KEY CONSIDERATIONS AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CROSS-BORDER QUALITY ASSURANCE IN THE EHEA

TPG C meeting

17-18 November 2026, Yerevan, Armenia

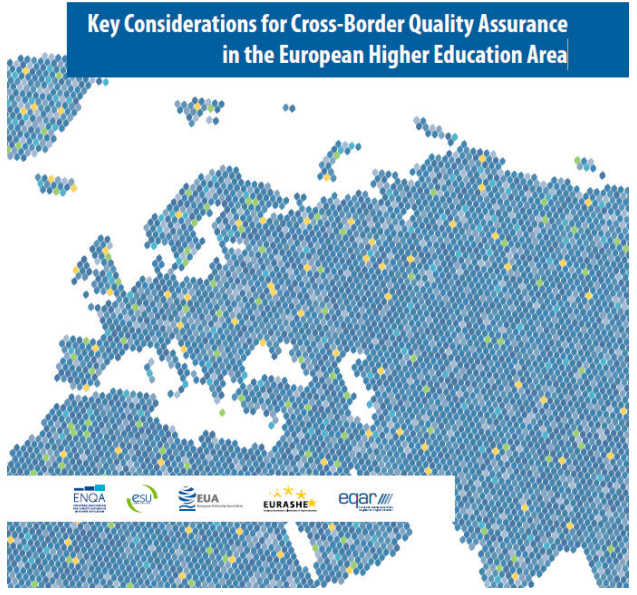
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SIQA PROJECT
Support for the enhancement oriented implementation of the quality assurance key commitment

KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CBQA

Keep

- ESG remains the primary reference document
- A practical, non-prescriptive support not a policy document
- Maintain overall purpose, scope and structure
- Maintain most of the core material

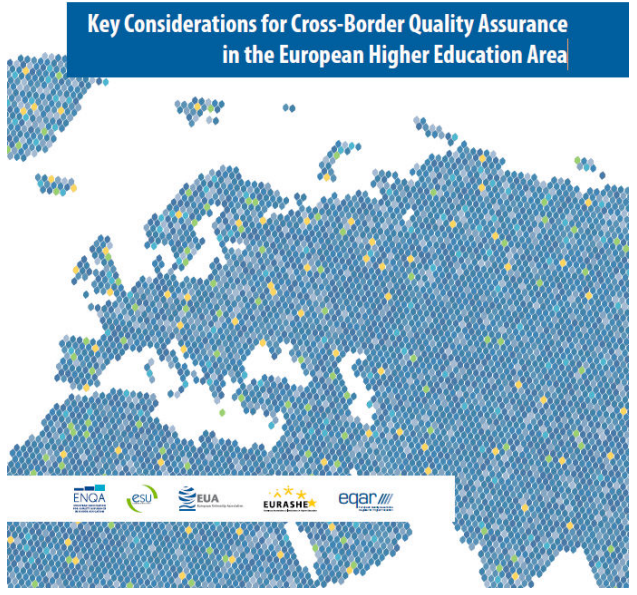


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KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CBQA

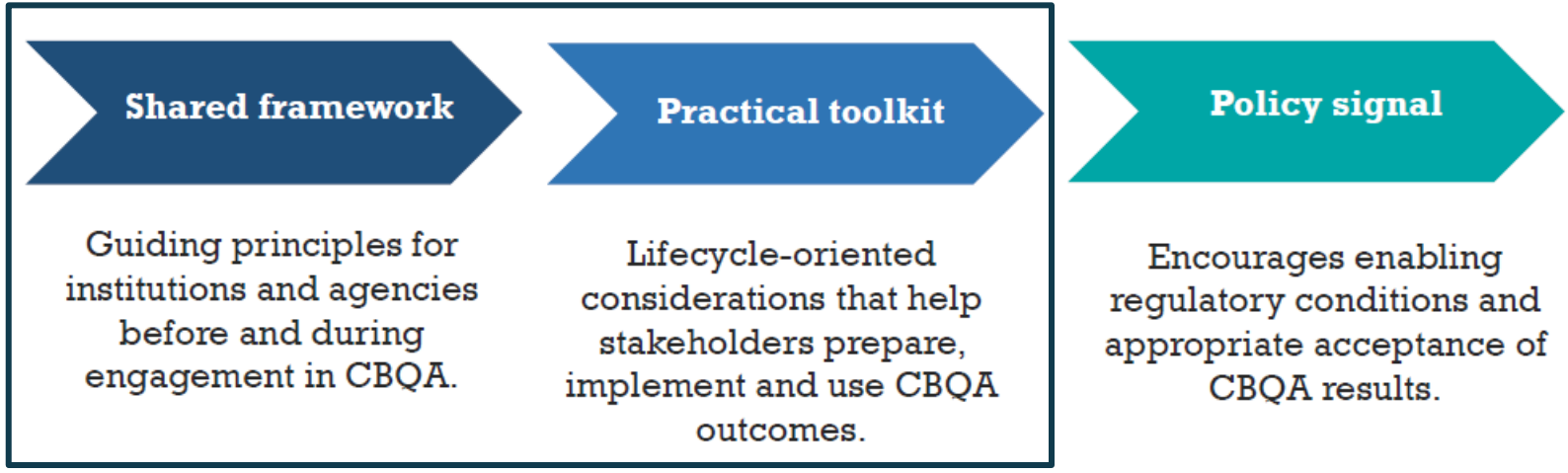
Change

- Clear and updated policy context
- Update to reflect draft ESG and EA 2027
- Clearer articulation of benefits and risks
- Better reflect different drivers for CBQA
- Address lessons from latest practice
- Addition of Glossary
- Addition of Code of Conduct



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KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CBQA



SECTION A

Pre-engagement considerations for CBQA

- Rationale
- Legal framework and requirements
- Joint reviews

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SECTION B

Implementation of CBQA

- Cooperation and getting to know the context
- Modification of procedures
- Selection and training of peer-reviewers
- Communication with stakeholders and the wider public
- Practical arrangements

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SECTION C

Addressing the results of CBQA

- Contect sensitiveness
- Transparency
- Recognition of decision
- Complaints and appeals
- Follow-up processes

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CODE OF CONDUCT

- An annex to the Key Considerations
- Promotes the ethical and responsible conduct of QA agencies engaged in external QA activities across borders (within or outside the EHEA)
- Sets out shared values, principles, and expectations
- Cross references to sections of the Key Considerations
- Can be used by agencies to signal their commitments



CODE OF CONDUCT

Principle 1: Legitimacy and compliance

- Legal basis
- Due diligence

Principle 2: Contextualisation and fitness for purpose

- Consideration of cultural and educational context
- Appropriate recommendations

Principle 3: Integrity, consistency, fairness and professionalism

- Across all activities and actors
- Profile and training of staff and experts



CODE OF CONDUCT

Principle 4: Transparency and clear communication

- Purpose and scope of activities
- Use of results

Principle 5: Cooperation

- Communication with public authorities and QA agencies
- Joint reviews



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Now:

Questions for clarification

Breakout sessions:

- Feedback on the two documents
- Reflection on if/how the documents can be used in your national context
- One commitment that you would like Ministers to make regarding CBQA

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

SIQA PROJECT

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