IAU WHED

THE WORLD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The unique database providing authoritative information on higher education systems, credentials and institutions worldwide
THE IAU’S WORLD HIGHER EDUCATION DATABASE (WHED) is a unique online reference portal that lists authoritative information on accredited universities and other higher education institutions (HEIs) in the world and provides comprehensive information on national higher education systems and credentials. The WHED is maintained and operated by the International Association of Universities (IAU) in collaboration with UNESCO. The IAU has been mapping the higher education landscape ever since its foundation in 1950, as one of its central tasks.

The WHED is globally recognised as an official source of information and used as a reference database by national higher education authorities, government agencies, national bodies and universities around the world. It is continuously updated and lists over 20,000 HEIs and information on education systems in 196 countries and territories.

The WHED is the key resource for the practical implementation of the UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications; the WHED supports global academic mobility and international cooperation while reinforcing quality assurance and credentialing.

The IAU has rolled out unique identifiers – the Global WHED ID – for each listed HEI. They contribute to the digitalisation of higher education and other services.

The WHED includes the following information:

**INSTITUTIONS**

**Basic information**
Global WHED ID, name in English & native language, postal address, URL

**In-depth information**
History, source of funding & type of HEI, language of instruction, national competent accrediting body, fields of study, divisions and degrees offered

**Key contacts**
Heads of higher education institutions, administrative and international relations officers

**SYSTEMS & CREDENTIALS**

- National higher education structure
- Quality assurance systems
- Governing bodies
- Credentials and admission criteria

**SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR IAU MEMBERS**

The profile of IAU Members is highlighted with their logo, photos, and the IAU banner at the top of the search results.

IAU Members benefit from a permalink for direct access to their WHED entry and advanced search functions.

For more information, please contact centre@iau-aiu.net
FROM WHERE?
The WHED obtains its information from national higher education authorities, governmental agencies, UNESCO delegations, and other official sources.

WHY?
The WHED is a unique reference tool to:
• Provide essential information on HE, including an accurate list of accredited HEIs
• Offer detailed information on national higher education systems
• Ensure transparency in the HE sector on a global scale
• Facilitate international recognition and credentialing
• Improve communication and collaboration within the global HE community
• Contribute to the digitalisation of higher education and other services through the Global WHED ID
• Provide better overall administrative certainty
• Combat fraud in higher education

FOR WHOM?
• Internationalisation and admissions offices at HEIs
• Governmental agencies and national authorities
• Higher education grant-awarding authorities
• Quality assurance agencies and credential evaluators
• International organisations
• Researchers and students
• HR management and recruitment

HOW?
• Search
  Find the information you need through free access and search functions
• Explore
  Research and analyse the higher education landscape
• Extract
  Obtain customised data sets

Scan to learn more!

www.whed.net
The International Association of Universities (IAU)

IAU is a membership-led organisation with the purpose of advancing higher education and its important role in the development of our society. It is the leading global association of higher education institutions and organisations around the world with Members in 130 countries. IAU serves as a global forum for leaders in higher education to reflect and rally around common priorities. It acts as the voice of higher education to UNESCO and other international organisations. The Association offers various services such as networking events, research, trainings and advisory services.

IAU is an independent, non-governmental organisation and official partner of UNESCO (Associate Status); it also has consultative status at the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and participatory status with the Council of Europe.