Agentur für Qualitätssicherung und Akkreditierung Austria
The role of QA agencies in outbound TNE, the Austrian approach

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“Between Collaboration and Competition: The Promises and Challenges for Quality Assurance in Higher Education”
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The Austrian context

- Little export but rigid legal system
- Role of AQ Austria
- Our experiences dealing in TNE
- Different models of TNE delivery
4 crucial measures

1) Awareness for procedure design
2) Specific training of experts
3) Importance of internal & external QA
4) Collaborations of QA agencies
Shared responsibility?

Common agreement: procedures have to be fit for purpose

Criteria: specific vs. general

HEI and QA agency share responsibility

What is your...

...understanding?

...experience?
Criteria for TNE programmes

• the accountability and the responsibilities of the main institution and the other sites have been clearly defined and are adequate;
• organisation, management and support structures are established in the same quality as they are maintained at the other accredited sites;
• degree programmes which are offered at several sites are of uniform quality;
• offering degree programmes at an additional site does not lead to a lack of resources and, subsequently, a deterioration in quality at existing sites;
• all sites are included in the institution’s quality management system;
• the respective national legislation is observed, and
• educational traditions and cultural differences regarding teaching and learning, including examinations, are respected.