ß

Higher education in Norway

Toril Johansson, Director General Departement of Higher Education BFUG meeting, Bratislava, December 2016

Norway – basic facts

- The Kingdom of Norway

 constitutional monarchy King Harald V
- Independence in 1905
- 385. 252 sq.km low population density
- Population of 5.2 million
- Capital Oslo
- Coalition government, led by Ms Erna Solberg from the Conservative party







Higher Education in Norway

- 8 universities
- 8 specialised university institutions (3 private)
- 8 state-owned university colleges
- 23 private HEIs (17 receive government funding)
- 250 000 students
- 60% of the students are female
- Act on Higher Education covers all higher education

rwegian Ministry of Education and Research

Structural reform in higher education

Higher education and research is crucial

Overall well run sector, but also:

- too many research communities below critical mass
 - with limited research and publishing activities,
 - limited external funding and international cooperation
- some small education programmes
 - with declining recruitment,
 - small number of graduates,
 - · difficulties attracting academic staff and students
 - few students on campus





Structural reform

Objectives:

- · Education and research of high quality
- Strong academic environments
- Good access to education across the country
- Regional development
- World-leading research environments
- Efficient use of resources

From 33 to 21 HEIs More to come?

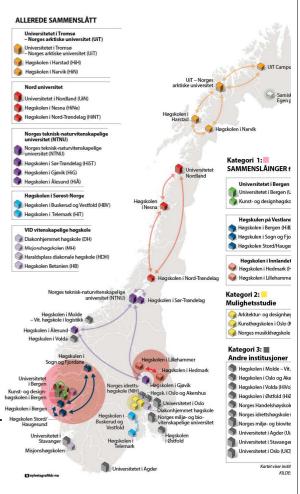
Dialogue-based process

Thorough analysis

Suggestions from the institutions

Other quality-enhancing measures, e.g. new criteria for accreditation

lorwegian Ministry of Education and Research



Quality in HE - White Paper 2017

- White paper on quality in higher education presented next year will outline new policy initiatives to follow the broader structural changes.
- The white paper aims to:
 - Develop stronger learning communities and more ambitious goals for student achievement
 - Ensure graduates with the right skills and competencies for an increasingly uncertain labour market
 - Promote higher standards of excellence in education and innovation in teaching practices
 - Reaffirm the importance of teaching and learning giving teaching due parity with research
 - Ensure better data on quality of educational practice
 - Increase the use of digital technologies in learning activities and assessment



Changes in the funding model for universities and colleges

- to improve the quality in education and make the institutions work more strategic towards society
- still consist of a basic part and an incentive element.
- Result part:
 - Based on graduates
 - Income from all EU grants
 - reintroduce an indicator on income from business and society.

prwegian Ministry of Education and Research

The Bologna Process and Norway

- Norway has been highly engaged in the Bologna Process from the start.
- Ministerial meeting in Bergen in 2005
- The Quality reform of 2003 structural elements implemented
- Norway's main priorities have been
 - the social dimension including equal rights to quality higher education regardless of background
 - the global dimension of the process, i.e. the dialogue with other regions of the world.
 - the importance of data collection







Meetings in Norway

- Committed to taking the process and European co-operation even further during our presidency with Malta.
 - Board meeting in Oslo 30 March
 - First meeting of the drafting group of the communiqué in conjunction with the Board meeting – 31 March

