



*Strengthening cross-border
cooperation in the quality assurance
of TNE*

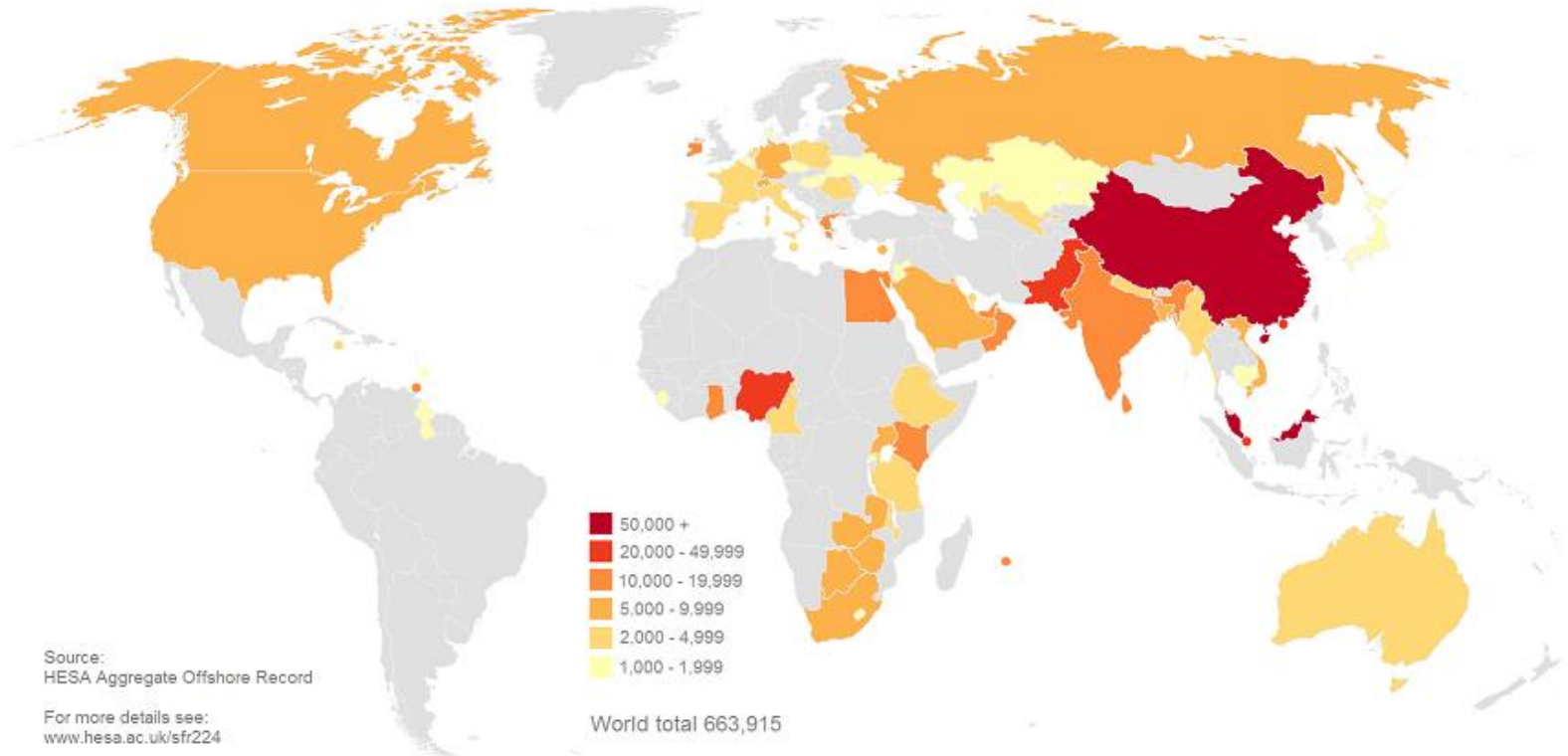
Dr. Fabrizio Trifiro', Deputy Head International, QAA

Bridging the gap: Research and Practice in Transnational
Education

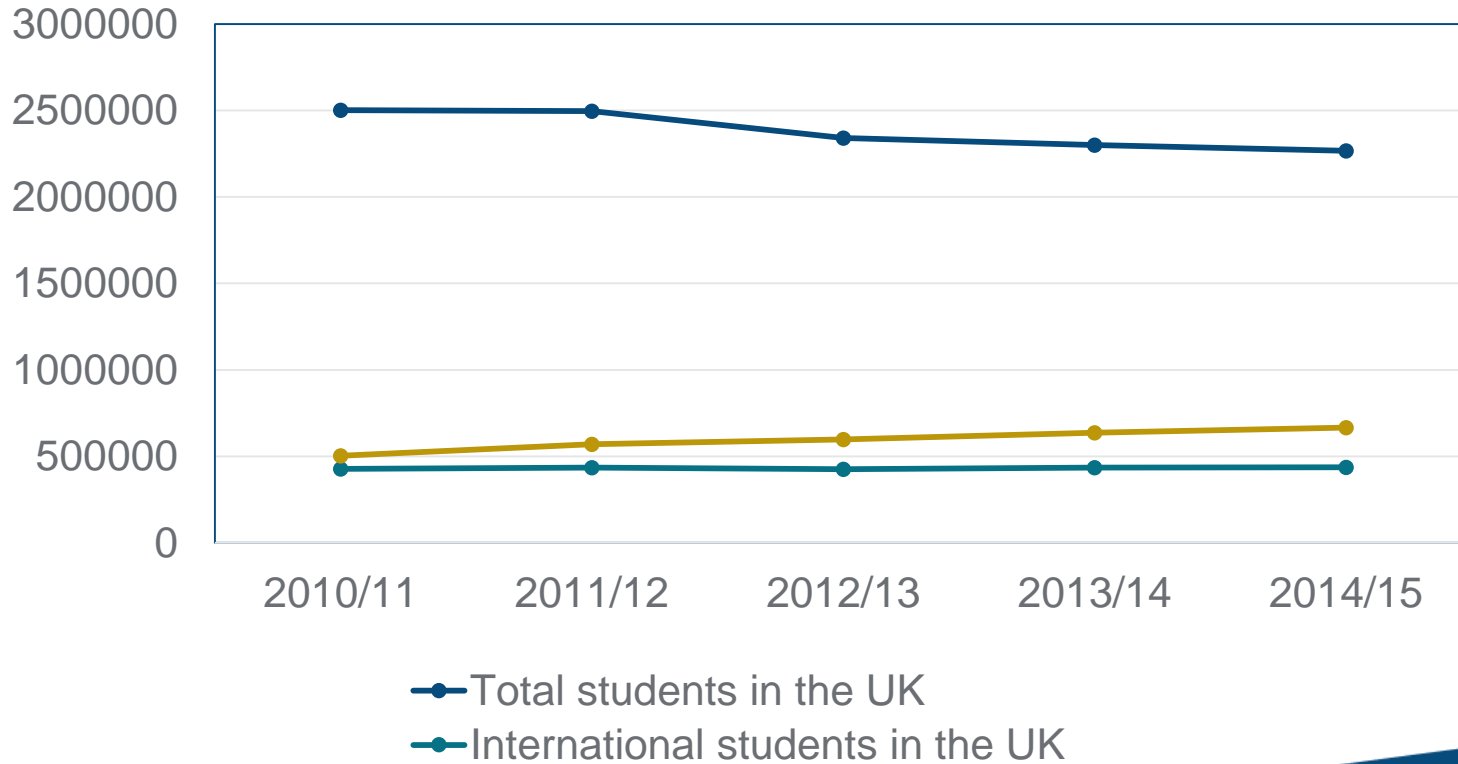
10 June 2016, Nottingham Trent University

Over 80% of UK HEIs are involved in some form of TNE, delivered all over the world

Transnational students studying wholly overseas for a UK HE qualification in 2014/15



TNE is the main area of growth



QAA has always reviewed UK TNE

Mission: to safeguard standards and improve the quality of UK HE **wherever** it is delivered

- ✓ We develop reference points setting out expectations for UK HE providers
- ✓ We undertake institutional peer-reviews to check HE providers meet those expectations

The quality assurance of TNE

Institutional review processes in the UK are comprehensive

A dedicated TNE review process supplements UK reviews

A country-based approach

India (09), Malaysia (10), Singapore (11), China (12), UAE (13),
Caribbean (14), Greece/Cyprus (15)...16/17 Hong Kong & Ireland?

A partnership approach

Liaise with counterpart agencies to facilitate the review of TNE, e.g.
information sharing and coordination of QA activities

Consultation on strengthening the quality assurance of TNE – final report

Developing a Strategic and Coordinated Approach to the External Quality Assurance and Enhancement of UK Transnational Education (QAA 2015)

- Strengthen links between TNE review and domestic institutional reviews
- Strengthen cooperation with counterpart agencies in key UK TNE host countries

The QACHE project (2013-15)

- Funded by the European Commission
- Undertaken by a project consortium led by ENQA:
 - ❑ ANECA (Spain), GAC (Germany), HCERES (France), QAA (UK), TEQSA (Australia)
 - ❑ APQN and ANQAHE
- Main aim: Enhance international practice in the QA of TNE / CBHE
- Main output: A Toolkit for QAAs to enhance inter-agency cooperation in the QA of TNE / CBHE

The Toolkit



Offers practical guidance on:

(1) *Information sharing*: how QAAs can improve the sharing of information on TNE

(2) *Cooperation in quality assurance*: how QAAs can enhance cooperation in its quality assurance

(3) *Networks of agencies*: how networks of QAAs can facilitate information sharing and cooperation

INQAAHE / QAA project on the challenges to inter-agency cooperation

Trust building is critical, but takes times & resources

- Adopt a strategic approach and long term commitment to partnership building

Engage with all key stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the QACHE Toolkit

- with governments to enable policy/legislative change
- with institutions to identify areas of synergy and cooperation
- with students to understand their expectations for TNE

Current engagement initiatives

- Regular communication with MoU partners – VCs and networks
- *Quality Beyond Borders Group* – informal group of agencies aimed at facilitating information sharing (KHDA led)
- Joint guidance on top-up arrangements (CPE, HKCAAVQ, MQA)
- *Beijing statement*: enhancing sector-to-sector cooperation in the QA of TNE (British Council, QAA, IU / MoE, CEAIE, CDGDC)
 - Cooperation with CEAIE in screening new applications for UK-China partnerships
 - Can QAA/CDGDC lead by example the new ASEM-ME's initiative, CBQAN (CDGDC led)?
 - 20 June sector briefing on China regulatory context for TNE (BC)

Forthcoming engagement initiatives

- TNE Hong Kong: exploring joint-review activity leading to recognition of HKCAAVQ accreditation decisions + reciprocal sector briefings ?
- TNE Malta - resuming planned joint-review activity ?
- Can we rely on information collected by CPE on UK DAB's oversight of local TNE?
- Exploring with a larger number of countries the possibility to recognise their QA decisions of hosted UK TNE

Thank you

f.trifiro@qaa.ac.uk



qaa.ac.uk



enquiries@qaa.ac.uk



+44 (0) 1452 557000

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