SETARA:
Malaysian Experience with Rating

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Director, Institutional Development Division,
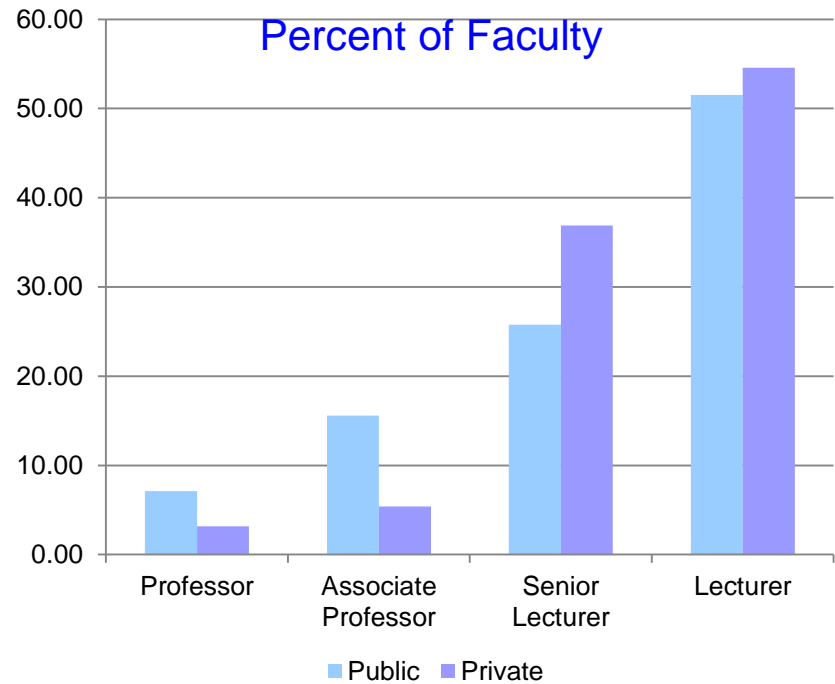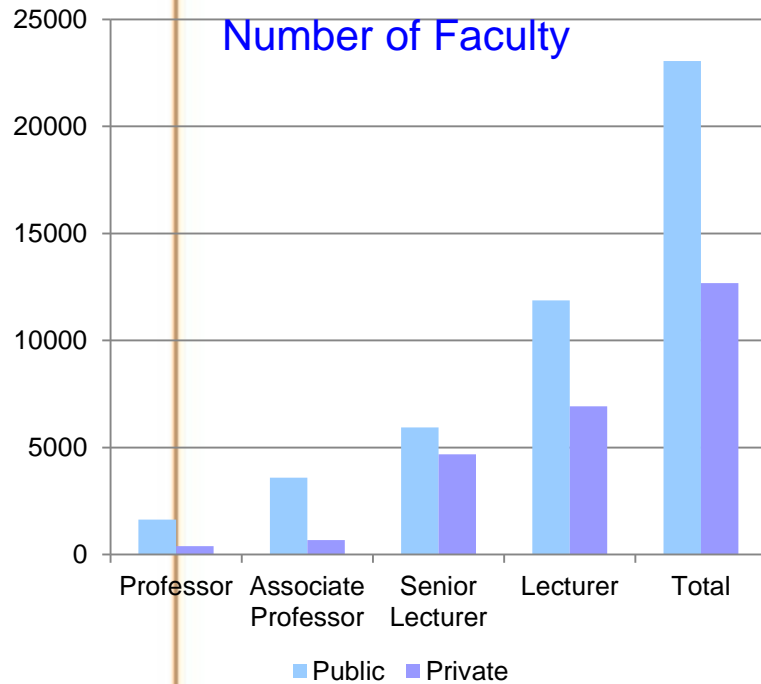UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA
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AGENDA

➤ Introductory Remarks

    ❑ Malaysia – Socio-Economic Profiles

    ❑ Current Higher Education Scenario

➤ Rating Exercise & Instruments Currently in Use

➤ SETARA – An Instrument to Assess Quality of Learning & Teaching

➤ Lesson learnt from SETARA exercise

Higher Education Landscape

PUBLIC INSTITUTION	No. of HEIs	Enrolment	Graduates
University	20	508,526	104,291
Polytechnics	30	89,292	33,310
Community Colleges	70	6,319	6,624
PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS			
University	24	202,714	29,319
University-Colleges	23	40,651	1,269
Branch Campuses of Foreign Universities	4	8,107	1,353
Colleges	500	177,501	22,456

Source: Ministry of Higher Education: Malaysian Higher Education Statistics 2011

Faculty Strength

Malaysian Rating Systems

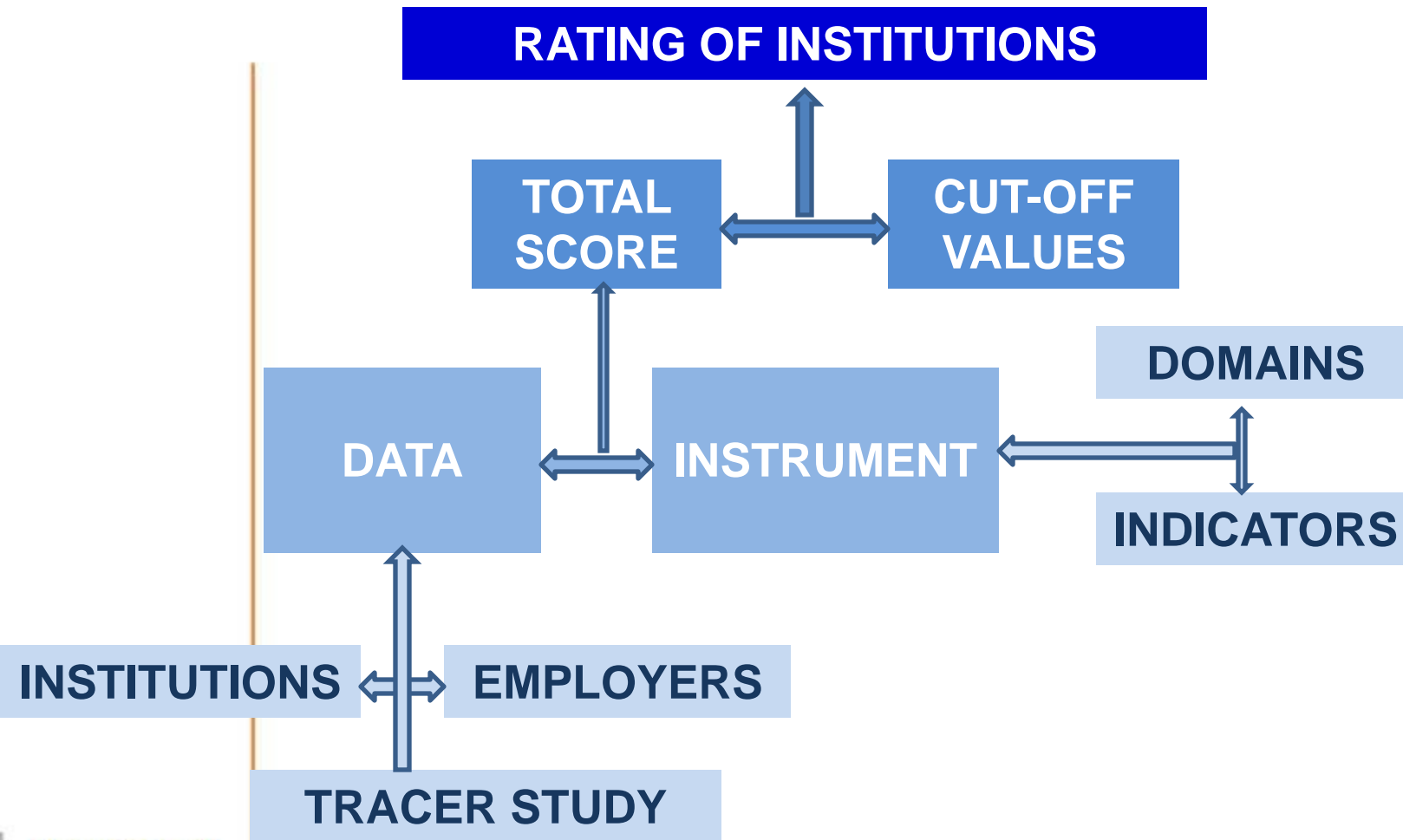| NO	SYSTEM	YEAR	PRIMARY OBJECTIVE	SYSTEM'S OWNER
1	MyRA	2006	Assess the Research Capacity of Institutions - University and University Colleges	Bahagian Pembangunan Kecemerlangan Institusi, MoHE
2	HiCOE	2010	Assess the Research Excellence of Units within HEI	
3	Top Business School	2012	Assess the Quality of Teaching & Learning of Business Schools	
7	MyQuest	2011	Assess the Quality of Teaching and Learning of Colleges	Bahagian Pengajian Swasta, MoHE
4	POLYRATE	2011	Assess the Quality of Teaching and Learning of Polytechnics offering TVET Diploma	Polytechnic Division of MoHE
5	SETARA	2006	Assess the Quality of Teaching and Learning of University and University Colleges	Malaysian Qualification Agency (MQA)
6	D-SETARA	2012	Assess the Quality of Teaching and Learning of Units in University and University Colleges offering specific disciplines: 1. Hospitality and Tourism 2. Engineering 3. Health Sciences 4. Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy	

Features of Rating Systems

- Features
  - Rating
  - Government or its Agencies' Initiative
  - Verified Data
  - Coverage:
    - Specific – subject matter; type of HEIs

Overview of SETARA

- **Objectives**
- **Principles**
- **Instrument Development**
  - **Guiding Framework of Instrument**
  - **Stakeholders' Buy-in**
  - **International Comparison – Literature & ASEAN Benchmarks**
  - **Scoring System – Benchmarks**
- **Data Entry & Collection**
- **Verification – Processes & Data**
- **Dealing with missing data**
- **Analysis and Categorization**

The SETARA Framework

RATING OF INSTITUTIONS

TOTAL SCORE ⟷ **CUT-OFF VALUES**

DATA ⟷ **INSTRUMENT** ⟵ **DOMAINS**

INDICATORS

INSTITUTIONS ⟷ **EMPLOYERS**

TRACER STUDY

Principles used in Developing the SETARA Instrument

- **Validity and Reliability:** Data used must be valid and reliable
- **Relevant and comparable** : internationally and locally (previous SETARA)
- **Parsimony**: minimal indicators to avoid data fatigue;
- **Data reuse**: use of readily available databases (when appropriate, e.g. MyMOHES, Tracer Study, COPIA)
- **Scoring System**: Be readily incorporated into the other rating scoring system
- **Verifiability**: Be subject to verification in terms of methods and data (Independent Verification Committee)
- **Normalization & Equalization**: For missing data

Generic Framework

INPUT

Talent

- Faculty
- Student

Resources

- Physical
- Non-physical

Governance

- Autonomy (conducive institutional climate)

PROCESS

- Curriculum Design
- Delivery/Pedagogy
- Assessment
- Accreditation
- Monitoring
- Ancillary activities (Counseling, Internship/Outreach, Exchange program)

OUTPUT

- Employability
- Graduate Satisfaction
- Employers' Satisfaction
- Generic Student Attributes

Instrument

hierarchy