



Enhancing cross-border education through collaboration and flexibility

A study from the Quality Evaluation and Enhancement of UK Transnational Higher Education Scheme

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Overview of Presentation

The QE-TNE Scheme and its approach

- Background to the development of the scheme and an overview of the vision, core purposes and principles and values guiding the scheme and its approach to evaluation activities

Cross- border co-operation and mutual benefit for stakeholders

- Involvement of stakeholders in the UK and overseas and impact

Flexibility and responsiveness to the local context

- Case study on Sri Lanka and the approach taken to evaluation

Findings and Thematic Insights

- Identification of key themes for exploration and development



QE-TNE Scheme

- Commissioned by UUK and Guild HE
- Consultations in 2019 and 2020
- Handbook published March 2021
- Five-year programme
- Launched in 2021
- 3 countries selected for years 1 and 2
 - The United Arab Emirates (1)
 - Germany (1)
 - Egypt (1)
 - China (2)
 - Sri Lanka (2)
 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2)

The Quality Evaluation and Enhancement of UK Transnational Higher Education Provision 2021-22 to 2025-26

Updated November 2022



Vision

Transnational higher education to be recognised with the indication of the highest quality, an outstanding added value...

Participation in QE-TNE Scheme

- 78 UK HE providers in the scheme
- Over 305,000 UK HE TNE students
- Over 70% of the UK HE TNE population
- 100% of eligible regulated providers in Wales
- Year one countries – UAE, Egypt and Germany
- **Scheme participants represented in year 1**
 - 81% of all UK TNE students in the UAE
 - 67% of all UK TNE students in Germany
 - 60% of all UK TNE students in Egypt
 - 5 largest providers in the UAE



Vision and Core Purposes

Vision:

For UK transnational higher education to be recognised worldwide as providing education of the highest quality, an outstanding student experience, added value and enhanced outcomes.

Strengthening the reputation of UK TNE

Providing valued information and insight

Building mutual trust

Delivering benefit for stakeholders



Principles underlying QE-TNE

- Be UK wide
- Apply to all degree awarding bodies engaged in TNE
- Valid for all types of TNE
- Retain international trust and maintain reputation

- Be enhancement led
- Be informed by robust metrics
- Have student experience at its heart
- Ensure equivalence for students

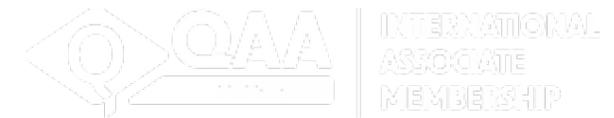
- Be cost efficient
- Minimise burden and avoid duplication
- Be flexible and responsive



Cross border co-operation and mutual benefit for stakeholders

Relationship building with host countries

- Country selection shared with relevant in-country stakeholders
- Engagement with Ministries and Quality Assurance agency
- Resources outlining the scheme developed for UK and International stakeholders and students
- Themes from survey responses from UK providers re areas identified for exploration, discussion, opportunity and challenge shared with in country stakeholders



Engagement of stakeholders in evaluation activities

- Providers selected for evaluation activity shared with host country stakeholders
- Mutual observation of in country agency and QE-TNE visits
- Shared visit to reduce burden on providers
- Sharing of reports

Engagement of stakeholders in resources, publications and events

- Contributions to practical country guides outlining the HE landscape, Quality Assurance and UK TNE provision
- Spotlights focusing on Agencies developed by stakeholders
- Engagement with events to support the country-based resources
- Sharing of reports and findings and thematic insights



Flexibility and responsiveness to local context

Sri Lanka

- Selected for evaluation in year 2 (2022-23)
- Period of national political and financial instability
- Decision made to continue with the selection choice as a real live TNE situation
- Potential for development of sector wide guidance

Engagement with stakeholders to gain understanding of local context

- Sector wide round table organised by UK stakeholders
- All scheme institutions with provision in Sri Lanka contacted for individual online meetings to gain understanding of the situation, challenges and responses

Adapted approach

- Country Insight developed and published identifying the themes with questions for providers to consider
- Evaluation visit focus developed with providers identifying 5 themes for enhancement focus
- Surveys of provision requested and returned
- Self-evaluation document and guidance revised
- Online visits taking place in June 2023



Quality Evaluation and
Enhancement of Transnational
Education (QE-TNE)
Country Insight

Sri Lanka



Findings and Thematic Insights

Findings

- No judgements
- Effective Practice
- Recommendations and Suggestions
- Areas identified include mutual benefits, two-way learning and developing UK provider and partner relations and trust

Thematic Insights

- Understanding international Branch campuses in year 1 countries
- Exploring the continuum of partnership arrangements
- Enhancing connections and belongingness
- Developing new partners from a distance

Student Experience

- Report identifying themes around the student experience across year 1 evaluation activity
- Development in collaboration with institutions and agencies of a student focused project exploring the themes identified

QE-TNE Thematic Insights

Approaches to Branch Campuses Seen in Year One of the QE-TNE Scheme





Questions?

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