



AGENCIA NACIONAL DE EVALUACIÓN
DE LA CALIDAD Y ACREDITACIÓN

German Rector's Conference and German Accreditation Council

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Workshop 3

Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes

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Background

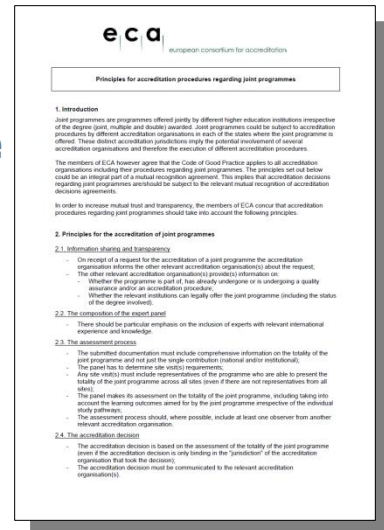
■ Background:

1. This pilot project consisted on the single accreditation of NOHA

Single accreditation = evaluation for the accreditation of the degree programme in just one of the countries in which a joint programme is given, but taking into account the entire programme

2. The whole procedure shall follow the principles of the ECA document:

ECA Principles for accreditation procedures regarding joint programmes



3. Pilot nature of the accreditation

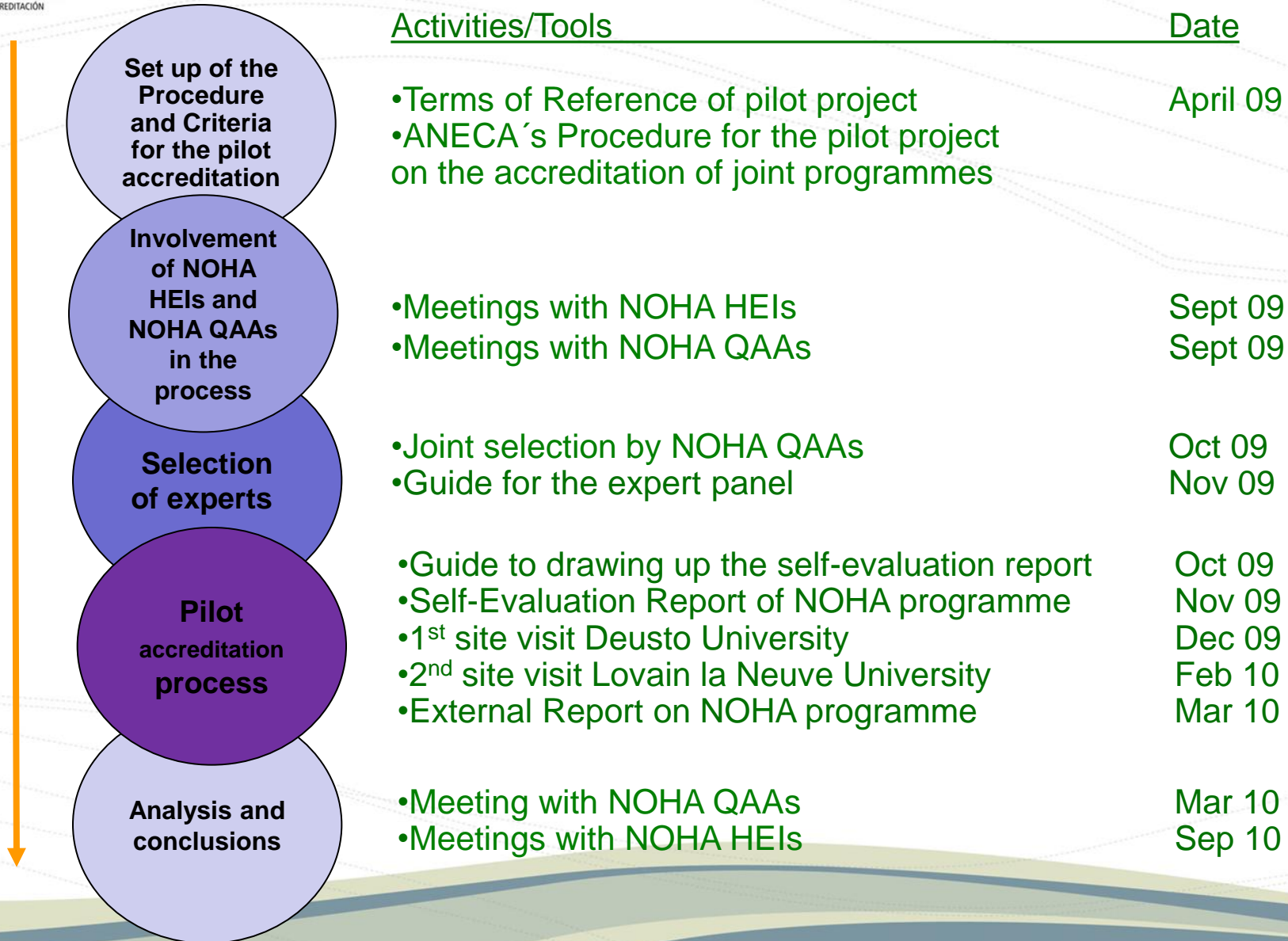


In which countries was Accreditation needed?

HEI	Quality Assurance Organization	Compulsory external accreditation process?
1. Deusto University, Spain	ANECA	✓
2. Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium	AEQES	✗
3. RUB University of Bochum, Germany	AQAS	✓
4. University of Aix-Marseille III Paul Cezanne, France	AERES	✗
5. University College Dublin, Ireland	IUQB	✗
5. University of Groningen, Netherlands	NVAO	✓
5. University of Uppsala, Sweden	HsV	✗



Road map to the pilot accreditation of NOHA



The stages of the process:



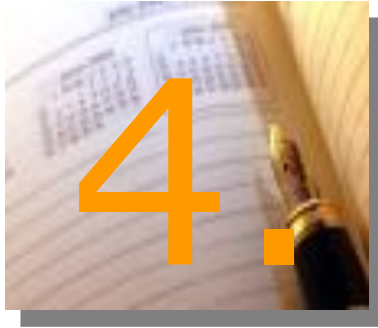
(0) Analysis of the **procedure** by all QA organizations

1. Self-evaluation

2. External review

3. Report

(4) Analysis of the **report** by all QA organizations



Criteria

Which are the standards of the pilot project



1. **ADDED VALUE** that is internationally proven.
2. Guaranteed **ACADEMIC RECOGNITION**.
3. Guaranteed **SERVICES** to the student.
4. Efficient management of **RESOURCES**.
5. Learning activities that are coordinated in an integrated and **JOINTLY DESIGNED STUDY PLAN**.
6. Common and equivalent **LEARNING OUTCOMES**.
7. Demonstrated continuous **REVIEW**.
8. Key **INFORMATION** on the programme that is easily accessible.

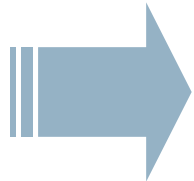


Experts



The panel

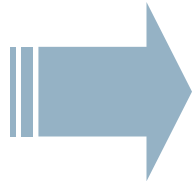
opinion Submits report



Chairperson



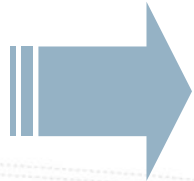
1. *International expert from Sweden (HSV)*



4 Experts



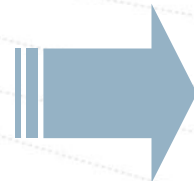
- 2. *International expert from the UK (ANECA)*
- 3. *Academic expert from the Netherlands (NVAO)*
- 4. *Academic expert from Spain (ANECA)*
- 5. *Student of a JP from Brasil (ANECA)*



1 Secretary



6. *ANECA staff from Spain (ANECA)*



1 Observer



7. *AQAS staff from Germany (AQAS)*



Site visit



Deusto University, Spain

Complete panel



Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium

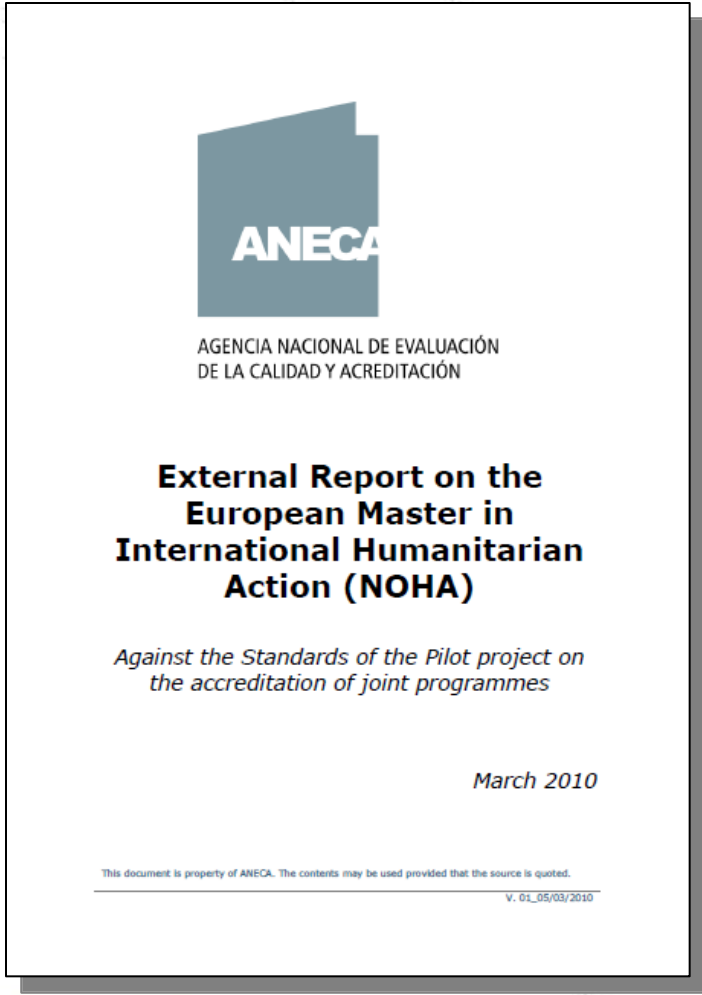
Half of the panel



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Report



Analysis of the report by the QA Organizations



Reflection



*"Would serve this report as the basis for the **decision** regarding the accreditation of the Master's degree in all the countries where NOHA is being implemented? What else would be needed?"*





Decision



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External Report on the European Master in International Humanitarian Action (NOHA)

*Against the Standards of the Pilot project on
the accreditation of joint programmes*

March 2010

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V. 01_05/03/2010



Conclusion

NOHA is a programme with considerable strengths. Among these are links with the labour market, diversity and internationalisation, integration and coordination, sustainability and commitment.

The panel finds that NOHA is in substantial compliance with the Standards of the Pilot Project and **recommends that the NOHA programme should be (pilot) accredited** if the following conditions are met:

- a) Development of a plan for establishing a formal documented internal quality assurance system for the joint programme.
- b) Improvement of consistent information provided in respect of fee polices and students' academic progress.

Conclusions:

1. QAAs and HEI have found the participation in the pilot accreditation of the JP a very **fruitful experience**
2. In general terms, QAAs involved use **similar criteria and procedures** in their accreditation processes.
3. Representatives **from all HEIs** of the JP should be able to be interviewed during the accreditation process (physically or virtually).
4. QAAs should agree, before an accreditation process of a JP starts, on the **generic aspects** to be covered as well as the **specific national ones**.

OBSTACLES OF QA IN J-P:

- Need to **balance** the different national **legal requirements** related to the accreditation/QA evaluation frameworks.
- **Well-defined criteria/standards** to allow the experts to make a decision.
- To assure the **jointness** of the programme: to show the advantages against the traditional provision.
- **Coherence of the programme**: Need to identify the role played by each partner within the JP.
- **Self-evaluation report**: need to establish the **core elements** to be included, avoiding to set up a template.

ADVANTAGES OF QA IN J-P:

- Balance in the selection and profile of experts among the different agencies involved.
- Balance between academic and QA experts.
- Site-visit(s): representatives of all institutions involved to be interviewed.
- Site-visit(s): students of the different paths

The interviews can be made by Skype, telephone or on line mechanisms.

4 possible trends: (after Nick Harris)

1. To define a procedure aimed at the fulfilment of all the requirements of the various QA agencies.
2. To develop a framework/guidelines for the evaluation/accreditation of transnational JPs
3. "Back to the basics": rethink what is really necessary and sufficient of QA/accreditation in the EHEA and applied them
4. To develop a modular approach defining a number of essential "core" criteria for all the countries/agencies, adding "modules" to fulfil the specific needs of certain legal frameworks/countries/agencies.

Thank you for your
attention
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