

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Enhancing the capabilities of technical education in India

EXPERT ADVISORY GROUP PROGRESS REPORT ON SELF-REVIEWS

1. By mid-June 2014 over 160 TEQIP institutions – 85% of the total number participating in the programme – had submitted self-reviews of their governance arrangements. The great majority of those reviews form a sound basis for moving ahead with the implementation of good governance.
2. There has been an excellent return from many States. For example, among the larger States there have been complete or virtually complete submissions from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. There has also been an excellent rate of return from many of the States with smaller numbers of TEQIP institutions. All types of institution within the programme have submitted reviews.
3. It is clear that many institutions have been able to undertake the exercise well and to use the self-review, as it is intended, as a development tool, giving an honest and self-critical account of governance practice. 25 institutions have submitted governance development plans and more are due to be submitted shortly.
4. Almost all other institutions have submitted reviews, which seek to address the issues raised. Some have found the process challenging, and for example have been reluctant to give themselves low ratings or, in some instances, to give themselves ratings at all. And there are frequent examples of grading on the basis of intention rather than reality. A significant number of these institutions have found it difficult to supply sufficient evidence to justify their ratings.
5. A very small group of institutions have submitted reviews that are inadequate, for example consisting of just very high ratings with no evidence at all.
6. The next step, working in collaboration with Mentors, is for all institutions that have submitted adequate or better reviews to draw up governance development plans and to put those plans into effect.
7. It is clear from the reviews as a whole that there are some actions which could be taken immediately, if they are not already in place, for example, ensuring that the governing body meets regularly, publishing minutes of governing body meetings on institutional websites and publishing annual reports on institutional performance.
8. In the longer term the reviews show that most institutions have the opportunity to make significant progress towards delivering better governance arrangements on the primary accountabilities set out in the Good Practice Guide: that means not just approving the institution's strategic vision, mission and plan but also ensuring the establishment and monitoring of proper, effective and efficient systems of control and accountability and monitoring institutional performance and quality assurance arrangements and benchmarking that performance against other institutions. Governance development plans should focus not just on the scope for quick wins but also on these longer-term goals.

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