

## **Vision, Mission and Scope of Work**

NQAAE's vision is to establish a transparent, internationally recognised and evidence-based national quality assurance system that promotes excellence, accountability, and continuous improvement across all levels of education in Uzbekistan.

NQAAE's mission is to safeguard and enhance the quality of education through independent evaluation, accreditation, and evidence-based policy support, while fostering a culture of quality in educational institutions and ensuring alignment with international standards and labour market needs.

### **NQAAE's scope of work and key functions:**

a) External Quality Assurance and Accreditation: NQAAE is responsible for organising and implementing the national system of institutional and program state accreditation for all educational organisations in Uzbekistan. This includes: evaluation of educational institutions and programmes against state educational standards and accreditation criteria, assessment of internal quality assurance systems and institutional governance, verification of learning outcomes, educational processes, and resources, organisation of expert peer review and site visits, adoption of formal accreditation decisions and issuance of accreditation certificates.

b) Monitoring and Risk-Based Quality Oversight: NQAAE conducts continuous monitoring of educational institutions and programmes to ensure sustained compliance with accreditation standards. This includes monitoring implementation of quality improvement action plans, conducting risk-based reviews and off-schedule inspections when deficiencies or complaints are identified, analysing education quality trends through surveys and research, recommending corrective measures to institutions or competent authorities where necessary.

c) Development of Quality Assurance Standards and Methodologies: NQAAE develops and updates national evaluation criteria, methodologies and quality indicators, drawing on international best practices. This includes improving accreditation standards in line with international quality assurance frameworks, aligning evaluation criteria with the national qualifications system and labour market needs, piloting and refining new quality assurance tools and indicators, maintaining national registries of accredited institutions, programmes and recognised accreditation organisations.

d) Capacity Building and Promotion of Quality Culture: The Agency supports educational organisations in strengthening internal quality assurance systems and institutional accountability. This includes providing methodological guidance on quality assurance mechanisms, organising training programmes, seminars and expert workshops, developing guidance materials for institutional self-evaluation, training and supervising national and international evaluation experts.

e) Research, Data Analysis and Stakeholder Engagement: NQAAE conducts research, national surveys and analytical studies to assess the effectiveness of education policies and reforms. This includes nationwide student surveys to evaluate learning experiences and educational quality, employer surveys assessing graduates' competencies and labour market integration, research on systemic issues affecting education quality, publication of annual reports to ensure transparency and public accountability.

f) International Cooperation and Recognition: The Agency actively promotes the international integration of Uzbekistan's quality assurance system by establishing cooperation with international QA organisations, obtaining membership in international quality assurance networks, maintaining a register of recognised international accreditation bodies, supporting educational institutions in achieving international accreditation and global recognition.