

QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORTING EFA

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INTRODUCTION

- **EFA and Higher Education**
 - **Research**
 - **Teacher Training**
 - **Admission**
- **Positioning HEI to engage with EFA**
- **Managing the Quality Imperative**



EFFECTS OF EXPANSION

- High enrolment in HEI
- Evidence from Ghana:

YEAR	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	TOTAL
2005/6	83,788	9,497	93,285
2013/14	227,189	65,890	293,079

EFFECTS OF EXPANSION

- **Static and overburdened infrastructure**
- **Low recruitment of qualified academic staff**
- **Overstretched facilities and resources**
- **And low investment in higher education**
- **Compromised quality**
- **Sub-standard institutions**
- **The profit motive in the private sector**



CONTAINING THE EXPANSION

- **Expanding infrastructure**
- **Increasing enrolment in existing institutions**
- **Establishing more public institutions**
- **Private involvement**
- **Open and Distance Learning options**



CONTAINING THE EXPANSION

Increasing HEI

- Universities/Institutes $16+59=75$
- Polytechnics 10
- Colleges of Education $36+8=42$
- Nursing Colleges $21+5=26$
- Total 153 and increasing

MANAGING QUALITY IN HIGHER ED

- ***Quality***, in the context of this report, refers to “fitness for purpose” meeting or conforming to generally accepted standards as defined by an institution, quality assurance bodies and appropriate academic and professional communities. (Materu 2007:3)



ACADEMIC STANDARDS

- **Academic standards are a way of describing the level of achievement that a student has to reach to gain an academic award (for example, a degree).**

University of Aberdeen (2010)



ACADEMIC QUALITY

Academic quality is a way of describing how well the learning opportunities available to students help them to achieve their award. It is about making sure that appropriate and effective teaching, support, assessment and learning opportunities are provided for them.

University of Aberdeen (2010)



BEDROCK OF QA IN HE

- **Rules and Regulations**
- **Policies**
- **Procedures**
- **Enforcement and Compliance**
- **Monitoring**



QUALITY IN HEI

- **Program content**
- **Qualified staff**
- **Resources for teaching and learning**
- **Support for student learning efforts**
- **Infrastructure**



QUALITY IN HEI

- **Assessment of students**
- **Evaluation by students**
- **Input from industry**



MECHANISM—EXTERNAL

- **National and Regional QA Bodies**
- **Accreditation Process**
- **Accreditation by Professional Entities**



MECHANISM—INTERNAL

- **Periodic Review Process**
- **Consultations with students**
- **The Internal Quality Assurance Unit**



QA OUTSOURCING

- **With the increasing roll out of quality assurance units in HEI we should be careful not to inadvertently outsource the responsibility for ensuring quality to such IQAU.**
- **Ensuring quality in higher education should be the responsibility of all who deliver education directly or indirectly in the institution.**

QA IN DISTANCE EDUCATION

- **In Ghana DE started over ten years ago.**
- **Still expanding.**
- **Framework for QA still being worked on.**



SUMMARY

- **One effect of EFA is the increasing desire for higher education.**
- **HE will keep expanding.**



QUESTIONS

- **How do we ensure quality higher education in the face of massification?**
- **What should be the link between the outcome of QA processes and the public funding of education?**

