

Issue 25

March 2023

Register now for 15 May ENIC NORTH 2023 conference, Glasgow



Registration is now open for ENIC NORTH 2023, as we return to Scotland to deliver a one-day conference at the Technology and Innovation Centre, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, on 15 May.

Our conference partners will be [Password English Language Testing](#).

ENIC NORTH will be presented in association with [AECC Global](#), [Cambridge University Press & Assessment](#), and [ApplyBoard](#).

The event will be supported by [UniQuest](#), [Skills for English](#), [Enroly](#), [Gecko](#), [Dialexy](#), [OMPT](#) and [Qualification Check](#).

The one-day conference features a range of relevant and topical content across 8 breakout sessions and plenaries, including presentations, discussion panels, and Q&A. The event includes lunch. At the end of the day, 16.30-18.00, there will be a networking reception. Secure your place now using the [booking form](#). [READ MORE](#)

UNESCO Global Convention on HE recognition now in force



The UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education came into force on 5 March.

Bespoke training opportunities 16-19 May, part of ENIC NORTH 2023



From 16 to 19 May, as part of our ENIC NORTH 2023 programme, the UK ENIC team will be available for bespoke training to members and non-members in the North.

We can deliver at your preferred location, and at a time at your convenience (face-to-face, online, or a mixture) and tailor the sessions to meet your institution or organisation's needs.

We will be operating on a 'first come, first served' basis for these sessions, so if you are interested, do get in touch as soon as possible.

For further information, please contact leanne.hunnings@ecctis.com. [READ MORE](#)

Book now for UKENIC23 face-to-face annual conference: 4+5 December



Bookings are now open for our two-day UKENIC23 conference, which will take place on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December 2023, once again at London's QEII Centre, Westminster. This marks a return, post-COVID, to our 'traditional' two-day annual conference format.

To pre-register and guarantee your place, please email conference@enic.org.uk with the names, job titles and email addresses of those who will be attending. [READ MORE](#)

The first legally binding United Nations instrument on higher education, it will create a framework for fair, transparent and non-discriminatory recognition of higher education qualifications, putting in place universal principles for improving recognition practices.

UK ENIC played an important role in the process that resulted in the [UK's ratification \[pictured above\]](#), supporting the UK Department for Education, the Devolved Administrations and the UK National Commission for UNESCO.

Head of UK ENIC, Paul Norris, said: 'The Global Recognition Convention provides a framework for strengthening international cooperation in higher education, and common guidelines for recognising qualifications in signatory countries. [READ MORE](#)

'Woman Leader in Education Excellence' award for Dr Cloud Bai-Yun



Dr Cloud Bai-Yun, Chief Adviser to UK ENIC, received the 'Woman Leader in Educational Excellence' award when she attended and delivered a keynote speech at Futureland, an event organised by the International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA).

Hosted in Dublin on 6-7 March, Futureland focused on helping educators and policy makers prepare the workforce to handle a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous future. It also celebrated inspirational leaders in the sector.

'It was an honour to receive this year's award from IVETA,' said Dr Bai-Yun. 'Futureland was a timely event which brought together key players from across the continents. The forward-looking views shared by so many will significantly influence the future landscape of world skills.'

Dr Bai-Yun's speech, 'The world of qualifications', discussed the market for skills and qualifications, with a particular focus on the up-skilling and re-skilling that will be [READ MORE](#)

Faster, more resilient web services for members following latest IT developments

Building qualification recognition in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries



UK ENIC and Ecctis, together with the British Council, have been working in recent months on behalf of the UK Government to engage UK and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) stakeholders on issues of recognition of qualifications. Ongoing discussions aim to improve arrangements for recognition, agree areas of mutual interest and priority and, ultimately, pave the way for negotiated mutual recognition agreements.

Funded by the FCDO Gulf Strategy Fund, the initiative is part of wide-ranging efforts to build stronger and more dynamic links between the UK and the six GCC countries: the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, the Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

The work seeks to facilitate positive developments in the areas of mobility and migration, and to support bilateral collaboration, partnerships, and recruitment for study and employment. [READ MORE](#)

Paul Norris chairs ENIC-NARIC online workshop on micro-credential evaluation



An online workshop for ENIC-NARIC representatives to consider ways of evaluating micro-credentials was chaired by Paul Norris, Head of UK ENIC *[pictured above, bottom right]*.

More than 50 people attended the event, which illustrated the different types of micro-credential, and offered evaluators new techniques for assessing these in line with the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

Three presentations featured in the 90-minute event:



Major upgrades to our web servers and internet hosting were carried out this month, with investment aimed at further enhancing our services to members and individual applicants.

This month's 'under the bonnet' IT development work saw us shift all of our websites and online services to new state-of-the-art cloud-based hosting, leading to faster website speeds and responsiveness for our users. The changes will also mean even better system resilience and security.

UK ENIC Head of IT, Nick Everett, says: 'The efficiency of our IT team's work in moving all of our web servers and databases to a cloud-native platform meant the work was completed with just 6 hours' weekend downtime, rather than the up-to-36 hours we had planned for. [READ MORE](#)

New UK ENIC project to support refugee integration

In the first-ever round of grants from the Council of Europe to support ENICs in implementing best practices in recognition, UK ENIC has won a grant bid for a project to explore the impact of receiving a Statement of Comparability for refugee applicants.

The Tracking Refugee Applications for Study and Employment in the UK project (TRASE UK) will involve surveys of refugee applicants, as well as UK ENIC members, to find out

- how useful they found the information in their Statements
- whether further guidance could be provided to support them, and
- what use has been made recently of the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR) in the UK.

The project supports the functioning of Article 7 of the Lisbon Recognition Convention on the recognition of qualifications held by refugees, displaced persons and persons in refugee-like situations. [READ MORE](#)

- Agnieszka Jelnicka, European Commission *[bottom left]*: The current approach to micro-credentials and future plans
- Chiara Finocchietti, ENIC-NARIC Italy – EHEA MicroBol *[top right]*: Typologies of micro-credentials
- Merel Eimers, ENIC-NARIC Netherlands – STACQ *[top left]*: A methodology for evaluating micro-credentials.

'The excellent presentations and thoughtful participant questions and contributions in break-out groups made for a very interesting and very useful workshop,' said Paul Norris. [READ MORE](#)

Asia-Pacific Association for International Education conference



UK ENIC contributed to the annual conference of the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) in Bangkok, Thailand this month. It was the first APAIE in-person event since before the pandemic.

Dr Fabrizio Trifiro, Head of UK ENIC Stakeholder Engagement and International Quality Review, was invited to contribute as a panellist to discuss challenges associated with maintaining quality in Transnational Education (TNE), and supporting the growth of quality TNE *[pictured above, left, with fellow panellists Prof Christopher Baldwin, CEO and Provost Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia, and Barbara Lung, Director Global Curtin]*.

The panel, which also included Guy Perring, Business Development Director Asia Pacific at i-Graduate, discussed the importance of keeping track of student experiences across international campuses. [READ MORE](#)

UK ENIC | Suffolk House | 68-70 Suffolk Road | Cheltenham | GL50 2ED | UK
T +44 (0)871 330 7303 | E communications@enic.org.uk | W www.enic.org.uk
Find us on social media | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | and on our [blog](#)
© All rights reserved. Copyright UK ENIC 2023.