

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Australia	
National Qualifications Framework	Yes. The National Qualifications Framework includes higher education qualifications including but not limited to Bachelor, Masters and Doctoral degrees
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) - The AQF Advisory Board (AQFAB) operates as a high-level cross-sectoral forum. Membership of the Board reflects the range of stakeholders with an Independent Chairperson. The Board was established by the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs to protect the AQF qualifications guidelines and to promote and monitor national implementation of the AQF. In early 2008, the Board will be replaced by an AQF Council, which will perform a similar function.</p> <p>Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) - Works at policy level which includes State/Territories</p>
Contact details	<p>Ms Margaret Proctor Director, Education & Professional Recognition Unit Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), Education and Professional Recognition Unit also known as the Australian Education International - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) GPO Box 9880, Canberra City ACT 2601</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>China - Arrangement on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications</p> <p>Nature of relationship: The Arrangement aims to facilitate the recognition of higher education degrees and qualifications as herein described awarded to students in Australia and China so as to make it easier for students to pursue further academic studies in each other's countries. The Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations of Australia will designate appropriate bodies to provide information on recognition, and to make concrete recommendations in accordance with their current regulations and practices to promote academic exchange and cooperation. The Parties respect the autonomy of higher education institutions in Australia and China as bodies that have the right to make their own decisions about the recognition of overseas qualifications and degrees for the purpose of admission to study programmes.</p>
Multilateral programs	<p>UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (known as the Lisbon Recognition Convention)</p> <p>UNESCO Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific (known as the Bangkok Convention)</p> <p>Nature of relationships: There are six UNESCO Conventions on the recognition of higher education qualifications. Australia has ratified the Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific ('the Bangkok Convention') and the Council of Europe/UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region ('the Lisbon Convention').</p> <p><i>About the Regional Convention:</i> The Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific, was adopted at the International Conference of States, held in Bangkok on 12-16 December 1983. The Convention entered into force on 23 October 1985. The Convention serves as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An important legal instrument for negotiations on recognition with concerned state parties; ▪ An official channel to exchange information on qualifications with universities and governments; and ▪ An official channel to promote student and labour mobility. <p>The signatories are not prevented from laying down strict eligibility conditions for admission into further education, including scholastic, cognitive and linguistic requirements. Admission is also subject to availability of places, and other national government or university policies and procedures, including fees for foreign students.</p>

Australia (continued)	
Multilateral programs (continued)	<p>The Convention only guarantees willingness on the part of the government to promote the recognition of degrees and diplomas, but does not guarantee admission into further education nor does it guarantee employment in the labour market of the host country. The regional convention can be viewed at http://www.unesco.org/education/studyingabroad/tools/conventions_apa_cover.shtml.</p> <p><i>About the Lisbon Convention:</i> Australia ratified the Lisbon Convention in November 2002. The Lisbon Convention, like the Regional Convention, aims to improve the international recognition of higher education qualifications.</p> <p>By ratifying the Lisbon Convention, Australia has committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishing a National Information Centre to disseminate information on its higher education system and higher education qualifications; and ▪ Promoting the use of the Diploma Supplement (http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/GovernmentActivities/GovernmentRelations/InternationalOrganisationsAndProgrammes/UNESCO.htm).
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Yes - AEI-NOOSR compares overseas qualifications to Australian Qualifications using the Australian Qualifications Framework as a basis for comparison. We produce Country Education Profiles which describe other countries' education systems and include assessment guidelines which compare overseas qualifications to Australian qualifications in terms of their educational level. We do qualification comparisons for individual clients and we also give advice to Stakeholders (university admission officers) who need information about the level of a qualification. That said the Universities are not bound to use our information as they are autonomous in terms of their decisions to admit. Our service is also used by employers to gain information about the comparability of a qualification. Our Country Education Profiles are the tool we use to base our decisions.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	<p>Use the relevant Country Education Profile.</p>
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes - The Australian Government's quality assurance system does not rank or classify higher education institutions although institutions require accreditation and the title "university" is protected.</p> <p>There is no single agency responsible for quality assurance in higher education institutions. Quality assurance in Australian higher education is based on a strong partnership between the Australian Government, state and territory governments, an independent Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA), the Australian Qualifications Framework Advisory Board (AQFAB) and the higher education sector. This partnership ensures nationally consistent standards in approval and accreditation, external monitoring and independent quality audit.</p> <p>Purpose: The major purposes of the quality assurance system are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ensure Australian universities operate at an appropriate level of quality ▪ maintain standards ▪ ensure continuous improvement of standards, and to promote public confidence, both domestic and international, in Australian higher education.

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Australia (continued)	
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Australia assesses approximately 500 individuals' qualifications per year. It also responds to over 1000 queries regarding comparability of qualifications from stakeholders.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). This is a unified system of national qualifications in schools, vocational education and training (TAFEs and private providers) and the higher education sector (mainly universities). The AQF lists all providers (recognised/accredited educational institutions) – both private and public and links to all State/Territory sites for RTOs.</p> <p>DEEWR's Australia Country Education Profile, which is free online lists all Australian Higher Education Institutions which are the main providers of courses leading to higher education qualifications.</p> <p>The information is publicly available on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AQF website (http://www.aqf.edu.au/) ▪ The going to uni website (http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/) <p>The AQF website address is: http://www.aqf.edu.au/register.htm</p> <p>The going to uni website address is: http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/CoursesAndProviders/ProvidersAndCourses/HigherEducationProviders/Default.htm</p>

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Brunei Darussalam	
National Qualifications Framework	No. Framework covers primary and secondary levels only. Framework for higher education follows the British system with decisions about how to incorporate qualifications from religious institutions of higher learning yet to be agreed.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC) is the National Accreditation Council. It is the sole national accrediting body in the country responsible for recognition of foreign education qualifications. BDNAC is assisted by 10 special sub-committees in various professional fields. The Ministry of Education is responsible for determining the national system of education.
Contact details	Secretary, Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council (BDNAC) Room B 211, Block B, Level 2, Ministry of Education Building, Brunei Darussalam Phone: +673 2382129 Fax: +673 2381238 Email: Othman@moe.edu.bn
Bilateral programs	Malaysia - Joint Working Group China - Memorandum of Understanding and mutual recognition arrangement - <i>still in the process of drafting</i> ASEAN countries via ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (AFTA) and World Trade Organization (WTO) and General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS) New Zealand, Canada, Pakistan
Multilateral programs	OIC, Commonwealth ASEAN: Enhancing Skills Recognition Agreement; ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Engineering Services Kuala Lumpur (2005); Asia Pacific Quality Network (APEC); Brisbane Communiqué (APEC)
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Yes - mainly for the purposes of employment and further studies and is based on a set of criteria (ie institutional accreditation criteria, program or course accreditation criteria and professional qualification criteria)
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	The BDNAC normally refers to the recognised national accreditation agency of the country for the recognition of institutions and programs/courses in the countries concerned.
Quality assurance system	Yes. BDNAC assumes responsibility as a national quality assurance agency for both government and private institutions. Programs or courses organised by local higher institutions are considered for accreditation based on BDNAC's accreditation criteria. Ranking or classification of overseas higher educational institutions undertaken by independent agencies such as The Times and The Guardian (UK) are considered as references by BDNAC for the purpose of selecting institutions/courses useful for selection of students and government officials to undertake courses under government scholarships or in-service training schemes. Purpose: to encourage quality in all aspects of quality assurance processes including the product of the education program/course. In addition, to ensure the quality of manpower within government employment sector.
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes - local students studying privately at foreign higher education institutions/universities seek accreditation of institution/university and courses well before pursuing their careers. Also, the number of foreign applicants interested in getting employment in the government sector is increasing.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	Yes - compendium consisting of a list of accredited qualifications, courses and institutions. Hard copy available through the BDNAC with a version to be made available via the internet in the future.

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Cook Islands	
National Qualifications Framework	No. Presently the Department of National Human Resource Development in the Cook Islands is only responsible for monitoring and maintaining the quality of educational institutions and qualifications.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) evaluates overseas qualifications Whitireia Community Polytechnic institution recognises previously gained skills and knowledge through a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process or Recognition of Current Competency (RCC). Unitec Institute of Technology through RPL process
Contact details	Mrs Awhina Creswell Quality Assurance and Accreditation Co-ordinator Department of National Human Resource Development (NATHRD) for the Association of Cook Islands Tertiary Institute PO Box 650, Avarua Cook Islands Phone: +0068221467 Fax: +0068221468 Email: awhina@nathrd.gov.ck
Bilateral programs	New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA)
Multilateral programs	None
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Yes. Based on recognition and accreditation through the NZQA and other national standards setting bodies.
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No process in place
Quality assurance system	Yes. The Association of the Cook Islands Tertiary Institute is responsible for quality assurance using a classification system. Purpose: to provide a framework for quality training
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	No
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	No listing available

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India	
National Qualifications Framework	No.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>Association of Indian Universities (AIU) is responsible for the recognition of foreign higher education qualifications.</p> <p>University Grants Commission is primarily responsible for monitoring the quality of educational institutions and qualification. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous body of the University Grants Commission, which assess and accredit institutions and the Accreditation outcome can be used effectively for monitoring the quality of educational institutions.</p> <p>AIU and UGC develop policies for higher education system in India, monitor and maintain standards of higher education, and give information on equivalence of degree and diploma.</p>
Contact details	<p>Prof. V S Prasad Director National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) PB. No. 1075, Opp NLSIU, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore-560072, India</p> <p>Email: vsprasad@naacindia.org, prasadv99@hotmail.com</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>For technical and medical education there are agreements with countries like Russia, Singapore etc.</p> <p>On the question of the nature of bilateral/multilateral relationships, more information can be obtained from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and Association of Indian Universities (AIU).</p>
Multilateral programs	<p>NAAC is a member of APQN and INQUAHE, which also signifies multilateral relationship.</p> <p>Universities independently have understandings with foreign universities.</p>
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. Recognition is derived from the University Grants Commission for conducting programmes, awarding degrees and eligibility for funds/grants.</p> <p>National Assessment and Accreditation Council gives appropriate recognition in terms of 'Accreditation Outcome' based on the assessment of institutions on a national framework with reference to the predetermined criteria.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	Through the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

India (continued)	
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes. Our quality assurance system does not involve ranking since the Assessment and Accreditation is a voluntary process and all institutions are not covered. Therefore, we resort to a classification of higher education institutions in terms of grades and grade point averages.</p> <p>We have a national quality assurance agency called National Assessment and Accreditation Council for institutional accreditation. However, there is National Board of Accreditation for Programme Accreditation of technical education. Some more Accreditation Boards are being set up by Medical Council of India, Agricultural Board, Distance Education Etc. NAAC has a memorandum of understanding with NCTE for Teacher Education and DCI (Dental Council of India) for dental education.</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To assess and accredit institutions of higher education and on a quality framework 2. To stimulate academic environment for promotion of quality of teaching learning and research in higher educational institutions. 3. To encourage self-evaluation, accountability, autonomy and innovations in higher education and thereby encouraging the quality and 4. To provide transparency in the higher education systems functioning.
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. There is growing demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualification especially for programme assessment.</p>
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>University Grants Commission publishes a list of recognised educational institutions. NAAC produces a list of accredited educational institutions. It is available:</p> <p>On the website of UGC: www.ugc.ac.in</p> <p>On the website of NAAC: www.naacindia.org</p>

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Japan	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>Yes. A qualifications system based legal framework for the purposes of further study is provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).</p> <p>An establishment approval system and certified evaluation system guarantee the quality of higher education institutions in Japan.</p> <p>Individual institutions award degrees at their discretion.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) has approved various organisations for the certified evaluation and accreditation of foreign qualifications, such as the National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Education and Japan University Accreditation Association.</p>
Contact details	<p>Mr Shigenori Taguchi Executive Director, Office for International Planning, Higher Education Planning Policy Division, Higher Education Bureau Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) 2-5-1 Marunouchi Ciyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8959 Japan</p> <p>New address from January 2008: 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8941, Japan</p> <p>Phone: +81 3 6734 2060 Fax: +81 3 6734 3385 Email: kotokoku@mext.go.jp</p>
Bilateral programs	No
Multilateral programs	No
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. Requirements for awarding degrees and admission are provided in the School Education Law. If the qualification meets the requirements, it is taken as an eligibility for admission.</p> <p>For the purpose of general employment, qualifications are recognised by respective organisations in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	<p>Yes. The School Education Law provides regulations for recognition of overseas qualifications for the purpose of admission in higher education institutions in Japan.</p>
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes. Higher education institutions are regularly evaluated by the various organisations certified by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).</p> <p>Purpose: Evaluation and improvement of higher education institutions</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	No
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>Yes. A listing is available on the MEXT website at http://www.mext.go.jp/english/sites/index.htm</p>

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Korea	
National Qualifications Framework	No.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	No response.
Contact details	<p>Meekyung Shin Deputy Director Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development 77-6 Sejong-no, Jongno-qu, Seoul, Korea 110-760</p> <p>Email: mkshin@moe.go.kr</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>We have bilateral relationship with some countries for the recognition of higher education qualifications.</p> <p>In general, we recognise foreign higher education qualification as long as it is recognised by home country.</p>
Multilateral programs	No response.
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Yes - At the national level, quality assurance in Korea relies largely on accrediting mechanisms, where different institutions are accredited or evaluated by one of several agencies: KCUE(Korean Council for University Education), KCCE(Korean Council for College Education), KEDI(Korean Education Development Institute), ABMEK(Accreditation Board for Medical Education in Korea), ABEEK(Accreditation Board for Engineering Education in Korea), ABNEK(Accreditation Board for Nursing Education in Korea). Accreditation procedures vary among these different agencies.</p> <p>There is no government accreditation system for existing institutions, instead, government puts rigorous requirements in setting up a higher education institute.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	<p>Korean higher education institutions have their own measuring system by checking with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foreign university conferred the qualification Foreign government of the university Embassy of the foreign government to Korea
Quality assurance system	<p>No - Classification is 'excellent' 'good' 'recognized/pass'</p> <p>Purpose: to maintain and encourage quality.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	There are increasing inquiries on ensuring if foreign qualifications are genuine.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	National Institute of International Education Development (NIIED) - listing available by request to NIIED.

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Laos	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>Yes – includes higher education qualifications.</p> <p>The Department of Higher, Technical and Vocational Education is responsible for ensuring the quality of education and training in higher education, technical and vocational education through coordination with all stakeholders.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	Department of Higher, Technical and Vocational Education, Ministry of Education
Contact details	<p>Dr Phonephet Boupha Deputy-Director General, Department of Higher, Technical and Vocational Education Ministry of Education PO Box 067, Avenue Lane Xang, Vientiane Lao People's Democratic Republic</p> <p>Phone: +856 21 212098 Fax: +856 21 216473 Email: phonephet12@hotmail.com</p>
Bilateral programs	None
Multilateral programs	None
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Recognition of qualifications is coordinated by a public authority
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	Diploma holders are checked for certification
Quality assurance system	No
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	No listing available

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Lebanon	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>Yes – for higher education qualifications</p> <p>Three Committees share responsibility for maintaining the framework: the Colloquium Committee for medical or health sciences/services qualifications, the Engineering Committee for engineering qualifications and the Equivalence Committee for all other higher education qualifications.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>The Directorate General of Higher Education (DGHE) through the Council of Higher Education and four Committees; Technical Committee, Equivalence Committee, Engineering Committee and Colloquium Committee.</p>
Contact details	<p>Prof. Ahmad Jammal Directorate General of Higher Education Ministry of Education and Higher Education Habib Abi Chahla Round, UNESCO Palace, Beirut Lebanon</p> <p>Phone: +961 1 789611 Fax: +961 1 789606 Email: ajammal@higher-edu.gov.lb or ajammal@ieee.org</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>Yes – France</p>
Multilateral programs	<p>No. However, the many existing relationships with the European Union (France, Italy, UK, Belgium etc) benefit Lebanon in respect of joined education programs, quality assurance in higher education and accreditation of engineering programs.</p>
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Based on a national framework and coordinated by a public authority (DGHE)</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	<p>No response</p>
Quality assurance system	<p>No.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	<p>Yes – more than fifty percent of Lebanese students study abroad</p>
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>The Council of Higher Education and Technical Committee at the DGHE are responsible for maintaining a listing. It is available on the DGHE website at www.higher-edu.gov.lb Also available through the Official Journal and in CD and book format. A request can be emailed to info@higher.edu.gov.lb</p>

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Malaysia	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>Yes – for higher education qualifications only</p> <p>The Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) has responsibility for maintaining and updating the framework.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>The MQA maintains the Malaysian Qualifications Register and reviews foreign qualifications for the purpose of recognition and equivalency.</p>
Contact details	<p>Dato' Dr. Syed Ahmad Hussein Chief Executive Officer Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) 13B, Menara PKNS-PJ 17, Jalan Yong Shook Lin, 46050 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia</p> <p>Phone: +603-79687012 / 7002 Fax: +603-7956 9496 Email: syedahmad@mqa.gov.my_</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>Yes – with foreign quality assurance agencies through Government to Government arrangements including the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA)</p> <p>Nature of relationship:</p> <p>The MQA is currently renewing its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NZQA and is also reviewing other quality assurance bodies such as AUQA to formalise mutual cooperation activities.</p>
Multilateral programs	<p>No. However, Malaysia is a member of the INAQQHE and the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and is planning to create a regional network of quality assurance bodies, possibly with the cooperation of the APQN or any other relevant bodies.</p>
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>The system is under the purview of the Public Service Department. A criteria for approval is that the program of study being considered for recognition must be accredited by the MQA.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	<p>No response</p>
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes. The MQA was established on 2 November 1997 as a quality assurance body for both public and private institutions. The previous body, National Accreditation Board (LAN), was established for private institutions only.</p> <p>The MQA is expected to undertake an annual or biannual survey of public universities for the purpose of ranking.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. Malaysia is currently promoting their institutions to attract more foreign students to study in Malaysia.</p>
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>An updated listing of accredited programs for public and private providers will be available on the MQA's website at www.mqa.gov.my by January 2008.</p>

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New Zealand	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>The overarching framework is the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications which includes all qualifications in New Zealand from both public and private institutions. The framework also contains vocational and academic qualifications, covering all levels from foundation certificates to doctorates.</p> <p>The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) is the body responsible for managing the framework. NZQA's role includes setting criteria for course approval and qualification definitions, providing advice and guidance on qualifications in New Zealand, and working with quality assurance bodies for evaluation of courses and qualifications.</p> <p>The NZQA approves and monitors the quality of all providers outside the university sector. The New Zealand Vice Chancellors Committee (NZVCC) is responsible for the university sector which falls under the role of the NZVCC's Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP). The monitoring of the quality of universities is undertaken by the Academic Audit Unit (AAU).</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>Foreign qualifications are assessed by the Qualifications Recognition Services and are benchmarked against the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications. More information is available on their website at www.kiwiquals.govt.nz</p>
Contact details	<p>Mrs Pamela Hulston Manager, Qualifications Recognition Services New Zealand Qualifications Authority PO Box 160, Wellington 6015, New Zealand</p> <p>Phone: +64 4 463 4314 Fax: +64 4 802 3401 Email: pamela.hulston@nzqa.govt.nz</p>
Bilateral programs	<p>Australia – Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement</p> <p>China – Arrangement between the Chinese Service Centre for Scholarly Exchange and the New Zealand Qualifications Authority for Development and Cooperation in the Recognition of Overseas Qualifications</p> <p>Nature of relationship:</p> <p>The arrangement with Australia allows persons registered to practice an occupation in Australia to practice an equivalent occupation in New Zealand and vice versa.</p> <p>The arrangement with China sets the foundation for future work with China on qualifications recognition.</p>
Multilateral programs	<p>No. New Zealand is currently in the process of acceding to the Lisbon Convention and is involved in the redrafting of the UNESCO Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the Asia and the Pacific.</p>
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. Based on the New Zealand Register of Quality Assured Qualifications which contains all qualifications that have been quality assured and meet the criteria set by the Register.</p>

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New Zealand (continued)	
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	<p>Providers are classified by their provider type, ie whether they are government involved and recognised by legislation or private education establishments and recognised by a process of registration.</p> <p>Non-university organisations can apply for approval of degree programs which means that higher education is not limited to a particular sub-sector, or to one quality assurance body or process.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. NZQA's cost recovery unit, Qualifications Recognition Services, currently processes 11,000 to 12,000 applications for assessment of overseas qualifications per annum.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	Immigration NZ will soon implement a list of Reviewed Qualifications solely for immigration purposes but which are quality assured by NZQA. This list will be available on the Immigration NZ website once finalised.

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Oman	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>Yes – includes higher education qualifications.</p> <p>The Accreditation Board is responsible for managing the framework and monitoring the quality of qualifications through the accreditation of programs and institutions.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	No response
Contact details	<p>Dr. Sana Sabeel Al-Balushi Director of Technical Office for Studies and Development Ministry of Education PO Box 1246, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman</p> <p>Phone: +968 24755678 Fax: +968 24755688 Email: sansabeel@hotmail.com</p>
Bilateral programs	No response
Multilateral programs	No response
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Oman has two recognition bodies; the Department of Qualifications Equivalency of the Ministry of Higher Education is responsible for recognition of higher education qualifications, and the Accreditation Board is responsible for the accreditation of higher education programs and institutions.
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes. A framework that outlines the classification of higher education institutions is based on programs and the number of years of education provided by an institute.</p> <p>The Accreditation Board is an autonomous government agency providing accreditation of higher education programs and institutes.</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <p>To provide a framework and transparency in the flow of information to the public on the accreditation results. To encourage qualifications through the operation of a quality assurance system and external education programs.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. Many students either studying in Oman or abroad have their certificates granted by foreign institutes.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	A listing is provided by the Ministry of Education. A request in writing to the Department of Qualifications Equivalency can be emailed to Hiyam24@hotmail.com

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Pakistan	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>The framework of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) is specifically for higher education and its development, quality and monitoring.</p> <p>The HEC maintains the quality of educational institutions and qualifications through the design and development of teaching materials, provision of funds for development of existing and new infrastructure and training of teachers. It also coordinates scholarship opportunities through international linkages.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	The Accreditation and Equivalence Section of the HEC is responsible for issuing equivalence certificates for foreign technical, undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.
Contact details	<p>Mr Muneer Ahmed Deputy Director (QA) Higher Education Commission H-9, Islamabad, Pakistan</p> <p>Phone: +92 51 9040 670 Fax: +92 51 9258 744 Email: muahmed@hec.gov.pk</p>
Bilateral programs	No
Multilateral programs	No
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>The HEC is the authority responsible for recognising foreign qualifications. It follows internationally approved criteria for issuing equivalence certificates for foreign degrees.</p> <p>The HEC was established by the Government to take care of syllabus, faculty, quality and education and provides criteria with funding to implement and execute the policies.</p>
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	Degree recognition and equivalence is issued by the HEC's Accreditation and Attestation Section after the status of the awarding university is referenced against UNESCO's World Listing Handbook. Other checks including required schooling system and duration of degrees in comparison to Pakistan qualifications are also undertaken.
Quality assurance system	<p>Yes. The Quality Assurance Division of the HEC develops, assesses and updates standards for the betterment of higher education. A national agency, Quality Assurance Agency, is responsible for monitoring from time to time, the execution of standards developed by the HEC.</p> <p>Purpose: The Quality Assurance Agency provides a framework and identifies potential short comings and their solutions in the teaching/learning process.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	A listing compiled by the Quality Assurance Division of the HEC is available on the HEC's website at www.hec.gov.pk

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Qatar	
National Qualifications Framework	Yes. Two organisations share the responsibility for monitoring and maintaining the quality of higher education institutions in Qatar; the Higher Education Institute (HEI) and the Equivalency Committee.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>The Equivalency Committee assesses foreign qualifications for equivalency and issues letters of recognition to graduate students for the purposes of employment and further education. It also maintains the Arabic listing of universities.</p> <p>The HEI coordinates scholarships for students to attend top ranking universities and maintains a list of European and American universities.</p>
Contact details	<p>Ahmed Ibraheem Hassan Ali Senior Degree Equivalence Officer Higher Education Institute PO Box 35111, Doha, Qatar Email: aljanahi@sec.gov.qa</p>
Bilateral programs	Yes – based on the Education Agreement between Qatar and other countries
Multilateral programs	No. Despite a lack of multilateral relationships with other countries, the Equivalence Committee will continue to look into the recognition of foreign higher education qualifications.
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Based on self-accrediting and a national framework
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	Qualifications are assessed based on the method of study, duration of study for each certificate and the sequence of study, and the awarding institution is checked for accreditation.
Quality assurance system	Yes – based on a ranking/classification system and a national quality assurance agency.
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. There is a high demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications for graduate students who intend to work in the State of Qatar as equivalency of the certificate is a condition of employment.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	The Higher Education Institute (for American and European universities) compiles a listing which is available at their website on www.education.gov.qa

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Samoa	
National Qualifications Framework	Yes. The Samoa Qualifications Agency (SQA) is responsible for post school education and training (PSET). It provides policy advice to Government on strategies and priorities, coordinates and monitors PSET and undertakes quality assurance of all PSET, including universities.
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	The SQA assumes responsibility for recognition of foreign qualifications. According to its policy, all foreign providers must meet SQA quality assurance quality standards and criteria to be eligible for recognition.
Contact details	Fepuleai Sinapi Mōlī Chief Executive Officer Samoa Qualifications Authority PO Box L851, Apia, Samoa
Bilateral programs	No – Samoa aims to develop relationships for mutual recognition and equivalence based on the SQF.
Multilateral programs	No – aiming to develop relations with countries such as Australia and New Zealand, and other countries in the APQN/INAQQHE/SPBEA, for recognition of qualifications and training opportunities for staff.
System for recognising higher education qualifications	The SQA's mandate is broader than higher education and includes non-formal education. The SQF has been developed with policies, criteria and processes for registering qualifications on the framework. Functions include providing policy advice, coordinating and quality assuring post-school education and training.
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	The SQA is a relatively new organisation just beginning to implement quality assurance policies. The SQA quality assures all post-school education and training including universities, theological colleges, technical, vocational and non-formal learning. Purpose: To ensure quality education, facilitate international recognition of qualifications, create pathways and provide a national coordination system.
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	There is a low demand at present. Policy requires all providers of post-school education and training to meet SQA national quality standards.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	A listing of current providers, not accredited providers/institutions, is available by sending an email request to sqa@ksamoa.net

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Thailand	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>The National Qualifications Framework (NQF) for higher education proposes to link to the basic education and vocational education sectors in the future.</p> <p>The NQF is managed by the Office of the Education Council and Commissions for basic education, vocational education and higher education sectors. Each Commission has responsibility for formulating policies, plans and resources whilst the Office of the Education Council proposes policies and education standards, and monitors national education.</p> <p>The Office for National Education Standards Quality Assessment is a public organisation responsible for maintaining the quality of educational institutes and qualifications.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	Recognition of foreign qualifications is undertaken by the Bureau of Standards and Evaluation of the Office of Higher Education Commission, Commission of Higher Education (CHE). Higher education qualifications and foreign qualifications are assessed against the Standard Criteria for Curriculum and Criteria.
Contact details	<p>Mrs Varaporn Seehanath Director, Bureau of Standards and Evaluation Commission of Higher Education (CHE) 328 Si Ayutthaya Road, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400 Thailand Email: varaporn@mua.go.th</p>
Bilateral programs	Yes
Multilateral programs	No
System for recognising higher education qualifications	The CHE supervises and oversees more than 160 public and private higher education institutions. One of its obligations is to recognise and make comparisons between qualifications from abroad and from within Thailand for the purpose of further study or employment. All programs of study and awards offered by Thailand universities are fully accredited by the CHE.
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	<p>The Quality Development Group of the CHE is responsible for internal quality assurance of higher education institutions. External quality assurance is the responsibility of a public organisation, the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA).</p> <p>Purpose: To encourage standards of quality and provide guidelines for quality development in higher education institutions.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. Most organisations and companies in Thailand require a letter of recognition from the CHE for recognition of foreign degrees compared to degrees awarded in Thailand, for the purpose of further study or employment, including government service.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	A listing of institutions is available in a number of documents including the CHE Annual Report and a Compendium of Programmes, Fields of Study and Degrees awarded by State Institutions at higher education level. A copy of these documents can be obtained by request in writing to the Secretary-General for the Commission on Higher Education or through the Australian Embassy in Bangkok.

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Tonga	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>No. A framework will be implemented once the Tonga National Qualifications Accreditation Board (TNQAB) is operational in January 2008.</p> <p>Once operational, the TNQAB will take responsibility for maintaining the quality of higher education institutions.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	The TNQAB will be the sole authority for recognition of foreign qualifications.
Contact details	<p>Mrs Tu'ifua Takapautolo Deputy Director, Post Secondary and Higher Education Ministry of Education, Women's Affairs and Culture PO Box 61, Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga</p> <p>Phone: +676 24105 Email: tuifua@tihe.org</p>
Bilateral programs	Yes
Multilateral programs	No
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Recognition is presently derived from the awarding institution
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	No
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. Tonga is familiar with recognised overseas institutions however other foreign institutions attended by their students still require recognition.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	A listing will be available through the TNQAB once it is operational.

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Turkey	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>The National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education in Turkey is expected to be finalised in early 2008. The National Committee of Turkish Higher Education Qualifications Framework (YYK) established in May 2006, has prepared draft level descriptors and the consultation process is continuing.</p> <p>The Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Engineering Programs (MUDEK) and other stake holders from the public and private sectors, have responsibility for engineering learning outcomes in accordance with the level descriptors.</p> <p>The Council of the Deans of Faculty of Education is a sub commission chosen by the Deans of Faculty of Education and has responsibility for teacher training learning outcomes in accordance with the level descriptors.</p> <p>The Commission for Academic Assessment and Quality Improvement in Higher Education Institutions (YODEK) maintains and organises activities related to academic assessment and quality improvements at higher education institutions.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	<p>The Council of Higher Education has responsibility for the recognition of all foreign Associates, Bachelor and Master Degrees. Recognition of foreign PhD degrees is the responsibility of the Interuniversity Board.</p> <p>Recognition of foreign qualifications comes under the Regulation on the Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications which was revised in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention.</p>
Contact details	<p>Deniz Ates Head of ENIC/ARIC Turkey The Council of Higher Education (YOK) Bilkent, Ankara, 06539, Ankara, Turkey</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 298 7087 Fax: +90 312 298 4763 Email: aybarertepinar@yok.gov.tr</p>
Bilateral programs	No
Multilateral programs	<p>Yes. Turkey has been a party to the following Council of Europe and UNESCO regional recognition conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diploma and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States Belonging to the European Region (Lisbon Recognition Convention 1997) - the International Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Arab and European States Bordering on the Mediterranean (1976) - the Regional Convention on the Recognition, Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific (1983)
System for recognising higher education qualifications	<p>Higher education institutions in Turkey are founded by law. The diplomas awarded by higher education institutions automatically give the holder of diplomas the right to continue further studies and access to professional activities. The transfer and accumulation of credits and recognition of periods of study are under the responsibility of the higher education institutions.</p>

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Turkey (continued)	
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	<p>YODEK, the national quality assurance agency, is an independent body consisting of nine members elected by the Interuniversity Board and one student member appointed by the national student union. A Regulation on Academic Assessment and Quality Improvement at Higher Education Institutions was enacted through the establishment of a quality assurance system.</p> <p>Purpose: To provide a general framework and improve the quality of educational, instructional and research activities along with administrative services at higher education institutions.</p>
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	<p>Yes. Access to higher education is through a central university entrance examination. The examination is very competitive and approximately only one third of the 1.5 million students to sit the examination will score sufficiently to place in a higher education program. The remaining two thirds of students find additional paths for higher education in foreign institutions which results in a considerable number of recognition applications of foreign degrees.</p>
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	<p>A listing of higher education institutions in Turkey compiled by the Council of Higher Education (YOK) can be viewed on their website at www.yok.gov.tr/universities/uni_web/htm</p>

Appendix 3 - Detailed survey responses by individual country

Vanuatu	
National Qualifications Framework	<p>A National Qualifications Framework (NQF) exists for Vocational Education and Training (VET) but excludes the higher education sector. A NQF that covers whole systems of education and training, including pathways from one level to another, is required.</p> <p>The Vanuatu National Training Council coordinates and monitors VET courses through accreditation of courses and registration of VET providers.</p>
Responsible authority for recognition of foreign qualifications	Vanuatu does not have a recognition authority at present
Contact details	<p>Mr David Lambukly Chief Executive Officer Vanuatu National Training Council (VNTC) PO Box 153, Port Vila, Vanuatu</p> <p>Phone: +(678) 22134 Mobile: +(678) 74894 Fax: +(678) 27535 Email: dlambukly@vanuatu.gov.vu</p>
Bilateral programs	Yes – University of the South Pacific Council
Multilateral programs	No
System for recognising higher education qualifications	Individual institutions award own qualifications and are accredited by institutions within and outside Vanuatu.
Process for recognising higher education qualifications where there is no other arrangement in place	No response
Quality assurance system	No
Demand for recognition of foreign higher education qualifications	Yes. International institutions and regional institutions such as the University of South Pacific (USP) are setting up in Vanuatu and demand recognition of national programs for the basis of pre-requisites.
Listing of recognised/accredited education institutions	No