The Roadmap to a Regional Quality Framework for the Islamic world

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THE BEGINNING

The first verse of the Quran revealed to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was

"Iqra"

Read in the name of the Lord who creates

That was the beginning of the quest for knowledge that emphasized the importance of learning in human life

In Islam "The quest for knowledge and science is obligatory upon every Muslim man and woman."

ISLAMIC WORLD IN FIGURES

The Islamic world consist of:

- **22%** of the world population
- They have **70%** of energy resources, and **40%** of natural resources
- Their contribution towards world income is only **8%**
- **39%** of the Islamic countries population live below the poverty level
- 22 of the 50 least developed countries in the world are OIC Member States.

CHALLENGES FACING HE IN ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

Huge enrollment numbers of students	**Low quality of education due to the inflation of student number and limited number of available staff members**	**Low quality and quantity of scientific research**	**Small number of researchers – 450 per million population compared to 2200 – 4500 per million**
Lack of scientific research activities and its impact on sustainable development	**Low awareness of the importance and impact of good scientific research**	**Brain drain**	**Inadequate networking between countries**
limited international collaborative efforts	**Inadequate networking opportunities**	**Need for Qualification Framework to network all regions**	**Capacity building**

NEED FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Expansion of HE in the Islamic Countries

Increasing Demand for Higher Education

Competitive Environment at the National/International Level

Increase demand for Private Providers of Higher Education

Distance Education

Increasing Diversity in Programs Offered

Recognition of Qualifications in Other Countries

Need for Transparency and Accountability

QA IN USA

- US Department of Education <u>recognizes accrediting organizations only,</u> for the purpose of allocating **federal funding**
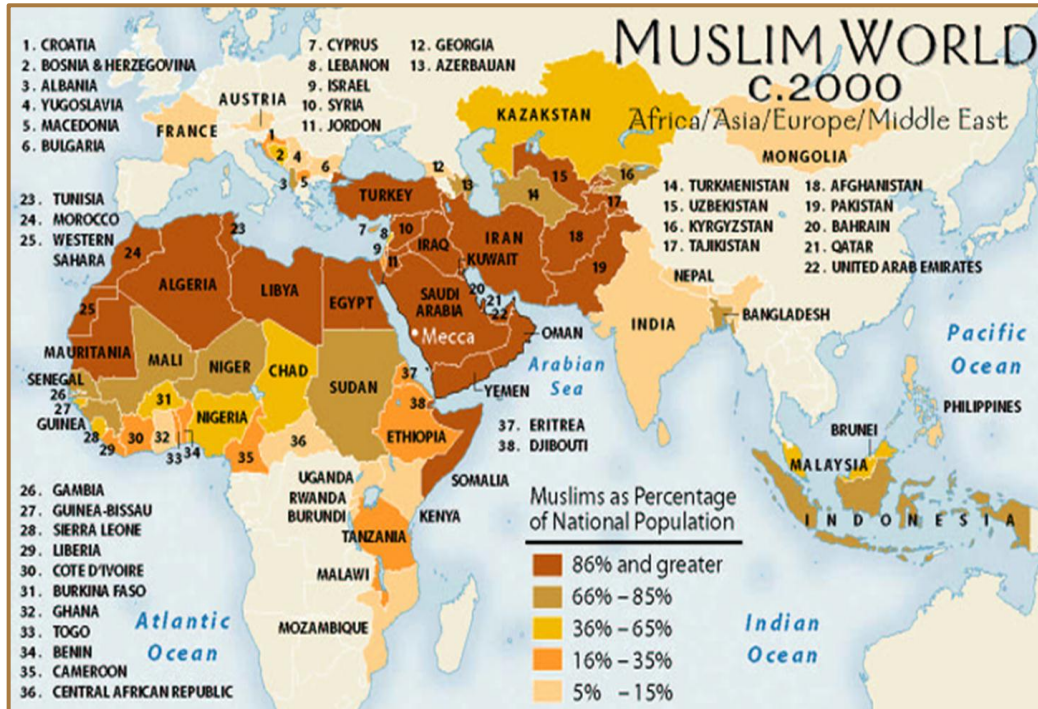
- CHEA, Council for Higher Education Accreditation has approximately 3000 academic institutions as members and **recognizes 60 major accrediting organizations**.

QA IN EUROPE

- As a consequence of the **Bologna process** now covers **EHEA** includes 47 countries.

- Establishment of The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (**ENQA**) to promote cooperation in the QA field.

QA IN ISLAMIC WORLD

- Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (**FUIW**) established in 1987.

- Arab Network for QA in Higher Education (**ANQAHE**), initiated in 2004 and activated in 2007.

- Islamic Body for Quality and Accreditation (**IBQA**) initiated during the 4th General Conference of the FUIW in 2007.

- Experts meeting in collaboration with Organization of the Islamic Countries (OIC) in Kuala Lumpur to initiate **AQAAIW** in 2010 and formed in 2011.