

Recommendations Following the LTA Accreditation Project

(2021-2024)

for NA Accreditation Working Groups

Based on a detailed analysis of the activities, outcomes, and needs of the Long Term Activity (LTA) NA partnership on accreditation, the following recommendations aim to enhance support for NA transnational partnership (LTA) cooperation and the three main target groups of Accreditation:

- Newcomers to Accreditation
- Accreditation Experts and
- Accredited Project Organisers

Recommendations for Partnership Cooperation and Coordination

Standardisation of Practices: Work towards standardising accreditation practices across countries by developing comprehensive, easily accessible guidelines for all NAs to ensure consistency in accreditation assessments.

Tailored Support Mechanisms: Create mentorship programmes or peer learning networks for NAs new to accreditation, offering customised guidance that fits specific needs.

Regular Review of Practices: Update accreditation assessment practices regularly, based on feedback from participants and insights gained through partnerships, to improve effectiveness.

Tools for Financial Management and Evaluation: Develop and share detailed resources for financial management and impact evaluation, addressing the specific needs identified by beneficiaries to enhance accreditation quality.

Feedback Channels: Serve as a vital feedback channel between TCA and LTA officers and accreditation stakeholders to ensure the effective communication and application of insights and recommendations.

Recommendations for Newcomers to Accreditation

Regular Dialogues: Foster regular discussions between accreditation experts, NA staff, and the European Commission to continuously refine assessment criteria and processes.

Improvement of Tools: Ensure application and monitoring tools are user-friendly and efficient. These tools should be tested in advance, involving accreditation experts and beneficiaries.

Training Materials: Develop and disseminate sector-specific training materials and workshops tailored to different educational institutions.

Collaboration with TCA Colleagues: Collaborate with TCA initiatives to create and share training materials, ensuring direct feedback from applicants is integrated into the decision-making process.

Development of Online Resources: Explore opportunities to create standard accreditation MOOCs, online training videos, and webinars in collaboration with NAs, EC, and TCA colleagues to enhance accessibility and engagement.

Recommendations for Accreditation Experts

Regular Peer Exchanges: Build on LTA training seminars by organising both online and face-to-face peer exchange sessions, including structured networking activities to foster a community of practice among national experts.

Knowledge Management and Coordination: Take responsibility for annual surveys capturing NA practices in training experts and producing recommendations based on the feedback. Involve more NAs to encourage knowledge-sharing and learning.

Dissemination of Best Practices: Facilitate sharing of best practices and seminar outcomes through collaboration with TCA colleagues to ensure a unified approach across the NA network.

Networking Opportunities: Promote networking opportunities among experts across countries to share best practices and enhance the consistency and quality of assessments.

Training for NA Staff and Experts: Provide guidance to ensure quality in assessments, budget management, and reporting while maintaining simplified processes for applicants.

Monitoring and Reporting Tools: Share tools for monitoring mobility quality, budget management, and programme outcomes within the accreditation system to maintain high standards.

Online Knowledge Sharing: Consider creating webinars, an online forum, or a community space for assessors to exchange knowledge, independent of national training programmes. This could include maintaining a repository of case studies and best practices for national training and expert reference.

Recommendations for Accredited Project Organisers

Close Liaison with the European Commission: Work closely with the European Commission to provide clear and timely guidance on Accreditation processes and requirements.

Comprehensive Resources for Organisers: Develop guides addressing common challenges for project organisers, such as needs analysis, setting SMART goals, and managing project coordination.

Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation: Regularly monitor and evaluate support activities to ensure the Accreditation process remains effective and continuously improves.

These recommendations highlight the need for standardisation, better training and resources, and stronger collaboration across NAs to improve accreditation processes and outcomes for all participants.