EADI

European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes

Association Européenne des Instituts de Recherche et de Formation en Matière de Développement

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Bonn, 03. November 2016

Dear Ms Moulin,

Please find attached the signed copy of the agreement EADI/IAC-NVAO. We are looking forward to the cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Susanne von Itter
Executive Director

![nvao logo - nederlands - vlaamse accreditatieorganisatie]

![IAC / EADI accredited stamp]

EADI/IAC & NVAO (NL)

Agreement

date
October 10th, 2016

Introduction
This agreement between EADI/IAC and NVAO has been collaboratively developed by both organisations. The goal of this agreement is to increase the efficiency and reduce the administrative burden and costs for institutions in the accreditation process. It only applies to the Dutch institutions and programmes that opt for a joint EADI/IAC-NVAO process to receive accreditation from both organisations.

It is important to notice that no formal responsibilities will change because of this cooperation. All responsibilities of the parties involved (EADI/IAC, NVAO, institutions) will remain the same. This agreement sets out the alignment in the procedures to ensure an efficient process when applying for double accreditation.

An institution requesting a joint process must inform both EADI/IAC and NVAO in due time, i.e. when making a request to the EADI/IAC Accreditation Council.

1. Joint Site Visit Team & joint visit
The EADI/IAC Peer Review Team (PRT) consists of experts from EADI/IAC's peer reviewers and experts database or experts with equivalent experience. These experts will most likely meet the criteria that NVAO has set out for the committee members[1]. Both EADI/IAC and NVAO require that a student is part of the PRT. Therefore, composing a joint PRT that meets the requirements of both EADI/IAC and NVAO should be possible.

The Chair of the PRT is appointed by the institution and must be acquainted with the NVAO standards. His/her role will be:
- to guide the PRT on performance according to NVAO standards;
- to ask questions in order to judge the programme's alignment with NVAO standards;
- to prepare answers to NVAO's questions after the visit. These answers will need to be endorsed by the PRT.

Both EADI/IAC and NVAO require that a trained secretary is added to the PRT. In the context of the joint accreditation, one secretary will represent NVAO and an additional secretary will represent IAC/EADI and guarantee that the EADI/IAC standards are adequately covered in the review. To the extent possible, one secretary may also represent both organisations.

All PRT members will receive a briefing on EADI/IAC's and NVAO's assessment frameworks before the visit occurs.

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[1] An NVAO committee consists of members with discipline-specific expertise, practical expertise in the related professional field(s), international expertise, audit expertise, educational expertise and student-related expertise.

The institution submits a proposal for the composition of a PRT to both EADI/IAC and NVAO. Both organisations assess the members based on their procedures, looking at the different expertise as well as the independence of each member. Any doubts or comments on its part regarding the PRT must first be clarified. If need be, the composition will have to be modified. The NVAO and EADI/IAC will judge the PRT composition within four weeks.

The joint visit will be planned according to the guidelines set by both EADI/IAC and NVAO. The institution, in consultation with EADI/IAC and NVAO, decides on the length of the visit. The accreditation process shall take place in English.

2. Self-evaluation report
The self-evaluation report is a concise document that provides information and addresses all standards from both assessment frameworks. The PRT should be able to easily identify the standards from both frameworks, for instance by means of a list that indicates where relevant information to judge (sub)standards can be found.

3. Assessment frameworks
Both EADI/IAC and NVAO accredit at programme level and the contents of the two frameworks are to a very large extent overlapping. The main difference between the accreditation frameworks is the level of detail: the EADI/IAC framework is specifically focused on the inter- and multidisciplinary field of development studies.

The NVAO limited and extensive programme assessment frameworks cover the EADI/IAC criteria on intended learning outcomes, curriculum and assessment to a large extent. Therefore, programmes opting for a joint assessment may use NVAO framework (limited or extended) as a basis for the accreditation process. In addition, the following specifications should be addressed in order to comply with the EADI/IAC criteria (see annex):
- Standard 1 Intended learning outcomes: the international perspective of the requirements according to professional field and discipline will be specified according to items (a)- (h) on development studies and the questions 1-3 on inter- and multidisciplinarity of the EADI/IAC criteria.
- Standard 2 Teaching-learning environment: with respect to content and design the first three reference points of the EADI/IAC criteria concerning development studies as a case-oriented, issue-oriented and policy-oriented field will serve as additional specifications. With respect to incoming students the same goes for items 3-6 of the prerequisites, admission criteria and background of students. Regarding staff: items 2 and 4-6 concerning faculty of the EADI/IAC criteria will serve as additional specifications.

4. Distinctive feature (optional)
For the allotment of a distinctive feature, the relevant framework used by the NVAO needs to be applied for assessment. This means that the PRT has to comply with the guidelines set for the procedure, and has to assess and judge the standards from the relevant framework.

5. Peer Review Report

The Peer Review Report is the outcome of the work of the PRT. The report should enable both accreditation organisations to make an accreditation decision substantiated with evidence from the review. Both organisations accept a joint report, as long as all standards from both frameworks are addressed and it is clearly indicated which sections address specific (EADI/IAC) standards.

The NVAO assessment framework prescribes the need for a differentiated judgment per standard and programme (unsatisfactory, satisfactory, good or excellent). In order for NVAO to make a decision, the PRT needs to state its advisory judgements per standard and programme in the report.[2] In addition, a substantive summary of the report needs to be added to the report.

The draft report is sent to the institution. The institution is given a term of two weeks to respond to any factual inaccuracies in the report, whereupon the chair of the PRT endorses the report after all PRT members have approved its contents. Subsequently, the PRT submits its final report and recommendations to the EADI/IAC and NVAO.

The report will be published on the NVAO and the EADI/IAC websites for any stakeholder to access and read.

6. Duration of accreditation
Accreditation emanating from a joint EADI/IAC-NVAO process is granted for six years.

7. Separate decision processes
The EADI/IAC and the NVAO board will both make their own decisions and decide on the possible follow-up, based on the Peer Review Report and the assessment frameworks applicable for their respective organisations. The EAD/IAC will conform to the NVAO time schedule.

This collaboration agreement between EADI/IAC and NVAO ensures institutions an efficient and effective procedure for acquiring double accreditation. NVAO strives for as much reduction of the administrative burden of accreditation processes as possible and therefore strives, when possible, to combine all accreditation processes an institution is involved in.

The Hague, October 10th, 2016

On behalf of IAC/EADI   On behalf of EADI   On behalf of NVAO

Leo de Haan   Susanne von Itter   Paul Zevenbergen
Chair   Executive Secretary   Member of the Board
IAC/EADI   EADI   NVAO

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[2] This is not the case for the EADI/IAC criteria. The PRT's task is to provide relevant information to the EADI/IAC Accreditation Council.