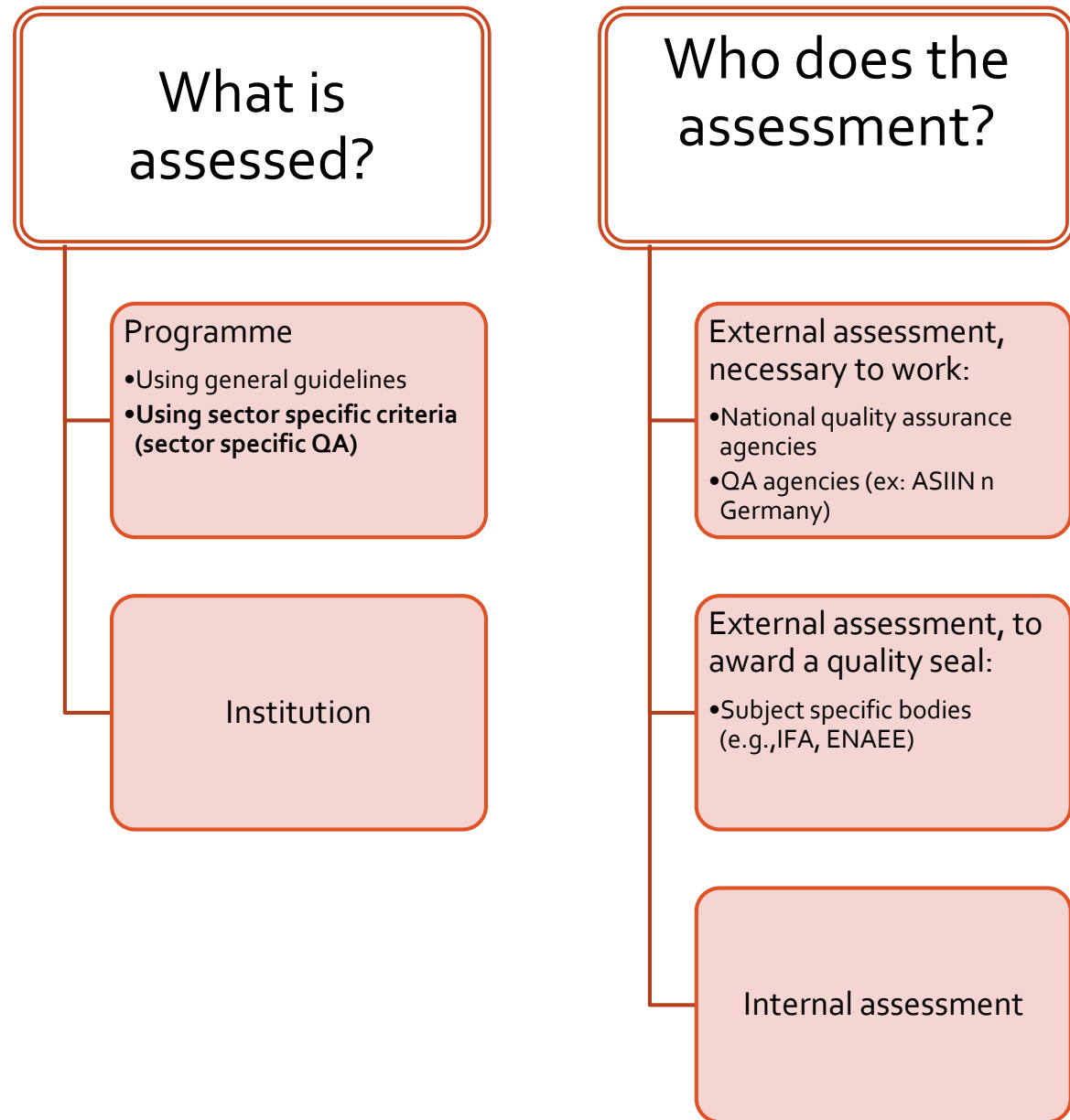# EQAS FOOD AWARD

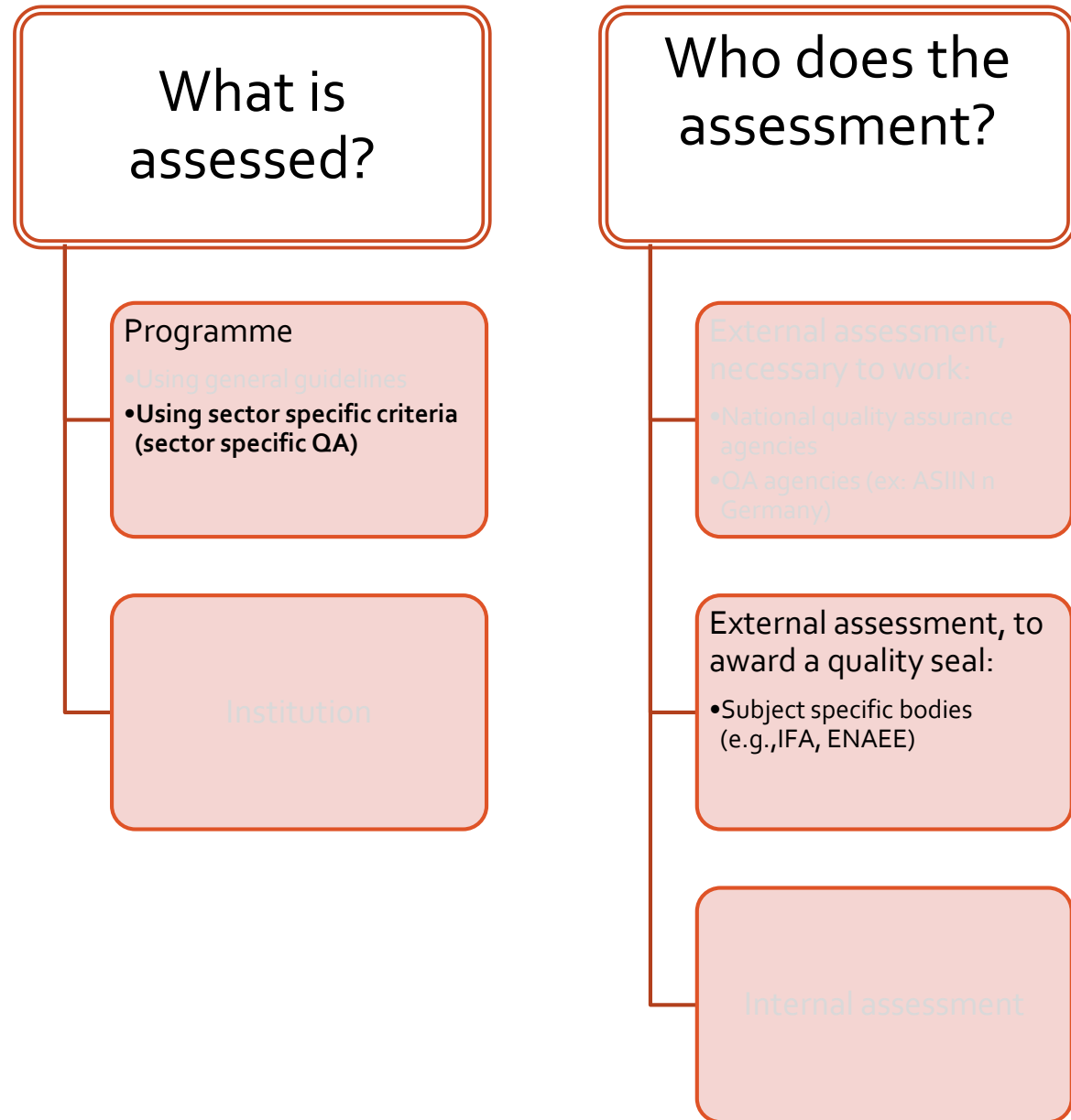Where it stands in higher education quality assurance

# contents

- Quality assurance in higher education and aims

- Subject-specific quality labels

- EQAS-FOOD Award vs Certificate

- Decision on the assessment

- Fees, duration and validity

- Routes for accreditation

- Complimentary information
  - Self-assessment report (SAR)
  - EQAS-Food learning outcomes
  - EQAS report
  - EQAS resources

# QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

# Quality Assurance in Higher Education

**What is assessed?**

Programme
- Using general guidelines
- **Using sector specific criteria (sector specific QA)**

Institution

**Who does the assessment?**

External assessment, necessary to work:
- National quality assurance agencies
- QA agencies (ex: ASIIN n Germany)

External assessment, to award a quality seal:
- Subject specific bodies (e.g.,IFA, ENAEE)

Internal assessment

# EQAS-Food Award

## What is assessed?

**Programme**
- Using general guidelines
- **Using sector specific criteria (sector specific QA)**

Institution

## Who does the assessment?

External assessment, necessary to work:
- National quality assurance agencies
- QA agencies (ex: ASIIN in Germany)

External assessment, to award a quality seal:
- Subject specific bodies (e.g.,IFA, ENAEE)

Internal assessment

**?**

What is the main difference between the EQAS-Food Award and the common national accreditation?

The main difference is the subject specific benchmark that this award offers, the possibility of comparing your degree with the international offer and the compliance to subject specific international standards.
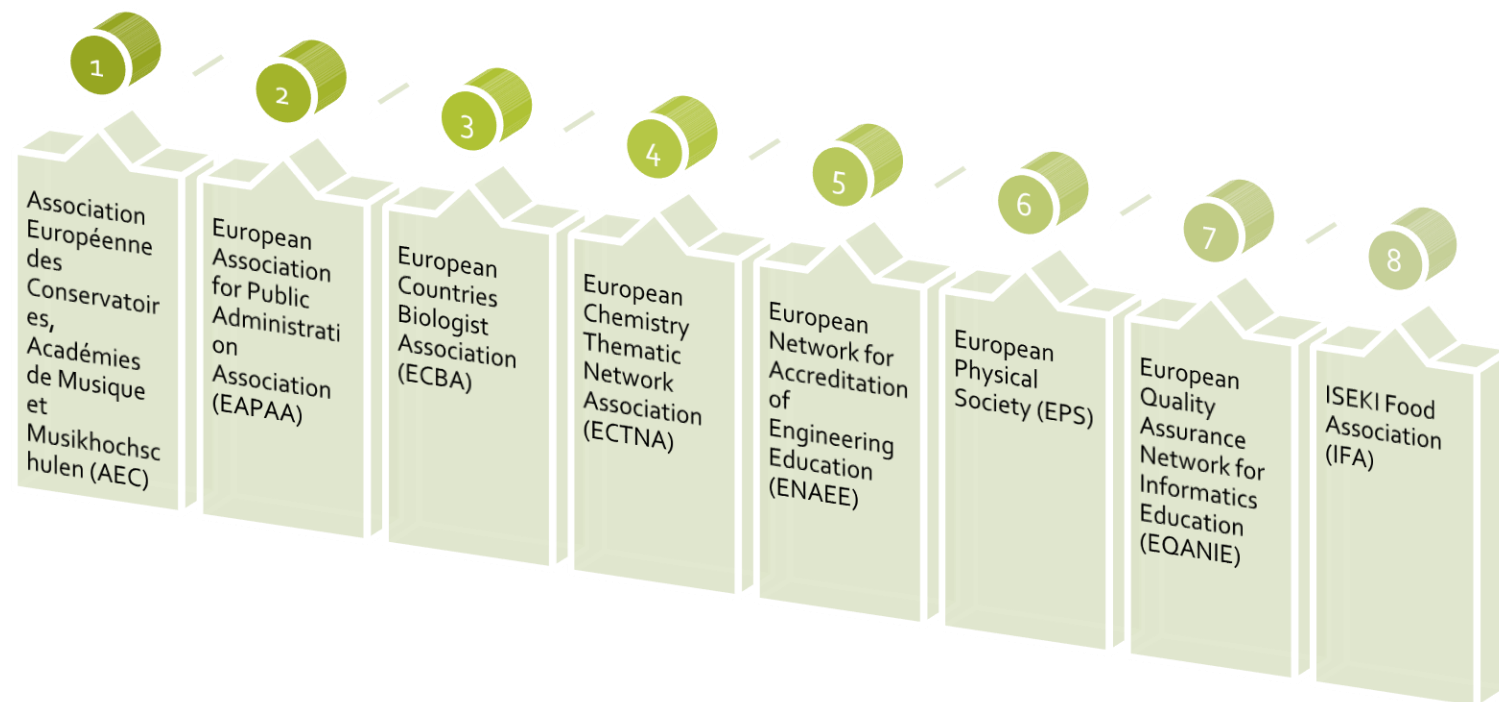
# SUBJECT-SPECIFIC QUALITY LABELS

# EQAS-FOOD AWARD – A QUALITY LABEL

and its relatives in other subjects…

EASPA - European Alliance for Subject Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance

# Different policies to promote the quality seals by the subject specific association

**The association does the evaluation itself**

- Example:          IFA

**A quality assurance agency does it on behalf if the association**

- Example 1:        ENAEE charges ASIIN to award the EUR-ACE label
- Example 2:        ASIIN does it on behalf of IFA within a sandwich procedure in Germany

**?**

**What is the difference to other labels, such as IFT?**

EQAS-Food Award follows the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

These include a number of orientations for internal quality assurance (e.g., requirements for design and approval of programes, implementation of student-centred learning) and for external quality assurance (e.g., requirements for the selection of experts).

# EQAS-FOOD AWARD VS CERTIFICATE

# EQAS-Food Award vs EQAS-Food Certificate

## Award

- for BSc and MSc related with Food Science and Technology
- Coherence of programme, adequacy of resources and quality assurance
- Defined learning outcomes
- Applicants are universities

## Certificate

- For short courses
- Coherence of programme, adequacy of resources and quality assurance
- Applicants are usually training associations

# FEES, DURATION, VALIDITY AND LANGUAGE

# The first four questions asked by universities

How much it costs?

What are the possible decisions on the assessment?

What is the validity of the label?

What is the language of the process?

# How much it costs?

- Send an email to eqas@iseki-food.net

- Contact the IFA national representative in your country

# Decision on the assessment

1. EQAS awarded without any conditions or recommendations

2. EQAS awarded with requirements to be met within 1 year

3. EQAS award deferred until conditions defined by the panel have been met

Awarded programes (and respective accreditation report) are publicized in the website:

https://www.iseki-food.net/accredidation/Accredited_degree_programmes

# Validity

Valid for 5 years

# Language

All the contacts with IFA are in English.

The documentation for the accreditation prepared by the applicant can be in other language if agreed perviously with IFA. In that case, IFA will select experts fluent in the required language.

The accreditation report will be prepared by the experts in English.

# ROUTES FOR ACCREDITATION

# Standard route

for programmes with previous accreditation (other than EQAS) less than 2 years before

| Documentation from prior review | |
|---|---|
| Covers substantially contents in Section 2. Additional information may be added. | Can include a single programme or group of programmes. |
| | |
| Assessor review | |
| Documentation shared with assessors. | Team composed of teachers and industry specialists. |
| | |
| Decision on the Award | |
| Based on information provided in the documentation. | Decision by IFA Accreditation Commission. |

## Standard route

for programmes with previous accreditation (other than EQAS) less than 2 years before

Docs from previous accreditation testify all the requisites except EQAS LO

EQAS reviewer focus on EQAS learning outcomes

Review team can ask questions by email or ask an online meeting (IFA secretariat will organize the meeting)

# Extended route

| Self-assessment report (SAR) | |
| --- | --- |
| Covers at least the contents in Section 2. | Can include a single programme or group of programmes. |
| | |

| Assessor review | |
| --- | --- |
| Documentation shared with assessors. Two day audit for a single programme. | Team composed of teachers, industry specialists and senior student(s). |
| | |

| Decision on the Award | |
| --- | --- |
| Based on self-assessment and audit reports. | Decision by IFA Accreditation Commission. |

# Extended route

HEI provides a SAR

EQAS reviewer focus on EQAS learning outcomes

Review team visits the HEI

In collaboration with ASIIN

# COMPLIMENTARY INFORMATION

# Self-assessment report (SAR)

**1 Formal Data**

→

**2. The rationale of the programme**

- 2.1 Needs of stakeholders (students, industry, professional associations)
- 2.2 Educational objectives (mission of educational institution, national educational policy, needs of stakeholders, relationship to food science and technology; see Annex I for the frame of reference for Food Science and Technology)
- 2.3 Programme outcomes (consistency with the objectives, consistency with general outcomes such as knowledge, competences and personal skills)

↓

**3. Educational Process**

- 3.1 Overview of the curriculum
- 3.2 Delivery of the curriculum
- 3.3 Learning and assessment (methods of assessment of LO)
- 3.4 Alignment matrix for EQAS LO (see Annex V)

←

**4. Resources and Partnerships**

- 4.1 Academic and support staff (quality, number, research and professional activities)
- 4.2 Facilities (labs related to food, access to scientific literature, pilot plants)
- 4.3 Partnership (industry links, international links)

↓

**5. Management System**

- Quality assurance system (re-examining needs, objectives and outcomes, educational process, resources and partnerships and quality assurance; analysis of students' results (time to complete the programme, levels achieved), analysis of graduates' results (match between work place and education, time of employment, opinion on education received, opinion of employers))

→

**6. Supporting information about the study programme**

- 6.1 Context
- 6.2 Performance
- 6.3 Quality & Standards Management
- 6.4 Employer Involvement
- 6.5 Course Design & Development

# EQAS-Food Learning outcomes

**Food Safety and Microbiology** - Essential to produce safe foods; microbiology, toxicology and applied safety management belong to this group of outcomes.

**Food Chemistry and Analysis** - Analysis of foods, chemical composition, physical properties and sensory characteristics of foods.

**Food processing and engineering** - How to process foods with optimized product quality and hygiene, with knowledge of the food product and of the processing plant, with adequate water and waste management.

**Quality management and food law**

**Generic Competences** - Communication abilities, ethics and personal skills

# EQAS report

Standard/Extended route

https://www.iseki-food.net/accredidation/Accredited_degree_programmes/kaunas_FSS_Msc


Sandwich accreditation with ASIIN in Germany

https://www.iseki-food.net/accredidation/Accredited_degree_programmes/Weihenstephan_Bachelor

# EQAS resources

| | |
|---|---|
| Leaflet | https://www.iseki-food.net/webfm_send/2377 |
| Video | https://www.iseki-food.net/webfm_send/2368 |
| EQAS Food Award Procedures, Criteria and Standards. | https://www.iseki-food.net/webfm_send/2440 |