Internationalisation as a Catalyst for Reform

Chair

Prof Albert S C Chan
President and Vice-Chancellor, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

Members

Pradeep Nair
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Taylor's University, Malaysia

Chacha Nyaigotti Chacha
Chairperson, African Network for Internationalization of Education, Kenya

Karen McBride
President and CEO of the Canadian Bureau for International Education, Canada

Joseph J Y Sung
Vice-Chancellor and President, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Ramakrishna Ramaswamy
Vice Chancellor, Central University of Hyderabad, India

Madeleine Green
IAU Senior Fellow, USA

Internationalisation as a Catalyst for Reform

- Can and does internationalisation offer a means to engage institutional and systemic reforms?
- Is the Bologna Process, for example, a driver of reform worldwide?
- Are there other examples where internationalisation is a catalyst for positive change?
- Can it also be a process driving homogenization at institutional and system level?

Can and Does Internationalisation Offer a Means to Engage Institutional and Systemic Reforms?

- Not always reform, but did cause changes.
- Internationalization takes different forms in different countries and impact varies.
- Eg, in Kenya, change of semester starting date, exam time, grade formula, curriculum offering more specialized courses.
- Top-down change, eg, in Malaysia, the aspiration to become the regional centre for educational excellence drove the many changes including the internationalization agenda.

Is the Bologna Process, for example, a Driver of Reform Worldwide?

- Bologna Process (B.P.) is a driver of reform in Europe and change in many parts of the world
- B.P. causes top-down, bottom-up change, to drive regional harmonization of education system
- B.P. is a catalyst for doing business with Mainland Europe.
- B.P. create a tool and frameworks for inter-institutional collaboration.

Are There Other Examples Where Internationalization is a Catalyst for Positive Change?

- More democratic and more participation, increase more institutional flexibility.
- Internationalization at institutional and national levels driven by globalization at macro level
- National level policy change
- Encourage to strengthen national quality assurance and regulatory framework

Can it Also Be a Process Driving Homogenization at Institutional and System Level?

- Depend on how to define the terms.
- Internationalization push for harmonization more than before, but not complete homogenization
- Homogenization could be dangerous as some essence, say in Chinese, cannot be expressed precisely by other languages
- Formation of regional harmonization. It might be difficult to have global harmonization

Thank You