




Australian Government

Department of Education

Promoting internationalisation in education

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What are the benefits of internationalisation?

Cultural Exchange and Understanding

Fosters cultural exchange and understanding and develops global citizenship in an increasingly interconnected world.

Enhanced Academic Quality

Collaboration with international institutions and exposure to different educational approaches enhances academic quality, encouraging the adoption of best practices, innovative teaching methods, and cutting-edge research -> ultimately raising educational standards.

Global Competitiveness

Internationalisation boosts the global competitiveness of a country's education system by attracting international students, researchers, and faculty.

Economic Benefits

Hosting international students and researchers contributes to the economy through tuition fees, spending on accommodation and living expenses, and other related expenditures.

Cross-Cultural Skills and Networks

International exposure equips students with cross-cultural skills, language proficiency, and global networks that are valuable in today's interconnected job market. These experiences enhance employability, broaden career opportunities, and prepare individuals to thrive in diverse professional environments.

What is required?

Whole-of-government
agreement and
support for a new
vision for education

A systematic step-by-
step approach to
education reform

Support from local
education institutions

Support from local
business and the
wider community
(including parents)



Qualifications Recognition best practice

International Mobility

- Ensures individuals with recognised qualifications can easily work and study abroad, facilitating international mobility and contributing to a skilled global workforce
- Returning individuals can use their overseas qualifications to contribute to the economy.

Economic Growth

- Supports economic growth by attracting skilled workers and professionals from other countries, fosters innovation and enhances competitiveness in the global market.
- Supports the growth of international education by attracting international graduates wishing to further their educational journey.

Consistency and Fairness

- Ensures consistent standards for evaluating qualifications, maintaining quality assurance in education and training systems, and safeguards against fraudulent credentials.

Social Inclusion

- Promotes social inclusion by enabling individuals with foreign qualifications to integrate into the labour market, contributing to diverse and inclusive workplaces.

Accessibility

- Enhances access to education by recognising qualifications obtained through different pathways, including alternative learning experiences, thereby promoting lifelong learning and professional development.

National Qualifications Framework

Promoting Lifelong Learning

NQFs provide a transparent structure for recognising and accrediting learning outcomes, regardless of where or how they were acquired. This promotes lifelong learning by allowing individuals to easily understand how to progress through different levels of education and training, fostering continuous skill development and career advancement.

Facilitates International Recognition and Understanding

A well-defined NQF enhances understanding and the international recognition of a country's qualifications, making it easier for individuals to pursue further education or employment opportunities abroad.

National Qualifications Frameworks

Improves Education and Workforce Development

By aligning qualifications with the needs of the labour market, NQFs help ensure that education and training programs are relevant and responsive to industry demands. This fosters the development of a skilled workforce, reduces skills mismatches, and strengthens the country's economy by promoting productivity and innovation.

Promotes mobility

NQFs promote two-way student and worker mobility by ensuring that qualifications are comparable and understood across borders, thus facilitating global competitiveness and collaboration.

Quality Assurance and Regulation



Ensuring Academic Standards

Quality assurance processes uphold academic standards by evaluating the quality of education provided by institutions, ensuring they meet predefined benchmarks and criteria.

This ensures that degrees and qualifications obtained from these institutions maintain their integrity and value.



Protecting Students, Consumers and Employers

Regulatory processes help protect students, consumers and employers by ensuring institutions adhere to ethical practices, provide accurate information about programs and services, maintain financial stability and deliver high quality education and training.

This safeguards students from exploitation and ensures they receive the education they pay for.



Enhancing Reputation and Trust

Implementing robust quality assurance and regulatory processes enhances the reputation and trustworthiness of the country's higher education system both domestically and internationally.

This fosters confidence among students, employers, and other stakeholders in the credibility and reliability of qualifications awarded by institutions within the country.

What is required to support the introduction of innovative models of education delivery?

Regulatory Flexibility

- Regulations and guidelines that allow for flexibility in accreditation, licensing, and quality assurance processes to accommodate innovative Transnational Education (TNE) and online education models while maintaining academic standards and ensuring student outcomes.

Quality Assurance Mechanisms

- Clear guidelines and standards for assessing the quality of TNE and online education programs, including criteria for curriculum design, faculty qualifications, student support services, assessment methods, and learning outcomes assessment.

Joined-up approach

- Different government departments and agencies must be able to work together to create a conducive regulatory environment for TNE and online education development and delivery, minimising bureaucratic barriers and ensuring consistency in enforcement and oversight.

Collaboration Frameworks

- Collaboration between domestic and foreign educational institutions, industry partners, government agencies, and relevant stakeholders to foster innovation, share best practices, and enhance the quality and relevance of TNE and online education offerings.

Digital Infrastructure

- Establish guidelines to ensure robust digital infrastructure, including reliable internet access, secure online platforms, and technological support, to facilitate the development and delivery of innovative TNE and online education models.

Regulations, guidance and incentives to facilitate partnerships with foreign education institutions



Regulatory Clarity

- Provide clear and transparent guidelines on the establishment processes, accreditation requirements, licensing procedures, and operational regulations to facilitate the entry of foreign universities.



Partnership Opportunities

- Foster collaboration between foreign universities and local educational institutions, government agencies, industry partners, and community organisations to create synergies, share resources, and enhance the educational experience and research capabilities offered by overseas universities.



Incentives

- Whilst foreign universities won't necessarily expect financial incentives, they may require incentives related to streamlined approval processes, and support to identify suitable land or buildings to support the establishment and operation of offshore branch campuses.



Talent Acquisition

- Support to facilitate the recruitment of qualified faculty, staff, and administrators by offering streamlined visa processes, residency permits, and support services to attract international talent and expertise to the offshore campuses.

A framework for international research cooperation



Funding Mechanisms

Establish guidelines and mechanisms to support international research collaboration with clear objectives, potential for mutual benefit, and sustainable impacts.

Policy Alignment

Ensure alignment of national research policies, regulations, and frameworks with international standards and best practices, including with regards to intellectual property rights, ethical guidelines, data sharing protocols, and research governance frameworks.



Capacity Building

Implement initiatives to strengthen research capabilities and infrastructure, including, knowledge exchange, skill development, and mentorship opportunities.



A whole-of-government approach

Coordinated Efforts

- A whole-of-government approach ensures that government agencies work together seamlessly to streamline processes, eliminate bureaucratic hurdles, and provide a cohesive strategy for attracting foreign universities.

Comprehensive Policy Development

- Involvement from multiple government departments allows for comprehensive policy development that considers various aspects such as immigration, education, trade, investment, and economic development to create favourable conditions for foreign universities.

Addressing Complex Challenges

- Attracting foreign universities involves addressing complex challenges such as legal frameworks, accreditation, visa regulations, infrastructure development, and cultural integration, which require expertise and collaboration across different government sectors.

Enhancing Competitiveness

- Collaboration among government agencies enhances the country's competitiveness in the global education market by offering a unified and attractive proposition to foreign universities, showcasing the country as a favorable destination for higher education investment.

Why is all this needed?

Legal Framework

- Clear guidelines and regulations provide a legal framework that ensures foreign universities understand their rights, obligations, and limitations within the host country's educational system.


Confidence

- Well-defined regulations instil investor confidence by offering predictability and stability, reducing uncertainty and risk for foreign universities considering establishing a presence in outside of their home country.

Transparency

- Clear guidelines promote transparency in the establishment process, helping foreign universities navigate bureaucratic procedures, understand investment requirements, and anticipate any potential challenges or restrictions.

Quality Assurance

- Regulations help maintain standards of education, ensuring that foreign universities meet certain benchmarks in terms of curriculum, faculty qualifications, facilities, and student support services.
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Questions?



Thank you

