose approach

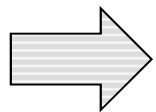


- ❖ applies to *all* study programmes in which *a degree of a German university is offered* - thus also to CBHE provision
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Criteria for QA of CBHE II

- ❖ BUT... this general framework does not fit to transnational study programmes in all respects..
- ❖ e. g. concerning the use ECTS and modularization

- ❖ Special rules for *joint programmes*...
- ❖ ... opened up the possibility not to apply a national rule in exceptional cases.
- ❖ ... contain special procedural rules



Rules for joint programmes could be transferred to CBHE provision!

Criteria for QA of CBHE – system-accreditation



- ❖ System-accredited HEIs: self-accrediting powers
- ❖ Same standards as in programme accreditation



QA of CBHE – the view of the DAAD



- ❖ Funded CBHE projects should be accredited
- ❖ External evaluation commissioned by the DAAD




Role of international guidelines



- ❖ UNESCO/OECD-guidelines: general principles incorporated in the rules of GAC
- ❖ ESG: last ENQA review of GAC in 2013




Obstacles and challenges of CBHE and its QA – for agencies

- ❖ Partly uncertainties concerning applicable rules
 - ❖ Conflicts of national accreditation standards with foreign accreditation standards
 - ❖ Other norms and values abroad
 - ❖ Cooperation not possible if values /the quality assurance systems are completely different
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Obstacles and challenges of CBHE and its QA – for HEIs I

- ❖ Backing of the HEI's management needed
- ❖ Financing of the project
- ❖ German backed universities need high degree of engagement


Obstacles and challenges of CBHE and its QA – for HEIs II

- ❖ Clear share of responsibilities
 - ❖ Curriculum: labour market needs and high-level academic education
 - ❖ Connection to Germany
 - ❖ Teaching via “flying faculty” and/or local staff
 - ❖ Admission conditions and procedures
 - ❖ Material resources
 - ❖ Quality assurance measures
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Good practice examples for external QA in the field of CBHE I

- ❖ German accreditation agency AQAS
 - ❖ Four study programmes of the Chinese-German University of Applied Sciences
 - ❖ Accreditation with the seal of GAC
 - ❖ Conclusion: concept and implementation convincing, cooperation with German partner HEIs successful
 - ❖ Aspects of debate: workload and soft skills and outcome orientation.
 - ❖ Changes were only possible within the limits of Chinese rules.
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Good practice examples for external QA in the field of CBHE II

- ❖ German accreditation agency ACQUIN
 - ❖ Study programmes of the German University Cairo (GUC)
 - ❖ Accreditation with the seal of the GAC
 - ❖ Conclusion: programmes reached international standards
 - ❖ Conflict concerning standard period of studies
 - ❖ Point of critique: lack of flexibility concerning curriculum changes
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Summary

- ❖ German accreditation rules are suitable for use in CBHE.
- ❖ A key challenge for QA is to cope with different values, norms and traditions. Mutual trust and sensitivity for such differences is crucial.





Thank you for your attention!