



INTEGRATION OF QA PROCESSES

QUALITY ASSURANCE WORKSHOP,
17-18 FEBRUARY 2015

QA: inter-related components



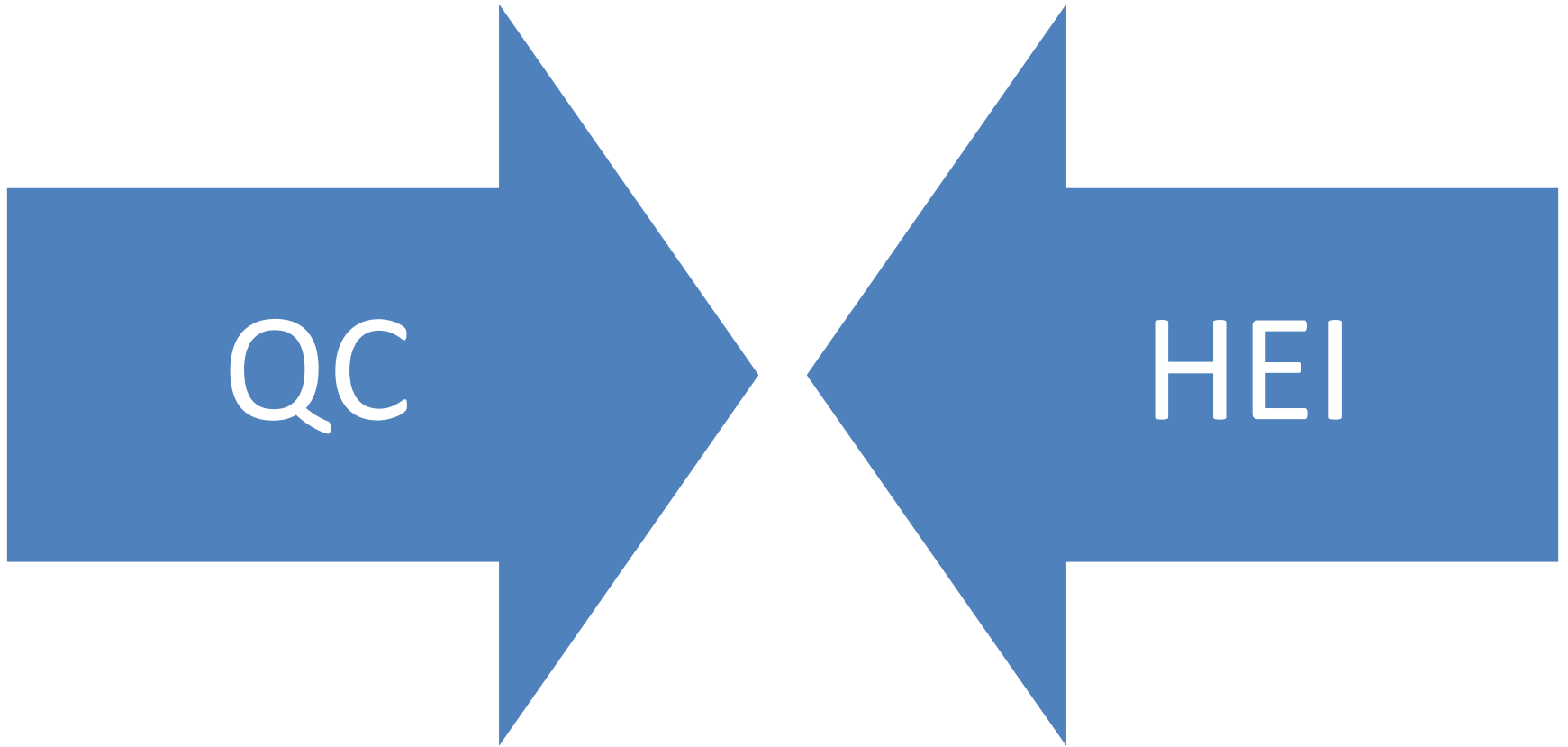
From quality assurance to quality enhancement: a revised phase

- ***A Framework for Qualification Standards in Higher Education*** (2013)
- ***Framework for Institutional Quality Enhancement in the Second Period of Quality Assurance*** (2014)
- ***Accreditation Framework*** (revised, 2014)
- ***Framework for National Review of Programmes*** (in progress)

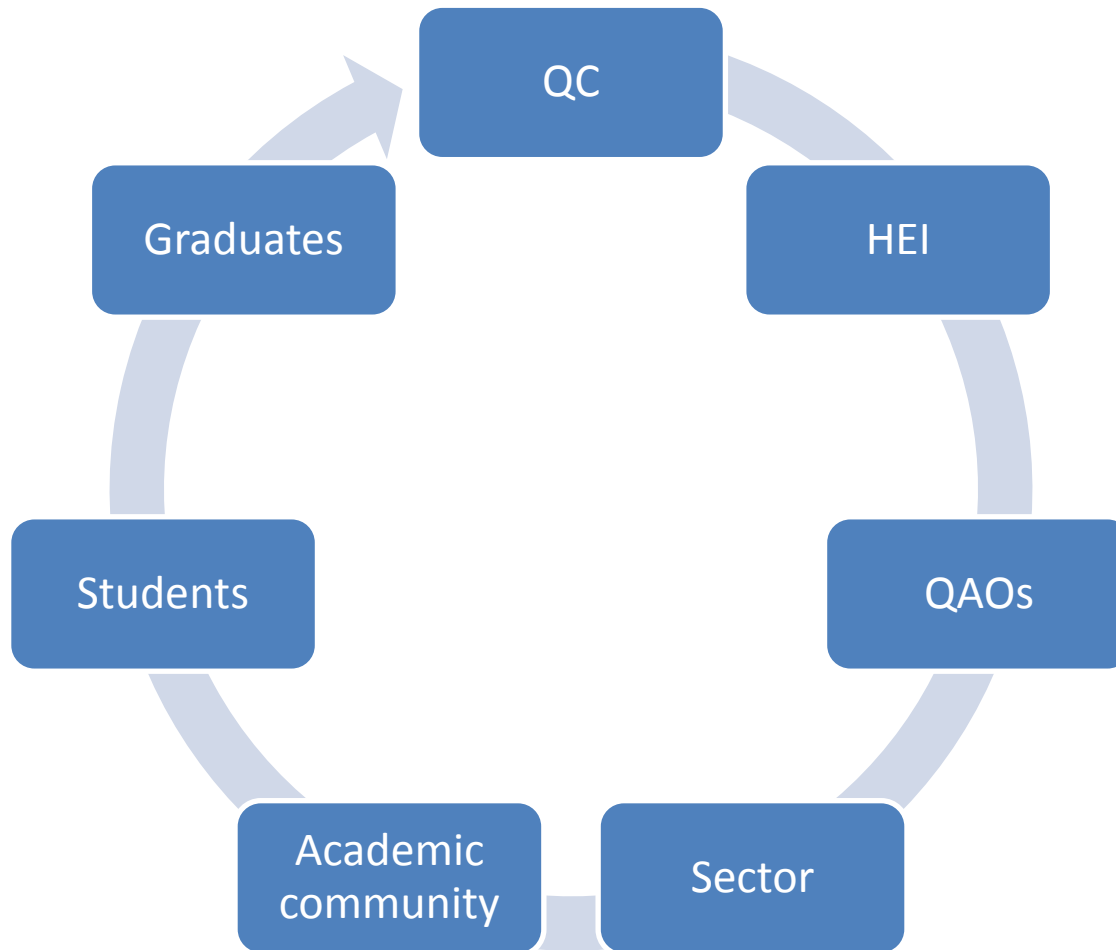
General objectives

- Protecting, developing and **enhancing** the quality of higher education nationally
- Providing opportunities for quality improvement **within** and **between** institutions
- Establishing **threshold standards** for qualifications
- Establishing **benchmarks for programmes** leading to qualifications
- Periodically **reviewing** programmes offered towards a selected qualification
- Enhancing **public confidence** in HE qualifications, among students, graduates, employers and society at large.

Quality control as opposition



QA as integral concept



Quality Enhancement Project

- Focus: improving student success.

‘Enhanced student learning with a view to increasing the number of graduates with attributes that are personally, professionally and socially valuable.’

- The approach: inductive, iterative, interactive.
- Goals:

Improving quality of UG educational provision

Improving number of graduates

Continuous development of HE system through communal collaboration.

Standards development: goals

- Consistent, coherent development of qualifications and their curricula
- Clarifying the purpose of a qualification
- Establishing the graduate attributes expected of the qualification in meeting its purpose
- Quality assurance of relevant programmes within and between institutions
- National and international comparability
- A national standard acknowledging contextual diversity
- A national standard recognising institutional autonomy
- Guide accreditation and national review of programmes
- Enhance public confidence in qualifications.

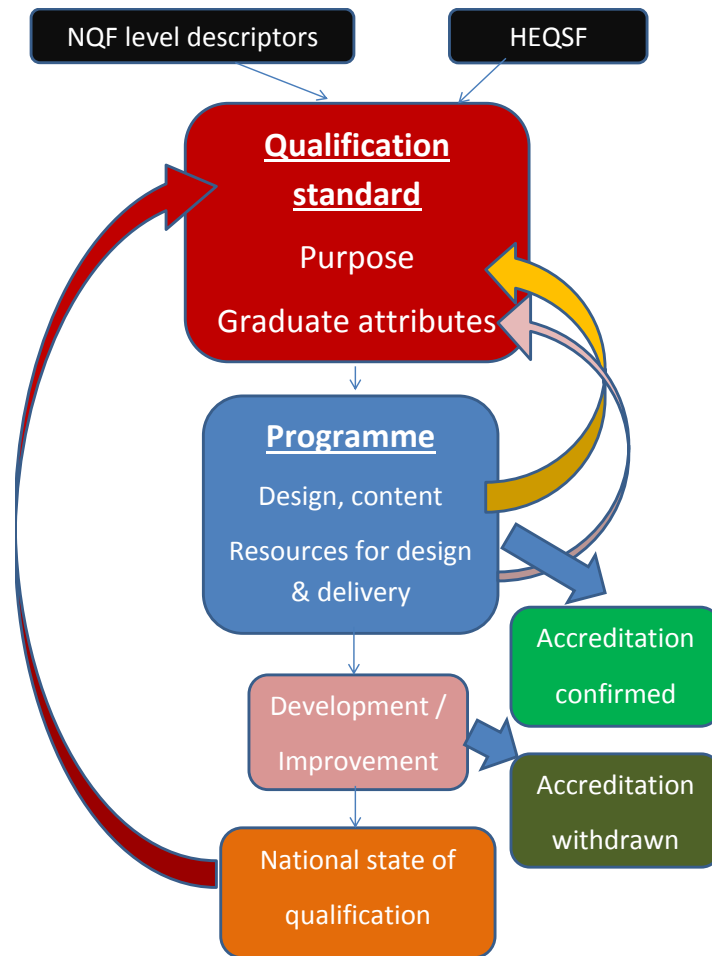
Accreditation

- The 'hard edge' of the continuum between accountability and development
- Confirming the capacity of an institution to offer a programme that meets the qualification standard
- Judgements based on established, uniform criteria
- Where needed, setting conditions for quality improvement.

National Review

- Evaluating a suite of programmes in terms of their meeting a threshold qualification standard
- Assessing institutional resource capacity to meet the standard
- Confirming programme quality in terms of established accreditation criteria
- Identifying above-threshold practice and areas in need of improvement
- Producing an evaluative report on the national state of the qualification and the programmes leading to the award.

Qualification standards and National reviews



Standards and National Review: current status

Standards

- Framework
- Pilot phase (5 qualifications)
- Public comment
- One selected for national review
- Roll-out (in association with national review plan, and other identified needs)

Standards and National Review: current status

National Review

- Framework (under revision)
- Field of study/qualification selected for review
- Process soon to unfold
- Evaluation: the national state of a qualification; analysis of quality and capacity
- Medium-term schedule for national reviews