TNE

research & practice in the Netherlands

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The Dutch TNE context

- Until this year, little strategic TNE planning & regulation at national level
- No government funding for TNE development (incentive fund for JDs 2010-14)

Activities:

- 15 joint degree & over 200 multiple degree programmes
- online modules
- pathway programmes
- 4 international branch campuses (Stenden & RuG plan)

Features:

- Strong partnership approach
- HEI reasons for TNE development: mix of academic, economic, dev. co-operation
- Academic aims more important than economic ones
- Practice orientation: internship opportunities
- Government emphasis on intl recruitment into STEM areas – not yet visible in TNE

Research that has informed the Dutch TNE debate at national policy level

2012: VSNU report on project stimulating joint degrees

2013: CHEPS report on joint degree legislation in 7 European countries

2014: VSNU & VH joint vision on internationalisation

2015: VSNU study on 'encouraging international JD programmes

Research findings

1. JDs: instrument to attract knowledge workers, increase student mobility, internationalise the curriculum, international visibility of Dutch HE.

2. Need more flexible legislaton to encourage JDs:

3. Need clear regulations for setting tuition fees (students often pay double fees in NL and abroad).

4. Remove the stipulation that students on Dutch degree programmes must have spent at least one third of the programme in the Netherlands.

5. Remove the Dutch stipulation that master courses comprise 60 ECTS, allowing easy conversion from a single to an international JD programme.

6. Simplified accreditation and recognition. ECA now developing joint accreditation, where national accreditation orgs collaborate in 1 procedure:

- This led the Min of Ed to develop legislation that will make it possible to offer Dutch degrees abroad.

- EP-Nuffic is completing a study on national TNE regulations & institutional approaches in neighbouring countries, to inform legislative changes currently underway.

Dutch government's strategic aims for TNE

- Strengthen international HE networks

- Encourage international student & staff exchange

- Strengthen the positioning of Dutch HE abroad

Upcoming TNE legislation (Netherlands)

1. **Possible to offer Dutch degrees abroad**

2. **No public funds** to be used for TNE activities

3. **Joint degree programmes**:
   - Possible to lengthen the Dutch master (up from 1 year)
   - PhD becomes an official degree title, making joint PhD possible
   - Possible to avoid double tuition fee payment

4. **Planned TNE programmes must be quality assured** *before* offered abroad
   - to guarantee HE quality & consider potential risks
   - to prevent Dutch publicly funded HEIs to compete with each other abroad
   - to prevent TNE development out of commercial interests

TNE research & data sources

1. **European Consortium for Accreditation (ECA) joint programmes portal**

   http://ecahe.eu/w/index.php/Portal:Joint_programmes

   Good practices in JP development and management,

   QA & recognition.

2. **Joint Programmes from A to Z: a reference guide for practitioners (2015)**
   https://www.epnuffic.nl/en/internationalisation/jdaz-guide

TNE research

Planned by Stenden University of Applied Sciences:

1. **Contextualisation of the curriculum at branch campuses** in multiple national contexts.

   Aim: identify & solve difficulties in curriculum implementation & achieve student learning outcomes in different national contexts.

2. **Staff exchange among multiple international branch campuses**: matching the expectations of mobile lecturers and senior management staff & measuring the impact of staff exchange on intercultural competences.
   Aim: to learn lessons to improve staff exchange preparation.

TNE research - needed

1. Ways in which Dutch TNE will develop (models, approaches, difficulties), following new legislation

2. National data collection on TNE activities

3. Contextualised good practice approaches

4. Analysis of strategic TNE development at institutional levels.