



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann



CDGDC

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

and

**China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre,
People's Republic of China**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between **Quality and Qualifications Ireland**, of 26/27 Denzille Lane Dublin 2, D02 P266, Ireland, hereafter referred to as QQI

and

China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre, of B17-18, Tongfang Scientific Building, No.1 Wangzhuang Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100083, China, hereafter referred to as CDGDC.

Whereas

Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) is an independent state agency responsible for the external quality assurance of institutions and providers in both higher and further education and training in Ireland operating within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). It is also the custodian of the NFQ and makes and certifies awards. In addition, QQI is responsible for developing an International Education Mark for education and training programmes delivered to international students and establishing a database of programme and qualifications. QQI is a registered agency in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR) for Higher Education and a member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). It is the National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) to support the implementation of the Lisbon Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region. QQI is also the National Contact Point for the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

CDGDC is an administrative institution directly under the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, operating under the joint leadership of Ministry of Education, Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and Education Supervision Committee of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, possessing the independent qualification of legal entity. The main functions of CDGDC include undertaking the task of evaluation, assessment and research of academic degrees and graduate education towards higher education institutions; engaging in research into the degree equivalency between China and foreign countries; and providing services for educational qualifications' and related materials'

verification, authentication and consulting.

QQI and CDGDC

Having similar objectives in the advancement of quality assurance in higher education, both participants wish to continue and deepen further their cooperation upon the terms contained herein. CDGDC and QQI are both members of INQAAHE. QQI and CDGDC are both working to implement the recommendations for quality assurance and accreditation bodies contained in the UNESCO guidelines for quality assurance in cross-border higher education.

Aims

QQI and CDGDC agree through signing this Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate for the mutual benefits of both parties, to enhance quality assurance in both jurisdictions and to improve the quality of higher education in Ireland and China. In particular, both parties will work towards enhancing cooperation in the quality assurance of cross-border higher education.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding relations between the parties, and neither party has the authority to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other party. However, QQI and CDGDC agree to work together to implement this Memorandum of Understanding in good faith.

Areas of cooperation and collaboration

To these ends, QQI and CDGDC, in accordance with the framework of Ireland and Chinese laws and regulations, will pursue the following objectives for their mutual benefit and with a commitment to facilitate the quality assurance of Ireland-China transnational education (TNE):

(a) Mutual understanding

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approaches to assuring quality in higher education, the respective systems in place for quality assurance and enhancement in higher education, and the critical matters relating to quality and standards in higher education in both countries.

(b) Information exchange

Exchange non-confidential information about each other's activities and processes, developments in each country's higher education systems including the information of evaluations of Ireland-China Cooperation in Running Schools (CFCRS), and cooperation in the development of Ireland -China CFCRS.

(c) Staff development

Where appropriate and possible, support the development of staff from the two agencies through activities such as staff exchange, observing each other's review processes, and provision of training.

(d) Use of each other's reviewers

Where appropriate and possible, draw on reviewers or other specialists from each other's systems to strengthen the international dimension of each other's review processes and

mutual learning.

(e) Collaboration

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties, including undertaking research and substantial cooperation on cross-border education quality assurance-related issues. Both parties will particularly benefit from focusing cooperation on:

- Research on education quality assurance of Ireland-China Cooperation in Running Schools
- Providing consultation to Ireland-China Cooperation in Running Schools relating to higher education institutions, enhancing win-win cooperation and improving the quality of Ireland-China CFCRS
- Accumulating experience together and actively promoting the activities of CBQAN
- Aspects such as the development of graduate education, qualification recognition and credit transfer in "Belt & Road" countries.

Duration of Memorandum

The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect from the date of its signature and shall continue for three years unless it is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party. It may be extended on the mutual agreement of both parties.

Alteration of Memorandum

This Memorandum is signed by the two parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation. The terms of the Memorandum may be altered with the consent of both parties.

Management and liaison arrangements for the Memorandum

The Chief Executive of QQI (at the time of signing Mr. Padraig Walsh) and the Director-General of CDGDC (at the time of signing Mr Huang Baoyin) will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the terms of the Memorandum. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the agencies' staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Resources

Unless alternative arrangements are specifically agreed to undertake particular activities, the two agencies will normally cover their own costs of implementing the terms of the Memorandum. For particular areas of cooperation donor funding may be sought from other sources.

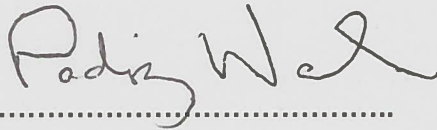
Schedule of projects and activities

Specific details on any projects or other activities, such as joint events and research, and joint accreditation of Ireland-China programmes or providers (procedures and agendas), that are entered into under the terms of this Memorandum shall be negotiated and agreed by both parties and will be described in work plans to be annexed to the Memorandum.

Language of Memorandum

This Memorandum is duly signed in English and Chinese, both texts being equally authentic.

Signed in **Dublin, Ireland** on **18 December, 2018**.



Padraig Walsh
Chief Executive
QQI

26/27 Denzille Lane,
Dublin 2, D02 P266
Ireland

Telephone: +353 1 9058100
Email: ceo@qqi.ie
Website: www.qqi.ie



Huang Baoyin
Director-General
CDGDC

B17-18, Tongfang Scientific Building,
No.1 Wangzhuang Road, Haidian
District, Beijing, 100083, China

Telephone: +86(10)82378734
Email: pgc@cdgdc.edu.cn
Website: www.cdgdc.edu.cn