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MINISTERIO DE EDUCACION – REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

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**PROGRAMS ACCREDITATION IN CONTEXTS OF CHANGE:
ENGINEERING PROGRAMS IN ARGENTINA**

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Presentation outline:

1. Programs: previous situation
2. Accreditation process
3. Improvement projects
4. Conclusions

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1. Programs previous situation

- ◆ Deterioration on the engineering labor market
- ◆ New classification of engineering degrees and specialties
- ◆ Standards above the average quality: a goal to achieve

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2. Accreditation process

- ◆ Most programs submit to the voluntary call: *accreditation as a support to areas prone to change.*
- ◆ Challenge for the Accreditation Agency: *¿How to accredit programs committed to curricular change and quality improvement that do not achieve the threshold quality standards?*

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Clues to the engineering accreditation

- ◆ Faculties (schools) as analysis units of programs evaluation
- ◆ Evaluation of improvement plans
- ◆ Accreditation with commitments

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3. Evaluation of improvement projects

- ◆ Inclusion of improvement projects on self assessment: development of a methodology from a sociology of organizations perspective.
- ◆ Self assessment guideline aimed to a comprehensive diagnosis of problems, and not split by dimension or evaluated standard

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Self evaluation

Stage 1: Analysis of the program's current situation and identification of possible shortcomings, by dimensions

- institutional context
- curriculum
- faculty
- students and alumni
- infrastructure and equipment

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Stage 2: Definition of a typology of possible problems:

- Rules, procedures or curricular designs
- Institutional Coordination, planning and monitoring
- Internal organization
- Curriculum development
- Human Resources
- Equipment and budget

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Stage 3: Construction of a comprehensive agenda

Dimensions	Nº	shortcomings (seriousness degree)	Nature of the problem						Observations
		Short description	Rules, procedures or curricular design	Institutional Coordination, planning and monitoring	Internal organization	Human Resources	Equipment and budget	Curriculum Development	
Institutional Context									
Curriculum									
Faculty									
Students and Alumni									
Infrastructure and equipment									

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Stage 4: Elaboration of the improvement plan

Document that relates goals, required resources and who is responsible for developing actions

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4. Conclusions

- ◆ Rigorous improvement projects allowed commitments from a good diagnosis basis.
- ◆ The ground was set in order to direct the public investment to engineering improvement
- ◆ A high degree of commitments accomplished has been checked on the 2nd phase of accreditation

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Thank you very much,
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