



NARICnews

NATIONAL RECOGNITION CENTRE FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM

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Welcome to the February 2018 edition of NARIC News



DFID-sponsored review compares Syrian Interim Government qualifications

UK NARIC has published the summary findings of a review, sponsored by DFID, the Department for International Development, of the qualifications developed by the Syrian Interim Government (SIG) for grades 9 and 12.

The summary can be [downloaded as a PDF](#), and is also available [via our website](#). It gives a comparison of these qualifications to UK frameworks: the grade 12 qualification is suitable for entry to International Foundation Year programmes at UK universities, while the grade 9 certificate is suitable preparation for continuing secondary education.

This review recognises the achievements and ongoing work of the SIG Ministry of Education in ensuring there is a 12-year education system leading to recognised qualifications for as many Syrian children as possible in the circumstances. *(Pictured: students in Rural Damascus complete Fall Semester exams, February, 2017)*

UK NARIC's objective review and comparison to internationally recognised frameworks should also make it easier for these students to gain access to employment or ongoing education at both secondary and tertiary levels.

Members may find this downloadable PDF summary a useful resource in making admissions and recruitment decisions. For more information on the larger report for DFID that this summarises, or for information on the background of this report, please contact projects@naric.org.uk ([more...](#))



2018 UK NARIC database

UK NARIC, data protection, and the new GDPR rules

UK- and EEA-based members of UK NARIC will be preparing for the May launch of the new GDPR data protection regulations. As part of this, members may need to confirm that their data-related and IT-related suppliers are or will be GDPR-compliant.

UK NARIC is of course fully compliant with all current relevant data protection regulations, and we are currently amending our policies and terms and conditions where appropriate to ensure alignment with GDPR by the required deadlines.

UK NARIC account managers will be in touch ([more...](#))

Last few places available for March sessions in London - book now

There are still a few places left on our [6 March Admissions Officer Level 1](#) course and, due to demand, extra spaces on our [7 March Tier 4 Compliance seminar](#) in London.

On 20 March, also in [central London](#), we are running our [Admissions Officer Training Level 2](#) day, covering topics in greater depth including qualification evaluation, accreditation, risk reduction

plans: updates, additions, improvements

In 2018, as every year, UK NARIC databases will grow and develop to give our members rich, accurate, and up-to-date information on international qualifications and grade comparisons, plus images of thousands of certificates and transcripts.

Our UK NARIC certificate bank will continue to grow, with the addition of high resolution images of transcripts and certificates from 50 existing and historical countries and territories. This will give members images from all 206 of the countries we currently cover in the International Comparisons database, making the certificate bank even more useful for fraud prevention.

Five new countries are being added to the International Comparisons database, and we will be including further information on transnational education in 24 more countries.

The International Grade Comparisons (IGC) database will also grow in 2018, with the addition of a further 20 countries and updates to 30 of the existing 110 countries and territories. IGC is easy to use, giving admissions teams nuanced visual representations of how international grades compare to the UK, along with an archive function to compare grades from a number of years.

These developments make it quicker and easier to gather very specific information on how an international grade compares to mixed UK grades eg ABB, BCC, CCD, helping admissions officers decide whether an international applicant fulfils their entry requirements. ([more...](#))

and refusal rates. The training will be led by experienced qualification evaluators and member enquiry researchers from UK NARIC. ([more...](#))

UK NARIC input on education fraud at Strasbourg ETINED sessions

UK NARIC CEO, Dr Cloud Bai-Yun was in Strasbourg 15 and 16 February, attending the [second Plenary session](#) of the Council of Europe Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education, ETINED.

Since its inception in November 2016, Dr Bai-Yun has been active in the ETINED working group on fraud in education.

The group's work so far and proposals were presented to the plenary session, including an integrated policy approach to address issues such as contract cheating, fraudulent credentials and plagiarism. ([more...](#))



Australia and NZ: April training includes new sessions

The UK NARIC training team will be in Wellington on 12 and 13 April and Sydney, (*pictured above*) on 16 and 17 April. This is an excellent opportunity for members in Australasia and the wider region to take part in face-to-face UK NARIC training.

Use your complimentary training allowance for these half-day workshops. Paid additional places or paid places for non-members are also available. See the [training](#)



Benchmarking in Egypt and teacher training in Dubai

UK NARIC's International Projects Group has been in Egypt for the final review of the Certificate of Nile International Secondary Education (CNISE).

The team has also been in Dubai meeting with teacher training providers who are responding to professional licensing requirements for teachers in the emirate.

The CNISE is a three-level, three-year bilingual English/Arabic upper



EU VET study visits UK colleges for best practice examples

Partners in the [ED2VET project](#) that is being led by UK NARIC have been on a study visit to the UK, 29 January – 2 February.

Gathering examples of good employer engagement in the design and development of vocational education and training (VET), the team visited Hartpury College in Gloucestershire (*pictured above*), and Swindon College in Wiltshire. They also visited

[schedule](#) for information and to book online.

These delegates will be the first to benefit from our new session on Education in Russia and Central Asia. This half-day workshop, which has been developed by our Research and Data group in response to requests from members, covers education systems and credentials from Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, along with student mobility, TNE provision ([more...](#))

secondary school qualification currently taught in five purpose-built schools across Egypt. (*School pictured above.*)

UK NARIC has been involved in benchmarking this qualification and has previously released comparisons for CNISE Chemistry, Maths, and Biology at Level 2 and Level 3, and Economics, English, Chemistry, and Physics at Level 2. This visit was part of the benchmarking for a number of further subjects at all 3 levels ([more...](#))

the Association of Colleges and City and Guilds in London.

The [project partners](#) from Scotland, Greece and Bulgaria are looking at vocational education and training in all three countries.

They aim to gain insights that can help training providers and qualification awarding bodies across Europe work with employers to improve course and module design and content. The aim is to equip learners with knowledge and skills that are appropriate ([more...](#))

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