

Issue 98

March 2020

## Adapting to the crisis

by Head of UK NARIC Dr Cloud Bai-Yun

We at UK NARIC are acutely aware how difficult the current COVID-19 crisis is for everyone working in the international education and skills sectors.

While it still remains unclear how long the present situation will persist, we recognise that many of you are working hard, adapting quickly your operational models to ensure continuity in the new environment, and to continue supporting your client groups. We are doing so likewise.

Following a phased remote working implementation from 17 March, we at UK NARIC are now working 100% remotely. We continue to provide all of our membership and individual services. Our team remains contactable as usual, to help you with the ongoing and new recognition issues you face in your day-to-day work. Our response times remain unchanged.

You will see from our other newsletter stories this month that there is much we continue to do, across the range of our activities, and that we are developing our services and processes to overcome or mitigate some of the current challenges, so that we can maintain support for our members and the wider sector. [READ MORE](#)



## International benchmarking continues with online processes

UK NARIC's independent benchmarking of international qualifications and institutional reviews were faced with a major challenge as travel restrictions grew during March, and universities and colleges closed their campuses and switched to home-based working.

As institutions try to maintain forward progress on their operations and plans, in the face of all the current difficulties, they are keen to continue with their benchmarking and review projects [including China's Harbin Vocational & Technical College pictured above], so that project work can be completed and targets met by end of 2020. [READ MORE](#)



## New interactive digital training sessions

To continue to support the sector with training and staff development during this period of travel restrictions and remote working, UK NARIC is launching a series of training sessions that you can take part in online.

New interactive digital training sessions are available to book from 1 April on the [UK NARIC training schedule web page](#). The sessions feature more concise and more focused content, optimised for online. These 45-minute sessions have been selected and designed to aid participants in understanding key areas of international qualifications and education systems. [READ MORE](#)

## Charting the impact of coronavirus on UK admissions and recruitment

On the UK NARIC blog we have been charting the impact of COVID-19 on UK admissions and recruitment.

The blog is being kept up-to-date with information about the closures and delays of schools and exams at secondary and higher education level as they're announced.

News over recent weeks has been dominated by the spread of coronavirus; as of 30 March UNESCO found that 184 countries have closed schools and universities at a national level. [READ MORE](#)

## Single subject data: a new feature in International Grade Comparisons

Since 2013, subscribers to UK NARIC's International

## Institute of Chartered Accountants of India courses benchmarked

UK NARIC's independent, objective evaluation and benchmarking study of selected Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) courses and the ICAI Chartered Accountant designation in the UK education system finds:

- ICAI Intermediate Course comparable to RQF Level 6, Bachelor degree standard.
- ICAI Final Course comparable to RQF Level 7, Master's degree standard.
- ICAI Chartered Accountant (CA) designation comparable to RQF Level 7, Master's degree standard.

Fully qualified ICAI Chartered Accountants (ie candidates who have passed all the ICAI Final course examinations and training requirements) can be awarded credit [READ MORE](#)

Grade Comparisons (IGC) database have been able to compare the overall upper secondary performance of international students with various combinations of A level grades (A\*A\*A\*, A\*A\*A, etc).

Now the database goes one step further, enabling users to establish comparable single subject grades, wherever possible. [READ MORE](#)

## TNE and partnerships are themes at BUILA African Group

UK NARIC's head of external engagement Chris Lyons attended the BUILA African Regional Interest Group in London in March.

An update on UK NARIC's Africa-related research and resources was presented and there were discussions on how UK NARIC can support TNE development in the region; re-examining issues around distance learning (especially in the current situation); and student culture and student support issues. [READ MORE](#)



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eurodesk UK

## Call for youth mobility Ambassadors

Eurodesk are relaunching the role of Eurodesk UK Ambassador as part of the Eurodesk 30th anniversary activities. The call is now open until 6 April: all the details are on the [Ambassadors' webpage](#).

To apply you must be based in the UK, be a youth worker or a young person (age 18 or over) with an understanding or experience of international opportunities such as [READ MORE](#)



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