



Internationalization Audit Process

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Brief background to internationalization in Hungary



2011: the Hungarian government adopted a referral to support the internationalization of HE

Goal: 40.000 foreign students until 2020

Government established the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship programme

33/66 institutions offer 450 foreign language programs

26.000 international students (Erasmus+, full-time)

Source: <https://www.ksh.hu/docs/hun/xftp/idoszaki/mo/mo2015.pdf>



Innovation in the HE internationalization: international certification process

Assessment of the internationalization activities

Analyze and evaluate the position of these institutions in all areas of internationalization

Qualitative and quantitative indicators

Self-assessment and a peer review process

The audit provides suggestions and forms questions

Motivation for participating: see their activities from the viewpoint of external evaluators and to apply recommendations in the institutional strategic plans



Background of the international certification process

PREPARATION (2013)

1) Experience and methodology is exported from the Internationalization Quality Review Process (IQPR) by OECD

2) Peer Learning Activity with national and international experts

PARTNERSHIP

Academic Cooperation Association

ACA stands for internationalization of the HE systems, it is an expert center, producing studies and evaluations, organizing international seminars and conferences, and providing information on new developments in European and global HE.

IMPLEMENTATION (2013-2015)

Conducted by the Tempus Public Foundation (a non-profit organization managing international cooperation programmes and special projects in the field of education, training and EU-related issues) and its dedicated experts

10 volunteer institutions participated



Methodology of the international certification process

Phase 1: Self-assessment report

- Conducted by the institution
- Method: free writing and templates & forms
- Each chapter describes a particular internationalization dimension with a list of indicators
- Involves the internationalization strategy, activities and future plans

Phase 2: External evaluation with the audit committee

- Analysis of the self-assessment
- 2 day-long institutional visit by the expert team
- Meeting with relevant staff, interview with teachers and students
- Final evaluation: an integrated view on the international activities of the given institution and recommendations for improvement

Phase 3: Feedback

- Action plan: The institution creates an action plan for the next 3-5 years
- Feedback on the audit process

after 3-5 years:
evaluation of the planned
developments

classification based on
excellence levels



Aims and expected results I.

- encourage the **planning** of international activity in a **more structured way**
- **conscious development** of institutional internationalization process
- introduce **unified internationalization indicators and dimensions**
- **integrate information** about the fragmented international activities, enabling analysis, evaluation and re-planning
- enhance regular institutional **quality assurance**
- **deepen self-assessment** culture
- improve internal and external **communication and knowledge management** at institutions



Aims and expected results II.

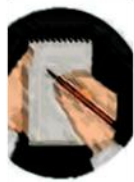
- **start a dialogue** about internationalization within the institution
- **generate leaders who are committed** to representing the institution professionally in the field of international education
- facilitate the **identification of the potential sponsors** at the university
- create the opportunity to **involve the scepticals**
- **develop the learning process** and the students' learning results
- internationalization has a **positive effect** also on programs, structures directly not affected by internationalization



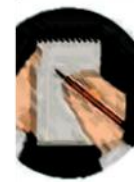
The priority thematic areas of auditing



Internationalization strategy (structures, guidelines, practices)



Institutional commitment: mission, goals, vision



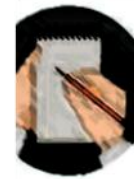
Curriculum, joint curriculum



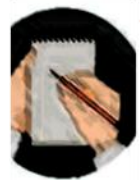
Monitoring of the development of internationalization



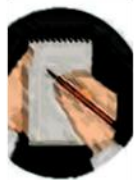
Knowledge, skills, competences, experience & interest of faculty members



Outgoing/incoming mobility



Networking, relations to other institutions abroad



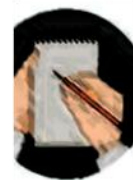
Selective choice in building relationships



Institutional environment, conditions



Student services



Transnational training and R&D projects



Lessons learnt

The project proved that a significant part of the Hungarian HEIs has a valid internationalization strategy and they are ready to be evaluated by international standards.

Challenges

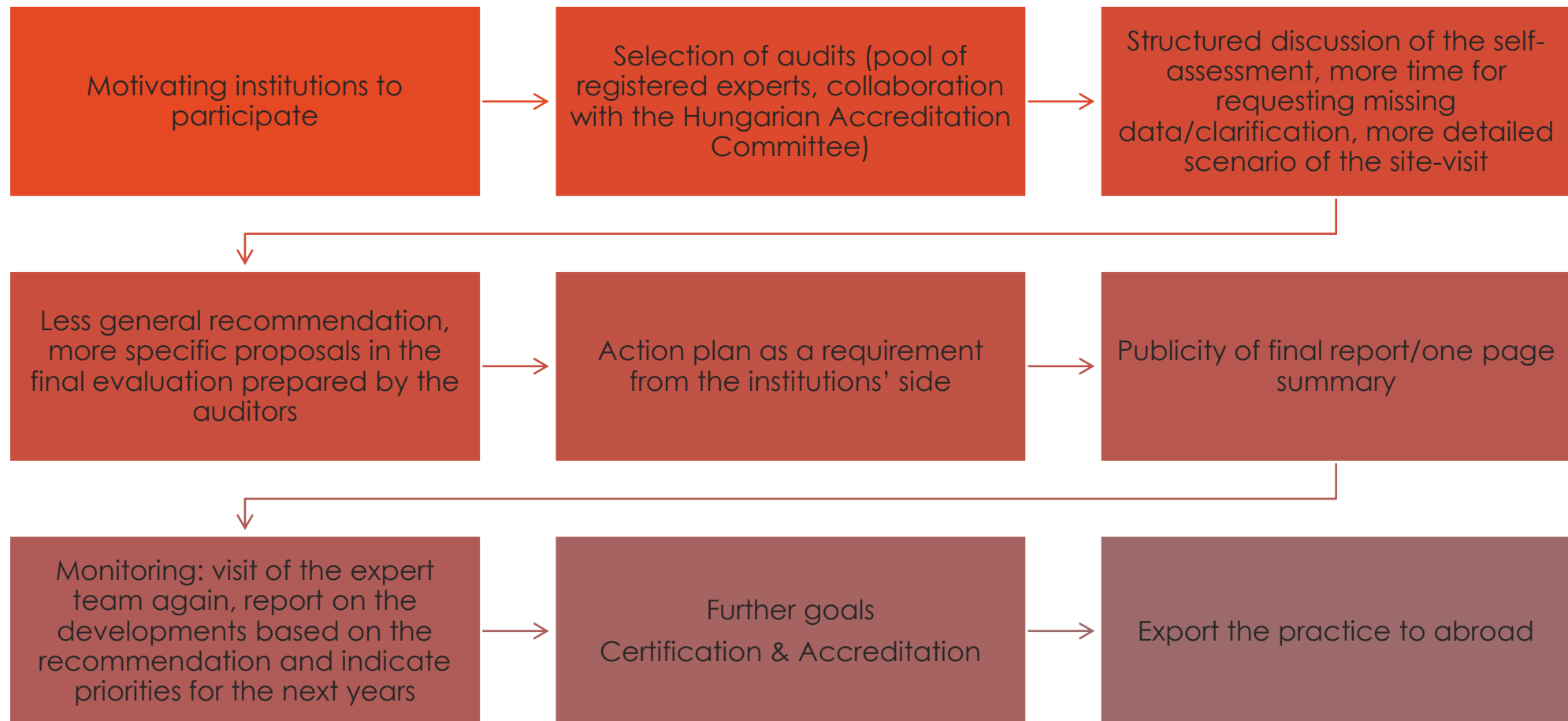
- Lack of an overall strategic approach
- Lack of commitment and top management positions (e.g. vice-rector for international affairs)
- The institution has no separate budget for internationalization
- International activities of the faculties are not homogeneous
- Shortage in foreign faculty and staff members

Positive outcomes

- Internal dialogue starts between the various levels of the institution
- Encourages joint thinking
- Audit focuses on practical, essential aspects
- Provides personalized advice for the institution
- Gives motivation



Potential changes in the methodology of the internationalization audit





Thank you for your kind attention!

IN CASE OF FURTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT ME VIA MRK@MRK.HU.