



# HAQAA Initiative: Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation

*Overview, activities and work plan*

This initiative is implemented on behalf of the European and African Union Commissions by:



**DAAD** Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



# Background

- **Africa-EU Strategic Partnership** – Focus on quality assurance and accreditation
  - *Exploring Quality Assurance through the Africa-EU Partnership Conference in Libreville, Gabon in May 2013*
  - *African Higher Education Harmonisation and Tuning Workshop on credits and the portability of qualifications, Brussels, March 2014.*
  - African Union political endorsement: Roadmap 2014-2017 as adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> EU-Africa Summit
- Commitment to development of **Pan African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)**
  - study on PAQAF (financed by the EU), validated at a continental workshop in Accra, Ghana in July 2015.
- Ongoing work of UNESCO to facilitate the ratification of the **Addis Ababa Convention**



# HAQAA Initiative

- EU Service contract 2015-2018
- Implementing consortium: University of Barcelona, AAU, DAAD, EUA and ENQA (complimentary, outreach, expertise)
- ❖ Objective: “Contribute to and support the harmonisation of higher education programmes and the creation of a revitalised, distinctive, attractive and globally competitive African higher education space, through enhanced intra-African collaboration”
  - Development of a harmonised quality assurance and accreditation system at institutional level, national, regional and Pan-African continental level



# Methodology

- Capacity Building for both **internal and external QA** at the institutional, national and regional level (mutli-level)
- Enhancing continental collaboration in quality assurance across and between **regional networks**
  - Role of Advisory Board\*\*
- Maximize impact = **synergies** with other current African QA-related initiatives (Tuning, AQRF, AfriQAN...)
- Training and knowledge transfer within and across Africa and also with Europe (not one way)
- Engaging countries, organisations and institutions that have participated less frequently in African continental activities

# Phases and activities (1)

- ***Phase 1: Developing a common understanding on QA in Africa (January 2016 – June 2017)***
  - 2 Training Courses for a “common QA language”, targeting key African QA stakeholders and disseminators
  - Set up of the Online African QA Platform:  
[www.aau.org/haqaa](http://www.aau.org/haqaa)
  - Consolidation of an expert network on QA in Africa, spanning diverse key actors and stakeholders, and aggregating already existing expert networks/databases for QA
  - Mapping report on current/existing African QA ‘Standards and Guidelines’ (National level, East and West Africa)

# Phases and activities (2)

- ***Phase 2: Towards a Pan African QA and Accreditation System: Developing African Standards and Guidelines for quality assurance (ASG) (June 2016 – October 2017)***
  - Technical Working Group to develop the ASG, supported by the Advisory Board
  - Online consultation for the ASG
  - Continental endorsement workshop

# Phases and activities (3)

- ***Phase 3: Consolidating 'quality culture' in Africa (February 2017 – April 2018)***
  - QA body support
    - Visits to select African QA agencies/bodies, promoting the uptake and testing of the ASG – 'Consultancy visits' and 'agency reviews'
    - QA agency staff development workshop
  - Institutional quality culture support
    - Promoting AQRf as a tool for self-evaluation (15 evaluations conducted)
    - Training workshop(s) on institutional self-assessment, rooted in ASG

# Phases and activities (4)

- ***Phase 4: Sustainability and further development of the Pan African QA and Accreditation System (February 2018 – September 2018)***
  - Endorsement of external review model for QA agencies in Africa (proposed by Technical Working Group)
  - Regional conference, reinforcing ‘AQAF’ as an annual continental forum
  - Consolidation of African QA Platform/Database and Capacity Development Centre as major continental tools and structures



# Realising PAQAF: The role of HAQAA Initiative

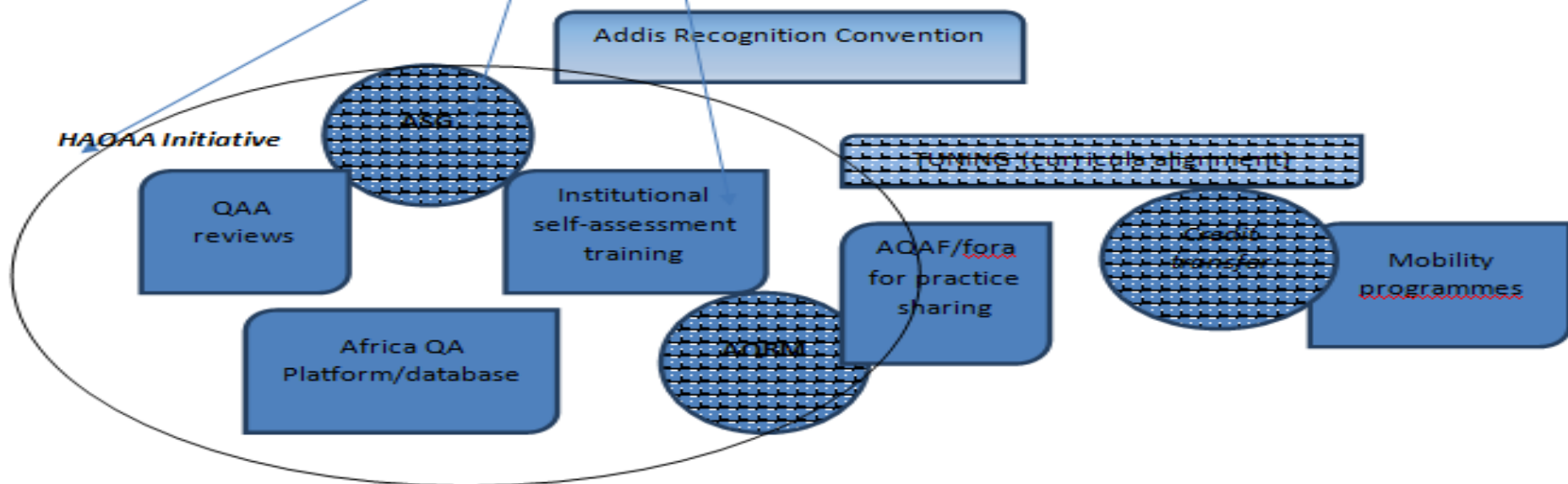
## Policy Framework



## Policy partners and implementers



## Tools/Instruments



# Implementing team

- Elizabeth Colucci and Zeineb Mazouz (UB): [ecolucci@obreal.org](mailto:ecolucci@obreal.org), [zmazouz@obreal.org](mailto:zmazouz@obreal.org)
- Violet Makuku (AAU): [vmakuku@aau.org](mailto:vmakuku@aau.org)
- Paula Ranne (ENQA): [paula.ranne@enqa.eu](mailto:paula.ranne@enqa.eu)
- Gudrun Chazotte (DAAD): [Chazotte@daad.de](mailto:Chazotte@daad.de)
- Goran Dakovic (EUA): [goran.dakovic@eua.be](mailto:goran.dakovic@eua.be)
- HAQAA website: [www.aau.org/haqaa](http://www.aau.org/haqaa)

