



# Tips and tricks, best practices and challenges: the European Approach for QA of Joint Programmes in practise

Department of the Netherlands

21 April 2023

Lineke van Bruggen





### Best Practises:

- Large consortia that keep you updated every step of the way.
- Consortia with the ability of critical self-reflection and a pro-active attitude

### Challenges:

- Adopt it in a flexible way in your own procedures: e.g. NVAO normally does not carry out procedure for existing programmes (normally NVAO is only fully in charge of new programmes), as we are the only EQAR registered agency in the Netherlands we now also carry out existing procedures.
- Bandwidth of ECTS: how to deal with outliers
- Rules of institutions are stricter than national requirements

## Tips and tricks

- Make the consortium to a large degree also responsible for the procedure and timeline: Ask the consortium to organise a first meeting for agencies, and institutions (can be online): discuss the requirements and expectations in order to avoid confusion and different expectations.
- Good communication on the procedures
- Make one person (or a limited number of persons) at the Agency responsible for the procedure with a low threshold for asking questions.
- Act as intermediary and facilitator if necessary (but let them solve their own problems)

## Discussion questions:

1. What are your experiences with the European Approach?
2. What can agencies do if not the legal bodies/ministries, but the institutions themselves have internal procedures that make the evaluation according to the European Approach more difficult?
3. How flexible can/will a QA Agency be?
4. Second round European Approach evaluations: adjustments necessary?



Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie  
Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders

[www.nvao.net](http://www.nvao.net) • [info@nvao.net](mailto:info@nvao.net)