



«АККРЕДИТЕУ ЖӘНЕ РЕЙТИНГТІҢ
ТӘУЕЛСІЗ АГЕНТТІГІ» КЕМ

НУ «НЕЗАВИСИМОЕ АГЕНТСТВО
АККРЕДИТАЦИИ И РЕЙТИНГА»

INDEPENDENT AGENCY FOR
ACCREDITATION AND RATING



Report

on the activities of the
"Independent Agency for
Accreditation and Rating"
for 2022

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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- ABET** - The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology
- ACQUIN** - The Accreditation, Certification and Quality Assurance Institute
- APQN** - The Asia-Pacific Quality Network
- ASIIN** - The Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes in Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics
- CEENQA** – The Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education
- CIQG** - The US Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) International Quality Group
- ENQA** - The European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education
- EQAR** - The European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education
- ESG** - The Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area
- IAAR** - Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating
- INQAAHE** - The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education
- IREG** - International Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence
- PhD** - Doctor of Philosophy
- MA** - master's programme
- QA** - quality assurance
- WFME** – the World Federation for Medical Education
- SAR** - the Self-Assessment Report
- AC** - Accreditation Council
- BA** - undergraduate programme
- IQAS** - internal quality assurance system
- HEI** - higher education institution
- EEP** - External Expert Panel
- SPED** - State Programme of Education Development

EHEA - European Higher Education Area

IA - institutional accreditation

KR - Kyrgyz Republic

MSE REM - Municipal state enterprise on the right of economic management

MSHE RK - Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan

MES KR - Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic

JSC - Non-profit joint-stock company

SRI - Scientific Research Institute

NCE - National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
"Atameken"

NSAQE - national system for assessing the quality of education

EI - educational institution

EP - educational programme

MEP - main educational programme

TS - teaching staff

ISA - initial specialised accreditation

RK - Republic of Kazakhstan

SA - specialised accreditation

MM - mass media

TVE - Technical and Vocational Education

FSBI - Federal State Budgetary Institution

EC - Expert Council

INTRODUCTION

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) is a non-profit institution that specialises in education quality assurance accreditation. Established in 2011, IAAR is a leading international accreditation agency that is a full member of European, Asian, and American networks and agencies for education quality assurance and accreditation.

IAAR is the first accreditation body in Kazakhstan to receive full membership status in the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). IAAR's re-inclusion in the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EQAR) for five years on June 27, 2022, confirms its adherence to high global standards. IAAR is also the first organisation from CIS countries to be recognised by the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). Accredited educational organisations and programmes by IAAR receive international accreditation status through its full membership in international European networks. IAAR strictly follows the ESG and WFME standards in its operations.

IAAR's strategic development goals are aimed at strengthening its status as a recognised agency for quality assurance in education that is nationally and internationally competitive. IAAR's activities in 2022 were based on the goals and objectives defined by the programme documents and legislation in the field of education of the Central Asian and European Higher Education Area countries, international requirements in the field of quality assurance, as well as the IAAR Development Strategy for 2022-2026.

IAAR, demonstrating high competitiveness, consistently conducts an independent, objective, and professional assessment of educational activities in the European and Central Asian region (including the Republic of Kazakhstan and 11 other foreign states such as the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Belarus, Ukraine, etc.). In 2022, IAAR signed agreements to accredit universities in Switzerland, Barbados, Palestine, and Dominica.

IAAR, applying the best world quality assurance practices, contributes to improving the efficiency and quality of educational and scientific activities of educational organisations in Eastern Europe and Asia in accordance with the most important national and international trends in the development of higher education systems.

By conducting international institutional accreditation of educational organisations and initial accreditation of educational programmes of universities, IAAR contributes to improving the efficiency and quality of their educational and scientific activities, updating educational programmes, introducing the latest teaching technologies, developing a culture of quality, and promoting the educational activities of higher educational institutions and other educational organisations to the world market of educational services.



1. Development of a System for the Quality Assurance of Education in the National and International Educational Space

The primary activity of IAAR is conducting external assessments aimed at promoting the improvement of the quality of education and the competitiveness of educational services through independent international accreditation, and promoting a culture of quality at the national and global levels for educational programmes and organisations.

1.1 Strengthening IAAR's Standing in the National and International Market of Accreditation Services

In 2022, IAAR's activities were based on goals and objectives defined by international and national priorities in the development of education systems in the Republic of Kazakhstan and foreign countries, as well as international experience, and the implementation of key indicators from the IAAR Development Strategy for 2022-2026.

The purpose of the external evaluation is in line with the mission, vision, values, and strategic goals outlined in the IAAR Development Strategy for 2022-2026, which was developed with the involvement of external stakeholders and approved by IAAR's collegial bodies.

The agency implements a Quality Assurance Policy focused on continuous development and the provision of quality services in the field of education quality assessment for consumers at all levels, including the state, society, educational organisations, employers, students, and public organisations.

IAAR performs external assessments for a range of accreditation types, including institutional accreditation for secondary education, technical and vocational education (TVE), higher and postgraduate education (HPE), medical education, and additional education (AE), initial accreditation of HPE and medical education, specialised (programme) accreditation of TVE, HPE, and medical education, initial specialised (initial programme) accreditation of EP HPE, and medical education and joint

accreditation of EP HPE, as well as accreditation of joint educational programmes. IAAR's internal documents outlining external quality assurance procedures are available on website <https://iaar.agency>.

Development and improvement of IAAR standards and documents: IAAR develops and enhances its own standards and criteria for conducting high-quality external assessments. These standards and criteria are designed to ensure objectivity, transparency, mobility, and public information in accordance with the principles of the Bologna Process. They serve as a model for universities to conduct self-assessments and for harmonization of national education quality systems with international requirements of the European Higher Education Area.

IAAR standards adhere to the following principles of quality assurance:

- ✓ **responsibility** of the university for the quality of educational services;
- ✓ **compliance of quality** with the needs of various systems of higher education in the international educational market;
- ✓ **focus** of the university on the development of a culture of quality
- ✓ **taking into account the needs** and expectations of students, other stakeholders, the economy and society as services provided.

IAAR's standards are fully compliant with **ESG** and **WFME** standards, and are developed with the involvement of stakeholders. IAAR is guided by the recommendations of **ENQA**, and has systematised procedures for reviewing and improving accreditation standards in accordance with the "Instructions for the Development and Improvement of IAAR Standards". In order to enhance the quality and efficiency of IAAR's activities in 2022, work has been undertaken to improve the agency's regulatory and methodological documentation, and to introduce changes and additions to the standards for institutional and specialised accreditation of universities, taking into account the objectives and requirements of the SPESD for 2020-2025, new legislative acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the regulation of educational activities of HPE organisations, as well as the "IAAR Development Strategy for 2022-2026".

In compliance with the Work Plan for 2022, at the behest of the IAAR General Director, working groups were established to enhance the subsequent standards:

- Standards for institutional and programme accreditation of higher education institutions implementing programmes of higher professional and postgraduate education (Kyrgyz Republic) (sanctioned and implemented by the Order of the IAAR Director on 17th October 2016, No. 39-16-1-OD) re-examined in concurrence with the Agency's Plan for 2021 and 2022 and in accordance with the "Instructions for the Development and Improvement of IAAR Standards" (sanctioned and implemented by the director of IAAR on 2nd September 2015, No. 19-15-01, revised and complemented by order No. 117-19-OD on 9th December 2019), updated and approved in the current edition <https://iaar.agency/iaar/dokumenty-iaar>.

- Standards for institutional accreditation of an educational institution of higher professional education (sanctioned and implemented by the Order of the General Director of the "Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating" on 5th January 2022, No. 1-22-OD) https://iaar.agency/accreditations/institucionalnaya-akkreditaciya_kirgiz.

- Guidelines for conducting Self-Assessment for institutional accreditation of an educational institution of higher professional education (sanctioned and implemented by the Order of the General Director of the "Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating" on 5th January 2022, No. 1-22-OD).

- Standards for programme accreditation of the main educational programme of higher professional education (sanctioned and implemented by the Order of the Director General of the "Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating" on 5th January 2022, No. 1-22-OD) <https://iaar.agency/accreditations/programmaya-akkreditaciya>.

- Guidelines for conducting Self-Assessment for programme accreditation of the main educational programme of higher professional education (sanctioned and implemented by the Order of the Director General of the "Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating" on 5th January 2022, No. 1-22-OD).

The National Accreditation Council of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic (NAC MES KR) was notified of the implementation of the revised standards and guidelines for institutional and programme accreditation of EOs and EPs of the Kyrgyz Republic on May 16, 2022, during a NAC MES KR meeting to review the IAAR's accomplishments from 2017 to 2022. On May 20, 2022, the leadership of HEIs in the Kyrgyz Republic was acquainted with the modified fundamental accreditation tools during the seminar "International Accreditation - a tool to enhance education quality", hosted by IAAR and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic at the premises of I. Razzakov Kyrgyz State Technical University.

In 2022, modifications and additions were introduced to the procedures and standards for international accreditation of medical educational organisations/educational programmes in the Republic of Kazakhstan for basic medical education, in accordance with WFME standards.

IAAR standards were enhanced to reinforce student-centred learning, broaden the academic freedom of universities and students, implement more adaptable methods for evaluating education quality, appraise the efficacy of the intra-university quality assurance system, and broadly implement best practices, including distance learning technologies and online programmes.

In 2022, efforts to revise and update the Standards for institutional and programme accreditation were ongoing and included discussions with the academic community of Kyrgyzstan during an international seminar entitled "International Accreditation - a tool to enhance education quality".

Communication of the Standards and guidelines for international accreditation of joint educational programmes of higher and (or) postgraduate education to key stakeholders took place through meetings of the Expert Council, meetings with university heads, and publication on the IAAR website. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic and other stakeholders were informed about the introduction of the updated standards and guidelines for institutional and programme accreditation during an international seminar for university heads in Kyrgyzstan on

May 20, 2022. Kazakhstani and other international universities received information through the IAAR website and expert participation in the work of the EEP.

According to the IAAR Plan for 2022 and Agreements with educational organisations, systematic work was carried out to organise and conduct seminars to explain the IAAR international accreditation methodology. Throughout the year, 10 seminars were held for educational organisations in Kazakhstan, Russia, and Azerbaijan, including:

- M. Dulatov Kostanay Engineering and Economic University
- Al-Farabi Kazakh National University
- Sumy State University
- A.Baitursynov Kostanay Regional University
- Kyrgyz National Agrarian University named after K.I. Skryabin
- Atyrau University named after Kh. Dosmukhamedov
- Azerbaijan University of Culture and Art
- Kazakhstan University of Innovative and Telecommunication Systems
- Swiss International Institute Lausanne
- Korkyt Ata Kyzylorda University.

The IAAR has worked extensively to develop and improve its own standards and criteria for various types of accreditation in accordance with international standards, national requirements, and the requirements of the European Higher Education Area. This work has been done to bring the standards and criteria to the general academic community and ensure they align with international standards.

International Accreditation. In 2022, institutional and programme international accreditation of HEIs in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Azerbaijan, and Ukraine was conducted. Furthermore, IAAR extended its activities as Bridgetown International University (Barbados), Arab American University (Palestine), “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy Bucharest (Romania), American Canadian School of Medicine (Commonwealth of Dominica) applied for international institutional and programme

accreditation and Swiss International Institute of Lausanne (Switzerland). The EEP also visited the HEIs of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Belarus, with decisions to be made in 2023. In summary, 7 educational organisations of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 7 foreign HEIs, and **461 EPs** of different levels of education in Kazakhstan, as well as **38 EPs** of foreign educational organisations passed international institutional and specialised accreditation in 2022.

As of 1st July 2022, IAAR had included more than 2,500 reports from 115 educational organisations in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Romania, Uzbekistan, Armenia, and Ukraine into the DEQAR database.

The inclusion of educational organisations (OO) and educational programmes (EP) in DEQAR confirms their compliance with ESG quality standards and serves as a basis for recognition of EPs in the European Higher Education Area.

International accreditation in the Republic of Kazakhstan. In January-February 2022, IAAR prepared and submitted a package of documents to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan for re-recognition and inclusion in the National Register No. 1. On **5th October 2022**, the Republican Accreditation Council made a decision to include IAAR in the **National Register No. 1** of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the third time until **20th May 2027**.

The quality assessment of educational organisations in Kazakhstan was conducted based on the Standards and guidelines for institutional and specialised accreditation of higher, vocational, higher and postgraduate medical education, medical colleges, continuing professional education organisations, schools implementing international programmes of primary, basic secondary and general secondary education with active participation of stakeholders. To learn more about the procedure and methodology of accreditation in Kazakhstan, you can visit the **Accreditation** section of the IAAR website: **www.iaar.agency**.

Institutional accreditation. The quality assessment of educational organisations was carried out based on the Standards and guidelines for institutional accreditation of higher, vocational, higher and postgraduate medical education, medical colleges,

organisations of continuing professional education. In 2022, IAAR granted institutional accreditation to 7 educational organisations, including 4 HEIs, 1 TVE organisation, and 2 continuing professional education organisations. The vast majority of organisations fully demonstrated compliance with the IAAR institutional accreditation standards and were accredited for 5 years.

Table 1 shows that out of the 7 educational organisations accredited by IAAR, 6 were accredited for 5 years and 1 for 3 years. Thus, the majority of HEIs fully demonstrated compliance with the standards of institutional international accreditation IAAR.

International IAAR accreditation in Kazakhstan involves active participation of stakeholders, including employers, students, foreign experts, and a coordinator, who is a representative of the agency.

Table 1. Quantitative indicators of accredited educational organisations of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2022 (*institutional accreditation*)

| Educational organisations | 5 years | 3 years | 1 year | Denied | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| HEIs | | | | | |
| National | | | | | - |
| Public | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Joint Stock | | | | | - |
| Private | 1 | 1 | | | 2 |
| TVE | | | | | - |
| TVE (medical) | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Research Institutes, Continuing Professional Education Organisations, Schools | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Total | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |

Stakeholders play a vital role in both the Self-Assessment process carried out by the educational organisation and during the visit of an external expert commission. The reports of external expert commissions are publicly available on the IAAR website.

To learn more about the procedure and methodology of accreditation in Kazakhstan, please visit the Accreditation section on the IAAR website: www.iaar.agency.

Specialised (programme) accreditation in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The quality assessment of the EP was carried out on the basis of the Standards and guidelines for specialised (programme) accreditation of higher, vocational, basic medical and postgraduate medical education, medical colleges.

As part of the specialised (programme) accreditation in 2022, a total of **461 EPs** were accredited, including **286 EPs** - specialised accreditation, **175 EPs** - initial specialised accreditation.

Out of **461** educational programmes, 3 programmes are accredited for 7 years, 371 educational programmes - for 5 years, 81 EPs - for 3 years, 5 educational programmes - for 1 year, 1 EP is denied accreditation. The educational programme "7M01721 Russian language and literature", implemented by the institution "Baishev University", was denied accreditation. The basis for this decision of the Accreditation Council was the results of an external evaluation of the EEP, including the identification of 34 criteria requiring improvement.

The general statistics of accredited educational programmes for 2022 is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Quantitative indicators of accredited educational programmes for 2022 (specialised / programme accreditation)

| Name of EO/EP | 7 years | 5 years | 3 years | 1 year | Refusal of accreditation | Total accredited EPs |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| HEI | 3 | 316 | 75 | 5 | 1 | 400 |
| BA | 3 | 159 | 41 | 4 | 0 | |
| MA | | 106 | 24 | | 1 | |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|
| PhD | | 51 | 10 | 1 | | |
| Medical HEIs | 0 | 55 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 61 |
| BA | | 6 | | | | |
| MA | | 10 | 5 | | | |
| PhD | | 1 | | | | |
| Residency | | 38 | 1 | | | |
| TVE | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total accredited | 3 | 371 | 81 | 5 | 1 | 461 |

In 2022, the accreditation of 11 programmes of 2 HEIs and 1 joint programme at the Kazakh Agrotechnical University named after S. Seifullin was postponed due to the suspension of the licence for educational activities by the authorised body in the field of education of the Republic of Kazakhstan - the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

For the first time, the IAAR Accreditation Council on January 28, 2022 made a decision on the results of an external evaluation of the joint educational programme (bachelor's degree) of the Kazakh National Academy of Choreography and the Kazan State Institute of Culture (the site visit took place in 2021). The first experience of assessing the quality of a double-degree educational programme of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation was carried out in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for the International Specialised (Programme) Accreditation of a Joint Educational Programme of Higher Education, developed on the basis of ESG and the European approach to the quality assurance of joint programmes.

As part of the accreditation of the educational programme, international experts became familiar with the internal quality assurance systems of partner HEIs, the model of their interaction in preparing students, and creating the necessary conditions for students. Information on accredited educational organisations and educational programmes can be found on the website in the "Register" section.

In 2022, a joint educational programme developed and implemented by the Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov and the West Kazakhstan Medical University named after M. Ospanov (Aktobe, Republic of Kazakhstan) passed the international accreditation of IAAR for compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for International Specialised (Programme) Accreditation of a Joint Educational Programme of Higher and (or) Postgraduate Education (based on ESG, the European Approach to Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes, 2015).

Cross-border accreditation. An important activity of the Agency was the international institutional and specialised (programme) accreditation of educational institutions in Central Asia and Europe based on the Standards - ESG and WFME, including online site visits.

In 2022, the boundaries of IAAR accreditation activities expanded geographically. For the first time, applications for accreditation were received from the following foreign HEIs: Bridgetown International University (**Barbados**), Arab American University (**Palestine**), “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy Bucharest (**Romania**), American Canadian School of Medicine (**Dominica**), and Swiss International Institute of Lausanne (**Switzerland**).

Within the framework of international institutional accreditation, IAAR conducted an external quality assessment of **7 foreign** educational organisations (Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Moldova, Russia, Belarus, Azerbaijan). IAAR international programme accreditation was awarded to **38 educational programmes** of foreign HEIs.

In 2022, IAAR and the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NAQA, Ukraine) conducted a joint international programme accreditation of Sumy State University (Ukraine). The EEP visit took place on January 26th-28th, 2022. Joint accreditation by IAAR-NAQA has made it possible to evaluate the educational programme at a qualitatively new level and more comprehensively, taking into account the national requirements of Ukraine and international WFME standards.

International accreditation in the Russian Federation. In accordance with the "Agreement on cooperation and interaction for the purpose of assessing the quality of higher education and accreditation of educational programmes" dated May 6th, 2019, with the Federal State Budgetary Institution "Rosakkredaghenstvo," IAAR international accreditation is recognised on the territory of the Russian Federation.

In 2022, IAAR conducted accreditation in 4 Russian HEIs:

- Smolensk State Medical University (IA)
- Altai State Medical University (IA)
- Kemerovo State Medical University (IA, 4 EPs)
- Samara State Medical University (IA, 10 EPs).

Out of 14 educational programmes of Russian HEIs accredited by IAAR in 2022, 10 EPs are accredited for a period of 5 years, 3 EPs for 3 years, and 1 EP for 1 year.

International accreditation in Eastern Europe. The quality of HEIs and educational programmes of undergraduate, graduate and PhD levels in Eastern Europe within the framework of international accreditation is determined in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Foreign Educational Institutions and Educational Programmes (based on ESG), introduced by IAAR in 2018.

In 2022, the Agency carried out international accreditation in Moldova in accordance with the IAAR Standards, taking into account the principles of the Bologna Process, ESG and WFME Standards, and national legislation in the field of higher education.

In 2022, IAAR accredited three educational programmes at the State Medical and Pharmaceutical University named after Nicolae Testemitanu in the **Republic of Moldova** (0912.1 Medicine, 0911.1 Dentistry, 0916.1 Pharmacy) for a period of five years.

In **Ukraine**, IAAR conducted accreditation in three HEIs in 2022:

- Poltava State Medical University (two EPs)
- Sumy State University (one EP)
- International European University (one EP)

Of the four educational programmes accredited by IAAR in 2022, two EPs are accredited for a period of five years, and two EPs for three years.

In 2022, IAAR conducted institutional and programme accreditation of the Belarusian State Medical University and the Vitebsk State Order of Friendship of Peoples Medical University in the **Republic of Belarus**.

The agency also carried out international accreditation in the **Republic of Azerbaijan** in 2022, in accordance with the ESG and WFME standards and national legislation in the field of higher education.

IAAR accredited three educational programmes at the Azerbaijan Medical University (070101 General Medicine, 070104 Dentistry, 050806 Pharmacy) for a period of five years in 2022.

IAAR international accreditation in Central Asia. IAAR conducts international accreditation in the **Republic of Tajikistan**. In accordance with the international Agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan dated May 13, 2019, the activities of the IAAR are recognised on the territory of Tajikistan. In 2022, **3 EPs** were accredited: 1-790102 Pediatrics, 1-790108 Pharmacy, 1-790101 General Medicine of the Avicenna Tajik State Medical University for a period of 5 years.

In 2022, IAAR in the **Kyrgyz Republic** conducted programme accreditation in 4 HEIs - **Jalal-Abad State University named after Bekmamat Osmonov (2 EPs), Adam University (1 EP), Kyrgyz National Agrarian University named after K. Skryabin (IA, 1 EP), International Higher School of Medicine (1 EP)**.

Due to the expiration of the IAAR recognition status in the Kyrgyz Republic, from January to March 2022, the working group worked on the preparation of documents for the National Accreditation Council of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic. On **May 16, 2022**, the National Accreditation Council decided to **recognise the IAAR** and issue a Certificate of State Registration.

Reports and decisions on accredited HEIs and EPs are published on the IAAR website in the sections "Reports of the External Expert Commission and Decisions" and "Registry". Along with this, all information is published on the website of the

European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (**EQAR**). All IAAR-accredited educational organisations and educational programmes are automatically included in the **DEQAR** database of the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (**EQAR**). The European **DEQAR** Register is a Register of educational programmes and educational organisations accredited by European recognised quality assurance agencies. The main goal of **DEQAR** is to inform the world community more widely about accreditation agencies recognised at the European level, as well as about HEIs that have successfully passed international accreditation.

IAAR has developed an automatic transmission of accreditation decisions and reports via the API system, as part of the Erasmus + project “Expanding the Coverage and Connectivity of QA in the EHEA through DEQAR (DEQAR CONNECT)”. IAAR has placed in the DEQAR database reports of all accredited educational organisations in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, etc. The inclusion of educational programmes and educational organisations in DEQAR confirms their compliance with ESG quality assurance standards and is the basis for recognising accredited educational programmes at the territory of the European Higher Education Area.

More details can be found at the link:
<https://www.eqar.eu/register/agencies/agency/?id=30&cn-reloaded=1>

Thus, in 2022, the boundaries of cross-border accreditation have expanded. For the first time, a request for international accreditation of non-medical HEIs in Belarus and Azerbaijan has been received. Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno (Republic of Belarus) passed the international institutional and programme accreditation, Azerbaijan State University of Culture and Art (Republic of Azerbaijan) applied. For the first time in 2022, an external evaluation of joint educational programmes (undergraduate) was carried out based on the standards and guidelines for international specialised (programme) accreditation of a joint educational programme of higher education, developed on the basis of ESG and the European Approach to the Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes, 2015.

1.2 Improving the Quality Potential of National and Foreign Experts

IAAR, guided by the mission and strategic goals of development, attaches particular importance to improving the quality of expert potential to achieve the important goals of procedures for external quality assurance of higher education.

In 2022, a qualitative update of the database of experts was monitored in order to increase the level of IAAR's expert potential. The IAAR expert potential in **2022** includes about **4,000 members** of the academic community, employers and students from **39 countries**. For each category of experts, certain selection criteria have been established, which make it possible to involve the most experienced specialists in assessing the quality. Selection criteria and requirements are defined in.

The selection of experts is carried out in accordance with the Regulations on the regulation of the expert activities of an external expert of the IAAR. In 2022, the base of national experts was replenished with **50 experts**. With the development of IAAR's cross-border capabilities, it becomes relevant to expand the base of national experts with knowledge of the English language.

IAAR actively cooperates with foreign accreditation agencies, carrying out a mutual exchange of experts. Over the past 10 years, experts from ASIIN, ACQUIN, FIBAA, WFME, AIC, ANACEC, the Rosakkredagentstvo, representatives of foreign educational organisations from Great Britain, Germany, France, Greece, Turkey, Poland, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and other countries. Experts recommended by IAAR's foreign partners are characterised by professionalism, a high level of competence and culture.

IAAR continues to interact with educational organisations and the Association of HEIs of Kyrgyzstan, HEIs of the Republic of Belarus, the Association of Non-State HEIs of Russia to attract experts to the EEP IAAR. In 2022, experts recommended by foreign partner agencies took part in the EEP:

- 3 experts from the Rosakkredagentstvo (Moscow, Russian Federation);
- 11 experts from the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Education and Research (ANACEC, Moldova);

- 3 experts from the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NAQA, Ukraine).
- 1 expert from the State Examination Center (SEC, Azerbaijan)

In 2022, significant attention was paid to expanding the composition of foreign medical experts, attracting foreign experts on the recommendation of foreign IAAR partner agencies. The agency actively involves students in the evaluation of the EP and participation in the decision-making process. All accreditation procedures comply with ENQA requirements for involving students in each evaluated cluster.

IAAR employees annually discuss the issues of determining experts of the first category from among the current experts, analyse the activities of experts of different categories in order to expand the formation of a list of experts to be involved in the accreditation process as chairpersons of the EEP. The issue of assigning the first category was submitted in 2022 for consideration by the Expert Council for HE. As practice shows, in 2022, in most cases, representatives of foreign HEIs, quality assurance agencies, including HEIs of foreign countries and the agency of Moldova, were appointed as chairpersons of the EEP. The degree of development of the EEP reports, the quality of recommendations, as well as the level of organisation of the work of the EEP confirm the professionalism of foreign chairpersons.

An important direction of the Agency's activities in expanding the pool of experts was to increase the number of experts from among students and employers.

During 2022, IAAR interacted with experts as part of the formation of the External Expert Panel, explaining to new experts the methodology of institutional and specialised (programme) accreditation in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines put into effect in 2020.

An important area of IAAR's activities to increase expert capacity is the education and training of experts.

Training and certification of experts are carried out in accordance with the "Regulations on the training, retraining and advanced training of external experts". In accordance with annual plans, IAAR conducts training seminars to develop the competencies of candidates for quality assessment experts.

IAAR organised a number of seminars for the training and advanced training of experts, in which faculty and students of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, and representatives of independent accreditation agencies of Kyrgyzstan participated. In 2022, IAAR conducted training seminars for new and existing experts of the Agency, as well as chairpersons of the EEP, according to the approved schedule.

In 2022, the **IAAR Experts Professional Development Programme**, which was launched in 2020, continued its implementation, which provides for four training seminars for existing and new experts.

On February 18, 2022, IAAR held a webinar on preparing experts for the EEP visit to educational organisations. The webinar participants were representatives of the academic community of Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

On March 24, 2022, IAAR held a webinar for experts on preparation for the EEP visit to medical educational institutions. The webinar participants were representatives of the academic community from different countries.

On November 4, 2022, IAAR held a webinar on preparing experts for the EEP visit to educational organisations.

On June 22, 2022, IAAR hosted a webinar for EEP chairs on the topic: "External quality assessment for compliance with IAAR standards and a focus on improvement."

On February 24, 2022, IAAR hosted a webinar on training experts for post-accreditation monitoring.

In order to exchange experience, national and foreign experts take an active part in forums, congresses, conferences, round tables, workshops and trainings. IAAR experts are also actively involved in the development of methodological guidelines for accreditation and rating procedures and publish articles. The professional activities of IAAR experts are regulated by a set of normative documents that define the ethical behavior and competencies of an expert. The IAAR Expert's Conflict of Interest Statement and the Expert's Code of Ethics are available on the IAAR website in the Experts section.

In order to ensure the transparency of their activities, the compositions of the IAAR EEPs are published separately on the IAAR website in the "Registry" section with the EEP report.

1.3 Enhancing IAAR's Performance through Human Resource Development and Financial Stability

The mission and strategic development goals of IAAR determined the organisational structure and application of the project approach.

The agency has 20 full-time employees with well-defined functional duties and responsibilities outlined in their job descriptions and Work Plans. Communication is a key aspect of IAAR's work culture, and the team interacts daily, holds weekly meetings, and conducts internal audits. IAAR coordinators fill out a questionnaire after each EEP visit to ensure continuous improvement of accreditation procedures.

IAAR places great importance on **developing the professional competencies of its employees.**

These competencies include:

- understanding national quality assurance in an international context,
- articulating ideas persuasively both orally and in writing,
- directing and coordinating complex projects with various stakeholders,
- anticipating potential challenges and opportunities,
- using appropriate teamwork methods to achieve goals,
- organising resources efficiently,
- managing projects effectively,
- taking responsibility for their actions,
- working in the international quality assurance arena, and
- understanding the application of quality assurance methods in higher education.

IAAR achieves this by providing regular training and professional development opportunities for its staff.

Thanks to the development of professional competencies of employees, the IAAR has successfully achieved its goals set out in the IAAR Development Strategy, and its planned programmes are being implemented.

The IAAR's organisational structure includes units such as "Medical Projects", "International Projects", "Project for Institutional and Specialised Accreditation of HEIs", "Projects for Accreditation of TVE Organisations", "Information and Analytical Project", and others, whose activities are regulated by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan and internal IAAR documents. There is a Supervisory Board, an Accreditation Council, an Appeals and Complaints Commission, a Ranking Advisory Board, and Expert Councils for various areas of activity. The General Director oversees general management.

The Expert Council for Higher Education discusses issues related to external assessments within the framework of institutional and specialised accreditation during online visits by the EEP. The Council also works on developing draft standards for international specialised programme accreditation of joint higher education and postgraduate programmes (based on ESG, the European approach to quality assurance of joint programmes, 2015), standards for specialised accreditation of PhD programmes, and a draft implementation plan for the IAAR Development Strategy in 2022.

The Expert Council for Higher Education operates according to its regulations. During its meeting in March 2022, the Council reviewed the results of external assessments within the framework of institutional and specialised accreditation during hybrid site visits by the EEP and the accreditation of joint educational programmes.

In accordance with the Human Resources Development Plan for 2019-2023, IAAR employees constantly improve their professional competence by participating in various conferences, seminars, and forums on education and quality assurance. In 2022, Agency employees took part in the following events:

11-13 May 2022 in Almaty at the International Forum on Quality Assurance in the Countries of Central Asia, organised by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

14 February 2022 in the training seminar "Ranking as a tool to increase the competitiveness of HEIs" (Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan), which was organised jointly with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In 2022, they took part in webinars organised by INQAAHE.

Thus, IAAR staff constantly improve their skills by participating in various webinars organised by national and international partner organisations.

1.4 Strengthening IAAR's Efficiency through Feedback Development and Internal Quality Assurance System Improvement

IAAR creates an internal environment for the full involvement of both employees and stakeholders in achieving strategic goals and determining the degree of satisfaction of service consumers. Work with stakeholders and consumers of services in accordance with the Quality Policy is aimed at meeting their requirements and is based on the principles of feedback and mutually beneficial partnership.

The IAAR's Internal Quality Assurance System (hereinafter - IQAS) is developed, documented, implemented and maintained, and constantly improved in accordance with the Quality Policy and Development Strategy. The Policy and Guidelines on the internal quality assurance system, considering changes in the internal and external environment, are updated with a focus on building a culture of quality, meeting the needs of stakeholders, published on the website.

Improving the efficiency of IAAR activities is facilitated by monitoring the activities of the agency within the framework of the internal quality assurance system (IQAS), including the organisation of the work of working groups for the continuous improvement of IQAS; conducting an internal audit, preparing a report on its results; development and implementation of a corrective action plan and other actions.

IAAR is constantly working to improve the IQAS with the participation of collegiate bodies and experts. External and internal feedback mechanisms aimed at improving performance have been developed and implemented. In order to involve the staff in the process of continuously ensuring the effectiveness of the IQAS, the management supports the activities of working groups of proactive employees and

experts. IAAR employees, members of collegiate management bodies take part in the discussion of IAAR regulatory documents, including the Development Strategy, complaints and appeals procedures, accreditation standards and criteria, and make proposals for improving IAAR's activities.

Monitoring of the agency's activities within the framework of the IQAS is carried out through the work of working groups to improve the IQAS; conducting an internal audit and implementing a corrective action plan. Improvement of IQAS is also carried out through feedback, analysis of IQAS, corrective actions and risk management.

In accordance with the IQAS Manual, the IAAR conducts internal audits of the quality assurance system to determine the effectiveness, evaluate the effectiveness and compliance with the requirements of the IAAR, as well as the requirements of customers and external regulations. An internal audit is carried out once a year for the main processes - accreditation and post-accreditation monitoring of EOs and (or) EPs and other areas. In 2022, an internal audit was conducted on February 7-15. The Working Group conducted an internal audit to determine compliance in 2021:

- processes of international (institutional and specialised/programme) accreditation and reaccreditation to IAAR requirements;
- post-accreditation monitoring of educational organisations according to IAAR requirements;
- determining the implementation by project managers of work plans for 2021.

The internal audit conducted by the working group made it possible to identify opportunities for improvement and propose measures aimed at improving the quality of IAAR's accreditation activities. Improvement measures during 2022 were implemented in full:

- enhanced monitoring of self-assessment reports for compliance with the requirements of the Standards and Guidelines for the accreditation of EOs and EPs;
- amendments and additions were made to the document "Standards and Guidelines for the international accreditation of foreign educational organisations and educational programmes (based on ESG);

- individual recommendations on the content of each EP are provided in the EEP reports;

- the responsibility of the coordinators for the technical design of the EEP reports and the correct publication on the website has been increased;

- constant monitoring of reports of HEIs and colleges has been established.

As part of the feedback, a survey was conducted of accredited educational organisations (using a Google form) and IAAR experts after completing the accreditation procedure, including Sumy State University (Ukraine) (programme, EEP visit January 26-28, 2022), Korkyt Ata Kyzylorda University (programme, EEP visit March 28-30, 2022), L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University (programme, EEC visit April 12-14, 2022), and others.

As part of the current system of internal quality assurance, the results of the above surveys are used for appropriate analysis and improvement of IAAR activities. Issues of the internal quality assurance system are regularly discussed at the weekly meetings of the Agency's employees, meetings of the Expert Councils, and the Accreditation Council.

The results of internal audit, surveys of key stakeholders, analytical reports, analysis of EEP reports, etc. are taken into account in the Agency's operational activities, in the development of annual IAAR development plans, individual plans for employees, etc. Practice shows the positive impact of IAAR's IQAS on maintaining confidence in the unconditional fulfillment of established requirements on the main business processes: international (institutional and specialised/programme) accreditation, post-accreditation monitoring of educational organisations.

IAAR systematically conducts events to study the opinions of stakeholders. Analysis of the survey of EOs and experts, as well as reports of the EEP are carried out annually by the information and analytical division. The results of the analysis of the survey of educational organisations and experts are published on the IAAR website in the "Analytical Reports" section, are considered by the Expert Councils to develop recommendations for improving the IQAS and submit to the IAAR management, are used in the process of external quality assurance.

IAAR carries out constructive cooperation with state, non-state and public organisations (student associations, associations and professional communities of employers, etc.), international partners. IAAR interacts with the authorised bodies in the field of education of the countries in which it operates in accordance with legal requirements, informs about the results of activities and external evaluation, assists in the development of the national quality assurance system, advises on the implementation of ESG standards, and holds joint events on issues quality assurance and contributes to the professional development of the academic community. IAAR annually sends a report on its activities, and regularly informs the MES RK, MES KR, the National Accreditation Council of the KR and the MES RT about accredited EOs and / or EPs (according to their requirements).

On 25th April 2022, a meeting was held with the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, during which they discussed the prospects for cooperation in the quality assurance of the country's HEIs.

On 29th April 2022, participated in the Academic Policy Forum organised by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the basis of L. Gumilyov ENU.

On 12th-13th May 2022, the International Forum of Rectors of Central Asian countries was held at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

On 20th May 2022, a seminar titled "International accreditation - a tool to improve the quality of education" was held by IAAR for vice-rectors and quality assurance managers at the Kyrgyz State Medical Academy named after I. Akhunbaev.

On 24th-25th August 2022, participated in the Forum of Science and Higher Education "Human capital is a key resource for the development of the new Kazakhstan", where the directions for the development of the higher education system in accordance with global trends were discussed.

IAAR collaborates with professional associations, the Alliance of Students of Kazakhstan, with the representation of communities of employers and students, foreign HEIs as part of the collegiate bodies of IAAR (AC, EC for HE, EC for MO, EC for

TVE; with JSC "Republican Scientific and Methodological Center for the Development of Technical and Vocational Education and Qualification"; National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken"; National Medical Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Association of Higher Educational Institutions of the Republic of Kazakhstan; National Engineering Academy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; International Informatization Academy, and so on.

In 2022, IAAR actively collaborated with youth and student organisations in Kazakhstan, including with the largest student public organisation - the Alliance of Students of Kazakhstan.

2. Enhancing National Education Systems and Organizations through Quality Assurance Monitoring and World Best Practices

2.1 Enhancing Post-Accreditation Monitoring Quality for Educational Organisations and/or Programmes

Post-accreditation monitoring is carried out in order to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of an external expert commission of an accredited EO and / or EP in accordance with the criteria for the corresponding type of accreditation. In order to improve the quality of post-accreditation monitoring, accredited EOs submit to IAAR an interim report that contains information on their activities to implement the recommendations of the EEP for the entire period from the date of receipt of the accreditation certificate and includes information on all changes in the EO in accordance with accreditation standards. According to the plan of the Accreditation Council, the report of the Chairman of the Expert Council on higher education is heard based on the results of post-accreditation monitoring of EOs and / or EPs.

In 2022, 87 educational organisations (EOs) passed the post-accreditation post-monitoring procedure, including 61 HEIs (*including 10 foreign ones*), 23 colleges, 1 organisation of continuous vocational training and 2 international schools.

Within the framework of institutional accreditation, 42 educational organisations (EOs) passed, including: 17 HEIs, 22 colleges, 1 continuing professional education organisation and 2 international schools.

Within the framework of specialised (programme) accreditation in 2022, 670 EPs passed post-accreditation monitoring, including 552 EPs of HEIs and 118 EPs of TVE (Table 9).

All educational organisations have successfully passed post-accreditation monitoring, with the exception of EP 7M07218 "Technology of food products (profile master's degree)" of Dulary Taraz Regional University, due to non-fulfillment of recommendations on post-accreditation monitoring. Also, the Accreditation Council decided to suspend the certificate of institutional accreditation of the Avimed Medical College and certificates of accreditation of its 2 EPs (0304000 "Dentistry", 0301000 "General Medicine"), due to the failure to provide a post-monitoring report.

Of the planned 46 colleges subject to the post-accreditation monitoring procedure, only 23 passed. This is due to the amendments to the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Education" and the introduction of a mandatory state attestation procedure for colleges.

Information about the decisions made by the Accreditation Council on post-accreditation monitoring is posted on the agency's website.

In 2022, the number of EPs of higher educational institutions that underwent post-accreditation monitoring increased by 252 EPs and amounted to 552 EPs of civil and medical HEIs. Of the planned 52 EPs of technical and vocational education organisations, 118 passed.

The practice of post-accreditation monitoring shows:

- the increased attention of HEIs in 2022 to post-accreditation monitoring, due to the strengthening of IAAR requirements for the degree of implementation of the EEP recommendations identified during post-accreditation monitoring;
- the need to conduct a training seminar in 2023 for employees of the accreditation departments of HEIs (high staff turnover, lack or weak control over the implementation

of the recommendations of the EEP by educational organisations) on high-quality writing of reports and effective post-accreditation monitoring.

2.2 Boosting IAAR's Analytical Capacity to Strengthen National Education Quality Assurance Systems

As part of the implementation of the Development Strategy for 2022-2026, improving the quality of accreditation procedures and receiving feedback from key stakeholders, IAAR carries out analytical activities and presents the developed documents and materials to the public. In 2022, a survey of key stakeholders, accredited EOs, and experts from the states of Central Asia and Eastern Europe was conducted, and based on its results, an analytical report was prepared based on the results of feedback. Monitoring was carried out based on the analysis of reports of external expert commissions and an assessment was made of the state of activity of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the process of conducting IAAR international specialised accreditation for 2021. On behalf of the Ministry of Education and Science, IAAR conducted the Monitoring of educational programmes in the pedagogical direction for 2019-2021.

In 2022, the monitoring of the accreditation activities of IAAR and the assessment of the state of activity of HEIs in the process of conducting international specialised accreditation make it possible to determine promising areas for the activities of HEIs implemented EPs, and the implementation of the proposed recommendations will positively affect both the quality of the activities of individual HEIs and the higher education system as a whole. The results of summarising best practices and identifying development trends in the field of quality assurance of education through the analytical activities of IAAR are used by interested stakeholders at the national and international levels.

In accordance with the Implementation Plan of the IAAR Development Strategy, work was carried out on a systematic basis to ensure the publication of EEP reports based on the results of the assessment of educational organisations and (or) educational programmes on the IAAR website.

All analytical reports are posted on the IAAR website in order to provide open access to stakeholders and the general public to information about the results of the analysis, which contribute to the development of an internal quality assurance system in educational organisations. The results of the analysis of all types of polls are submitted for consideration by the Expert Councils and are presented in the form of recommendations to the General Director for decision-making.

Every year, until June 15th and December 30th, a list of accredited EOs and EPs is prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic in accordance with the reporting form "Register of Accredited Organisations and Programmes".

The IAAR Report on activities to promote a culture of quality in the HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2022 was prepared and sent in November 2022 to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, the National Accreditation Council.

On a systematic basis, information and analytical materials are published on the IAAR website, including those on thematic analysis, which contribute to the development of an internal quality assurance system in the EO.

3. Improving Competitiveness and International Recognition of Educational Organisations through Conducting Rating Research in Higher and Postgraduate Education

3.1 Expanding the Boundaries and Enhancing the Quality of Rating Research in Higher and Postgraduate Education

One of the leading activities of IAAR is the organisation and conduct of rating research. IAAR's annual rating studies are focused on international standards and are aimed at developing the system of higher and postgraduate education. IAAR has been conducting rating research in the Republic of Kazakhstan since 2014, in the Kyrgyz Republic since 2018, and the IAAR EUR international rating since 2020. The IAAR rating system received in 2020 confirmation of compliance with the methodology, principles and recognition of "IREG Approved" (<https://ireg-observatory.org/en/initiatives/ranking-seal-of-approval/>). According to the IAAR

Charter, rating studies are carried out independently of the accreditation process and do not affect its results, they are implemented in accordance with the EO and EP ranking methodology (<https://iaar.agency/rating/1/0/2020>).

To determine the level of education quality, IAAR conducts rating studies: **"Independent ratings of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan"**, **"Independent rating of HEIs in the Kyrgyz Republic"**, International Rating **"IAAR Eurasian University Ranking (IAAR EUR)"**.

IAAR is improving the ranking methodology, updating the software product on the basis of which the ranking is carried out, the number of participants has significantly increased, which confirms the high confidence in the results of the IAAR ranking and its popularity in the academic community.

National rating of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan - 2022. In order to promote Kazakhstan to the global rankings, the assessment methodology is as close as possible to the system for assessing HEIs by well-known international organisations.

In 2022, HEIs of multidisciplinary, technical, humanitarian, economic, medical and pedagogical areas, as well as HEIs of art, took part in the "Independent Rating of the demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan - 2022". An important feature of the methodology for conducting the IAAR Rating is the independent entry by the HEI of information about its achievements, and therefore, the position of the HEI in the Rating depends on the correctness of filling in the data and the completeness of the information provided. All rating criteria are represented by **4 blocks**:

- High concentration of talented students, teachers and researchers (**25%**);
- Academic mobility (**25%**);
- Competitiveness of graduates (**25%**);
- Competitiveness of scientific publications of teachers, postgraduates and doctoral students of the speciality (**25%**).

Monitoring of the results of the IAAR Rating showed that compared to the previous year, there is a significant positive trend. So, according to the indicator "Academic mobility", this indicator increased **by 17%**. Active participation in

academic mobility programmes is noted in the following HEIs: L.N.Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages. Significantly, by almost 12%, the number of joint educational programmes in HEIs increased.

It is important to note that the publication activity of the teaching staff of HEIs increased **by 28%**. In such HEIs as the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and the West Kazakhstan Medical University named after Marat Ospanov, the number of scientific publications in the world's indexed journals Q1-Q2 has significantly increased, the publication activity of teaching staff has increased and, as a result, the indexing of Kazakh scientists, which indicates the increased demand for the results of scientific work and the effectiveness of research in higher educational institutions.

The IAAR rating allows you to determine the level of employment of graduates. Evaluation of the results of the Independent Rating of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan shows that the success of the HEI largely depends on the involvement of employers and students in the development of educational programmes in order to improve their quality. Such universities as S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University, Kazakh National Agrarian Research University, Turan University, etc. show a practice-oriented approach and close relationship with stakeholders and, as a result, demonstrate a high quality of education, which is confirmed by the demand for graduates and a high percentage of their employment in their specialty. This indicator as a whole demonstrated growth dynamics by more **than 7%**.

According to the results of the Independent Rating of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (**366313 points**) took first place.

The digital ranking of educational programmes made it possible to present to graduates, the academic community, parents and other interested parties:

1. General Rating "TOP-20" of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan - 2022.
2. Institutional Ranking of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan by areas of undergraduate educational programmes - 2022.
3. Institutional Rating of HEIs by areas of master's degree programmes - 2022.

4. Institutional Rating of HEIs by areas of educational programmes for doctoral studies - 2022.

5. Rating of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan by groups of undergraduate educational programmes.

6. Rating of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan by groups of master's degree programmes.

7. Rating of HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan by groups of doctoral educational programmes.

The Independent Rating of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan contributes to the growth of the competitiveness of educational services and ensures public awareness of the degree of compliance of the quality of education with market requirements, the recognition of teachers, and the effectiveness of research activities of the HEI. Full information about the "Independent Ranking of demand for HEIs of the Republic of Kazakhstan - 2022" is published in the journal "Education. Quality Assurance" and on the website: www.iaar.agency.

The independent rating of HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic - 2022, held annually since 2018 by IAAR, reflects current international trends in the development of education and serves as an important tool for a transparent and comprehensive assessment of the activities of HEIs, taking into account the interests of students, the scientific community, business and employers.

The digital rating research programme allows you to objectively assess the quality of educational and research activities of the HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic, determine their positions by levels:

- Institutional Rating of HEIs in the areas of training;
- Rating of undergraduate educational programmes;
- Rating of Master's degree programmes;
- Rating of teachers "TOP 50".

The Independent Ranking of HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic - 2022 was attended by public and private educational institutions of the country. IAAR ranked **261 EPs**, which is **12% more** than in the previous period. The TOP leaders in terms

of the number of ranked educational programmes included Osh State University, Kyrgyz National Agrarian University named after K.I. Skryabin, Bishkek State University named after K. Karasaev, Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture named after N. Isanov, Jalal-Abad State University named after B.Osmonov, International University of Innovative Technologies. The results are on the website: www.iaar.agency and in the Journal "Education. Quality Assurance."

On 15th July 2022, a ceremony was held in Bishkek, at the Kyrgyz State Technical University named after I. Razzakov, to award the participants of the **"Independent Rating of Higher Educational Institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic - 2022"**. The event was attended by Professor Mambetkunov U.E., the Deputy Minister of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, members of the National Accreditation Council of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic, rectors of universities, as well as accreditation agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic.

On 14th February 2022, IAAR held a training seminar in Dushanbe, together with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, on "Ranking as a tool to increase the competitiveness of HEIs" for heads of higher educational institutions.

HEIs from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Azerbaijan actively participated in **the International Ranking "IAAR Eurasian University Ranking (IAAR-EUR)" 2022**. The HEIs of Tajikistan participated for the first time this year, indicating the growing popularity of the International Ranking "IAAR Eurasian University Ranking (IAAR-EUR)" in the academic community.

The top three HEIs in the ranking were Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, and St. Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Osh State University, Tomsk State University of Control Systems and Radioelectronics, etc.. The award ceremony for the participants of the **International Ranking "IAAR Eurasian University Ranking - 2022"** was held on **October 7, 2022** during the VI Central Asian International Forum on Education Quality Assurance.

4. Promoting Transparency and Reliability: Timely Dissemination of Educational Quality Assessment Results and Feedback to the Public

4.1 Enhancing Public Awareness: Informing the Public About Educational Programme Quality Assessment Results and Organisational Performance of Educational and Scientific Institutions

Informing the public about the results of the external evaluation of the EO / EP is carried out in the following areas: publication of EEP reports and AC decisions on the IAAR website; holding seminars, training seminars, online conferences, round tables and the annual Central Asian Quality Assurance Forum; participation in the dialogue platforms of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan and HEIs; participation in conferences and forums held by international networks and foreign partners; publication of materials on the effectiveness of the IAAR external evaluation in the scientific and information journal "Education. Quality Assurance"; speeches, interviews and publications in the media, scientific publications; publication of information and news feed on the IAAR website.

On an ongoing basis, work is underway to replenish the register of accredited EOs / EPs, post information on the events held on the website, as well as update information on the accreditation procedure in the field of technical and vocational education. The results of IAAR activities are also reflected in the annual analytical reports, which include all processes and procedures for accreditation. All stakeholders are constantly informed about the introduction of updated standards and guidelines for institutional and programme accreditation through the Agency's website, distribution of information letters and other information channels. Information about the activities of the IAAR in conducting international accreditation and ratings is reflected in social networks, in national and foreign media, on the official resources of state authorities, universities of the Republic of Kazakhstan and foreign countries, international organisations, which indicates their trust in the activities of the Agency, its high reputation and recognition both in Kazakhstan and abroad.

In 2022, partners' Newsletters were monitored and prepared materials were published, including in INQAAHE Bulletin, CEENQA Newsletter, APQN Newsletter - published. The announcements of international networks and partners were constantly monitored.

Scientific Journal “Education. Quality Assurance”. In order to highlight the best domestic and world practices in the field of quality assurance in education, IAAR publishes the Scientific Journal “Education. Quality Assurance”. Periodicity of the journal - 4 times a year, articles in the journal are published in 3 languages (Kazakh, English and Russian). The Journal is distributed not only in Kazakhstan, but also abroad. There is a separate website of the journal “Education. Quality Assurance”: <http://iaar-education.kz>, where journals are placed in electronic format in free access. Since 2021, the journal has been included in the Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI) database.

In 2022, 4 issues of the Journal “Education. Quality Assurance” were released, published 45 articles and 2 interviews with the heads of HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Azerbaijan Republic, dedicated to the issues of the quality assurance of education and international accreditation of the Eurasian region. Of the 45 articles in the journal, 30 were published by Kazakh authors and 15 by foreign authors.

In 2022, active preparation of a package of documents began to include the journal in the list of publications recommended for publishing the results of scientific activities of the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Information interaction with the media. As part of the expansion of information interaction, IAAR is actively working with the media. IAAR regularly publishes materials in foreign journals, newspapers and publications.

In 2022, work was actively carried out to widely attract public attention to the results and significance of the agency's activities to ensure the quality of education by organising and participating in webinars, seminars, workshops, conferences and forums, information about which is published on the IAAR website in the news feed.

An important place in the activities of the Agency is the annual Quality Assurance Forum. On 7th October 2022, the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating held the **VI Central Asian International Forum on Education Quality Assurance: "Transnational Interaction in the Global Educational Space"** in Almaty on the basis of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. More than 300 people took part in the Forum. The main goal of the International Forum on Quality Assurance in Education is to create an international dialogue platform for discussing and exchanging best practices in the field of education in the context of digital transformation.

Within the framework of the Forum, **4 Panel sessions** and a **Round Table** meeting, and discussions were held:

Session 1. The impact of global reality on the development of education

Session 2. University architecture: new models and opportunities

Session 3. The quality of medical education in the era of digital transformation

Session 4. Student-centred approach: management and culture

Round table: "Ranking - the way to academic leadership"

The holding of the international Forum made it possible to exchange best practices on creating an effective education system in the context of digital transformation, discuss the current challenges of the time and outline ways to improve the quality of education in HEIs in Central Asia and Europe.

5. IAAR: A Globally Recognised International Accreditation Agency

One of the key objectives for the implementation of the mission and vision of IAAR, outlined in the Development Strategy for 2022 - 2026, is the recognition of IAAR at the national, European, and international levels as a reliable quality assurance partner. This strategic goal is realised through the active position of IAAR on the international platform, commitment to European quality standards, study and implementation of the best foreign practices.

5.1 Strengthening and Expanding the IAAR's International Recognition and Authority

During 2022, active work was carried out to interact with international quality assurance networks, including monitoring the timely payment of membership fees, exchanging information as necessary, exchanging relevant quality assurance materials, participating in network events, monitoring all mail correspondence on interaction with networks.

In 2022, Newsletters of partners were monitored; materials published in the Newsletter-Bulletin YOKAK; INQAAHE Bulletin, CEENQA, APQN Newsletter, as well as constant monitoring of announcements from international networks and partners; sending partner letters to universities from different countries, etc.

Particular attention was paid to the work to maintain membership in international networks for quality assurance:

- European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (**ENQA**) - full member since 2016;
- International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (**INQAAHE**) - full member since 2015;
- The US Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) International Quality Group (**CIQG**) - full member since 2015;
- Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (**CEENQA**) - full member since 2016;
- Asia-Pacific Quality Assurance Network (**APQN**) - full member since 2017;
- Association of Quality Assurance Agencies of the Islamic World (**IQA**) - full member since 2012;
- International Observatory for Academic Ranking and Excellence (**IREG**) - full member since 2015.

The participation of IAAR employees in international events organised by the quality assurance networks **CIQG, APQN, INQAAHE, WFME, IREG, ENQA, CEENQA** was also ensured.

In 2022, an application was submitted and successfully approved by the members of the **CEENQA** Board to hold the **CEENQA** General Assembly in 2023 on the basis of IAAR on **9-10 June 2023** in Astana.

In 2022, a significant event was the **re-inclusion of IAAR in the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EQAR)**. IAAR was re-included for 5 years in the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EQAR) by decision of the Register Committee on 27 June 2022. The inclusion of IAAR in the European Register is one of the strategic objectives of our agency, and in order to obtain this status, the IAAR has undergone a multi-stage assessment of its activities, which is carried out by leading foreign experts. Obtaining the status of a recognised agency is a confirmation of the compliance of IAAR activities with high international standards and evidence of trust in such an authoritative organisation. The re-inclusion of IAAR in EQAR means that all IAAR-accredited educational organisations and educational programmes will automatically continue to be included in the DEQAR database of the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EQAR).

The Agency carried out purposeful work to develop mutually beneficial cooperation with recognised world agencies for quality assurance in the field of higher education in accordance with signed agreements (memorandums) on bilateral cooperation with **26** partner organisations. During the year, activities were carried out to expand interaction with international quality assurance networks, including monitoring the timely payment of membership fees, exchanging information and relevant quality assurance materials, as well as participating in network events, monitoring all mail correspondence on interaction with networks. Particular attention was paid to ensuring the participation of IAAR employees in international events organised by the quality assurance networks CIQG, APQN, INQAAHE, WFME, IREG, ENQA, CEENQA.

For example, IAAR took part in the General Assembly of the Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA), which was held on 23-24 September 2022 in Istanbul. The event was co-organised by

the IAAR partner Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Teacher Education Programmes (EPDAD, Turkey).

More than 45 representatives from over 20 countries of the region participated in the CEENQA General Assembly. The President of CEENQA, Franci Demšar, the President of ENQA, Douglas Blackstock, a representative of the European Association of Universities, Enora Bennetot Pruvot, the President of the Higher Education Quality Council of Turkey (YOKAK), Muhsin Kar, and others spoke at the event. The IAAR Assembly was represented by General Director Zhumagulova A.B. and Deputy General Director for International Cooperation Kanapyanov T.E. Members of the CEENQA General Assembly voted and decided to hold the annual meeting of the CEENQA General Assembly in 2023 in Astana on the basis of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR).

On 16 March 2022, IAAR took part in the **CEENQA** Bi-monthly Meeting, where they discussed topical issues of quality assurance in education and exchanged ideas: <https://www.ceenqa.org/category/events/>

In order to widely inform the world community about accreditation agencies recognised at the European level, as well as about HEIs that have successfully passed international accreditation, the DEQAR project has been created and is being developed. The European DEQAR register is a register of educational programmes and educational organisations accredited by quality assurance agencies recognised at the European level. The inclusion of educational programmes and educational organisations in DEQAR confirms their compliance with ESG quality assurance standards and is the basis for the recognition of accredited educational programmes in the European Higher Education Area. IAAR has been a member of the DEQAR CONNECT project since 2020. All IAAR-accredited educational organisations and educational programmes are included in the DEQAR database of the European Register for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (EQAR).

IAAR, as the first organisation from the CIS countries to be recognised by the **World Federation for Medical Education (WFME)**, actively implemented in 2022 the right to conduct international accreditation of medical organisations and

educational programmes in accordance with international standards. In accordance with the requirements of the WFME, IAAR prepared and sent in 2022 the IAAR annual report on the implementation of the recommendations of WFME experts for 2021, as well as information for the WFME President on the results of accreditation for 2022 of medical education organisations. In 2022, information was also prepared for PMC (Pakistan) on the results of accreditation of medical HEIs.

In October 2022, a business visit of the Project Manager G.B. Niyazova took place to the Republic of Azerbaijan, during which meetings were held with the Chairman of the State Examination Centre, rectors of the Azerbaijan University, Baku Business University. As a result of the visit, a memorandum of cooperation with the State Examination Centre was concluded. In addition, following the results of the visit, the director of the department of the State Examination Centre was involved in the processes of accreditation of the programmes of Kh. Dosmukhamedov Atyrau State University (RK) and Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno (RB).

From 30th October to 3rd November 2022, IAAR held a series of meetings with the leadership of the State Examination Centre, Azerbaijani universities, and held an international seminar for university rectors.

Expanding cooperation with foreign quality assurance agencies. In order to expand cooperation with foreign organisations to ensure the quality of education, signing memoranda/agreements with foreign quality assurance agencies, preparatory work was carried out to draw up a partner profile of the Agency, inform universities from foreign countries; formation of a list of medical universities in South Asia, the Middle East and Europe from the WFME Directory database and the development of partnerships.

In 2022, the following Memoranda and agreements were signed:

- ✓ Memorandum of Understanding with the National Assessment and Accreditation Council NAAC (India);
- ✓ Memorandum of Cooperation with the Association of Higher Education Institutions of Kyrgyzstan;

✓ Memorandum of Cooperation with the State Examination Centre of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

✓ Agreement on Cooperation with the National Agency for Quality Assurance (Minsk, Republic of Belarus);

✓ Agreement on Cooperation with the Agency for Supervision in Education and Science under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan (Dushanbe).

Organised international meetings:

✓ Meeting with representatives of the International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA, USA). As a result, IAAR became a **full member of the International Vocational Education and Training Association** (IVETA, USA);

✓ Meeting with representatives of the QASPIR Foundation at the initiative of the IAAR International Advisor DR. OLGUN CICEK (discussion of prospects for cooperation);

✓ Online meeting with representatives of International City & Guilds (Great Britain) (discussion of prospects for cooperation);

✓ Online meetings with representatives of the Knowledge & Human Development Authority, Dubai U.A.E and discussion of the prospects for cooperation;

✓ Online meeting with the Turkish agency EPDAD on the participation of IAAR in the working group on the development of accreditation standards for postgraduate education.

In 2022, as part of the preparation of the IAAR annual report on the implementation of the recommendation of WFME experts, information was prepared for PMC (Pakistan) on the results of accreditation for 2022 of medical education organisations. In March 2022, an annual report on the implementation of WFME recommendations was prepared and sent.

In 2022, a re-application was submitted to the European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAE) from the IAAR Representative Office in Latvia; and also sent letters on the development of cooperation and the conclusion of a memorandum to the Agencies of the Arab countries: BQA-Bahrain,

NCAAA-Saudi Arabia, CAA-United Arab Emirates, KHDA-United Arab Emirates. However, no feedback was received.

IAAR management and staff have taken an active part in events organised by European and international networks and partners. At the beginning of 2022, a schedule of international events was drawn up in order to inform management about foreign events for 2022-2023. All correspondence on the Agency's international activities was monitored on an ongoing basis.

Partnership with foreign government agencies. On a systematic basis, IAAR provides support in the implementation of measures to ensure the quality of higher education to the authorised bodies of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Romania, Moldova, etc., consults on building a national system for ensuring the quality of higher education in accordance with the principles of the Bologna process and ESG.

IAAR is an active participant in various levels of quality assurance activities in education conducted by the Ministries of Education, public associations and universities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Thus, the international activities of IAAR in 2022 were carried out at the European and international levels as a reliable partner in quality assurance, including through the expansion of cooperation and partnership with international networks and foreign agencies, active participation in international events for quality assurance in education, exchange experience and best practices, etc., which contributed to the strengthening and expansion of international recognition and authority of IAAR.

5.2 Advancing the Quality of International Activities and Consolidation of IAAR's Accomplishments

In 2022, the Agency focused on improving the quality of its international activities and developed a schedule of international events to inform its management and employees about foreign activities for 2022-2023. The Agency monitored all correspondence related to its international activities on an ongoing basis.

To consolidate its international positions and develop international cooperation, the Agency's employees participated in various events of international networks and partners. These events include:

- Participation in the "International Conference of Academic Institutions" under the auspices of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (VGGS) - 2022 in Vigyan Bhavan, Ahmedabad, Gujarat (India) on **January 5-6, 2022.**

- Participation in a webinar on applying for a grant from the Gorchakov Foundation on **February 8, 2022.**

- Participation in the UNESCO webinar on the topic: Next Generation: Reflections and Future Perspectives on Higher Education in the Former Soviet Union on **February 14-15, 2022.**

- Participation in the Universities in the DEQAR system webinar on **February 16, 2022.**

- Participation in CEENQA Bi-monthly Meeting on **March 16, 2022.**

- Participation in an online training for ENQA experts under the Harmonization of African Higher Education, Quality Assurance and Accreditation (HAQAA) project on **April 12 and 19, 2022**, in order to be included in the pool of experts for future reviews of African agencies.

- Online participation in the work of the ENQA General Assembly on **April 28, 2022.**

- Participation in the work of the International Forum of Rectors of Central Asian countries at the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in Almaty on **May 12-13, 2022.**

- Participation in the work of the International Congress on Teacher Education and Accreditation (ITEAC) (Turkey) on **June 16-18, 2022.**

- Participation in the annual ENQA Members Forum in Cardiff (UK) on **June 22-24, 2022.**

- Participation in the IREG 2022 Conference "Academic Rankings at the Crossroads", Warsaw (Poland) on **June 23-24, 2022.**

- Participation in the General Assembly of the Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA), (Turkey) on **September 23-24, 2022.**

- Participation in the General Assembly of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), Stockholm (Sweden) on **October 26-28, 2022.**

IAAR participates in collegiate management bodies of international networks for quality assurance (ENQA, INQAAHE, APQN, CEENQA, etc.).

Participation in international and research projects. IAAR takes an active part in international projects, including Erasmus +, in order to expand the availability and develop the internationalisation of the university:

- **EDUQAS** "Implementation of Education Quality Assurance System via Cooperation of University- Business- Government in HEIs";
- **KUTEL** "Kazak Universities to Foster Quality Assurance Processes in Technology Enhanced Learning";
- **SAGRIS** "Enhancement of Postgraduate Studies on Sustainable Agriculture and Future Farming Systems";
- **DEQAR CONNECT** "Enhancing the Coverage and Connectivity of QA in the EHEA through DEQAR".

SWOT Analysis

The SWOT analysis of activities reflects the implementation of strategic goals and serves as the basis for the annual planning of IAAR activities.

| S (Strenght) | W (Weakness) |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognition of IAAR in Kazakhstan and abroad; - full membership of IAAR in international quality assurance networks and associations; - carrying out accreditation abroad; - cooperation with foreign partners; - harmonisation of IAAR standards with revised ESG and WFME standards; - participation of IAAR in international projects for the development of education and quality assurance; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate English language proficiency among agency staff - Insufficient number of experts with the required level of English language proficiency - Absence of an electronic document management system - Limited feedback from the professional community of employers due to low interest |

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cooperation with stakeholders, governmental and non-governmental organisations within the framework of the Bologna process; - monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the EEP of accredited EOs and accredited EPs; - functioning of the IQAS (internal quality assurance system); - WFME support in the development of the national system of accreditation of medical and pharmaceutical education; - annual holding of the IAAR International Forum on Quality Assurance in Education; - IAAR professional team; - availability of a wide base of professional and competent experts; - successful completion of the EQAR re-audit and status confirmation; - conducting national and international rating studies; - constant and timely informing the public. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient development of partnerships with foreign Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) agencies |
| O (Opportunity) | T (Threat) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes and additions to the legislation in the field of education, which opened up new opportunities in assessing the quality of HEIs in Kazakhstan; - Support of IAAR by international quality assurance networks; - Growing interest in the activities of IAAR on the part of foreign HEIs; - Access to national, European, and international educational and research resources; - Availability and use of IT technologies for quality assurance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - instability of the political situation in the world; - growing competition (including unfair) in the field of accreditation; - insufficient activity of employers in the educational activities of educational organisations. |

CONCLUSION

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating, as the leading international agency for the quality assurance of education for 2022, has achieved notable results in the quality assurance of higher and postgraduate, vocational and technical, and secondary education (international schools) in the states of Europe and Central Asia.

IAAR on an ongoing basis updates the methodology of external evaluation by type of accreditation, monitors, evaluates and analyses the educational activities of the EO based on the development of feedback; identifies, summarises and disseminates at the international and national levels the best practices in the field of quality assurance

and culture, systematically informing the general public about its activities, which contributes to qualitative institutional changes both in individual educational organisations and national education systems as a whole.

Confirmation in 2022 of the status of IAAR as a full member of EQAR, expanding the boundaries of accreditation activities:

- in 2022, for the first time, accreditation of non-medical HEIs in Belarus was carried out,

- agreements were concluded with new educational organisations in the states - the Dominica, Switzerland, Palestine, Armenia),

- the qualitative potential of experts and agency employees is being strengthened.

This contributes to the growth of the authority, image and influence of IAAR in the international market of accreditation services.

An analysis of IAAR's activities in the reporting year demonstrates the opportunities that have opened up to improve performance, including:

- creation of conditions and opportunities for the exchange of experience between the Agency's employees and professionals from other promising foreign partner agencies;

- involvement of the Agency's experts in the implementation of national and international projects;

- conclusion in 2022 of Memorandums of Cooperation with the National Assessment and Accreditation Council NAAC (India); Association of HEIs of the Kyrgyz Republic; State Examination Center of the Azerbaijan Republic; National Agency for Quality Assurance (Republic of Belarus); Agency for Supervision in Education and Science under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan (Dushanbe).

Prospects for the development of IAAR's international activities in 2023 are related to the implementation of the main tasks defined by the IAAR Development Strategy for 2022-2026:

1. Expanding the boundaries and geography of international accreditation
2. Strengthening positions at the national and international level
3. Increasing the quality potential of the expert pool

4. Strengthening the international recognition and authority of the Agency
5. Quality assurance and expansion of the geography of the Rating
6. Participation of the agency in international projects and programmes to ensure the quality of education.

7. Holding the General Assembly CEENQA - 2023 on the basis of IAAR in Astana.

8. Inclusion of the Journal “Education. Quality Assurance” in the List of publications recommended by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Science and Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The solution of the strategic tasks assigned to the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating will have a positive impact on its development, strengthen its position, increase its authority and image in the international and national market of accreditation services.

