

# ASPIRATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATIONS AMONG INDONESIA'S PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS



A SURVEY REPORT AND STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

THE HAGUE, 1 FEBRUARY 2024





## Foreword

This survey stems from and is part of the webinar to socialise international accreditation procedures of AQAS for the rectors, senior leadership and QA officials of Indonesia's private higher education institutions (HEIs). It was successfully held on Thursday, 25 January 2024 and attended by almost 300 participants who were predominantly the top representatives from 230+ HEIs. The lion's share of the attendees are members of LLDikti III, but due to the significant vibe of this event, HEIs from other regions were also present.

The data was digitally collected using a questionnaire that was shared during the webinar and could be filled in by the participating HEIs until 28 January 2024. After the deadline passed, we received 31 responses from 29 HEIs which represented roughly 11% of the LLDikti III members.

The immediate aims of the survey are first, to measure the satisfaction of the participants on the organisation of the event in general to improve the management and administration of such activity in the future; second, to predict the interests and aspirations of the HEIs to apply for international accreditation procedures with AQAS. However, the underlying objective of this survey is to review the findings and design data-driven strategy for following-up engagements and collaboration in quality enhancement. In other words, it is generally to evaluate the eventual impacts and outcomes of the webinar.







# Acknowledgment

This survey would never come to being without the organisation of the webinar. In turn, it was possible only with the support of LLDikti III, in particular of Professor Toni Toharudin and Mr Ikhsan Riyanda, AQAS in this case Mrs Doris Herrmann and Ms Vi Le, EuroInsight Institute and Consultancy namely Mr Ali Abdillah and Mr Paul van der Veer; and ultimately the attending leaders of the HEIs.

For the the huge stakes and investment you have provided in the success of the webinar we are eternally indebted to each and every one of you. Therefore, please accept our highest appreciation and warmest gratitude.

From this point, we are at your service in every possible aspects of quality improvement endeavour that we can assist and collaborate within our expertise and network. *Tot uw dienst!*

This survey report and analysis is prepared by Gunar Yadi on behalf of EuroInsight Institute and Consultancy.





# Key Findings

For the purpose of illuminating the data, where necessary, we provided our interpretations to the responses on every single question from the questionnaire.

Now, let us check the findings out.





# General Fact: Respondents

31  
Responses

29  
HEIs

28  
Private HEIs

1  
State HEI

4  
Out of Java

25  
Jakarta+

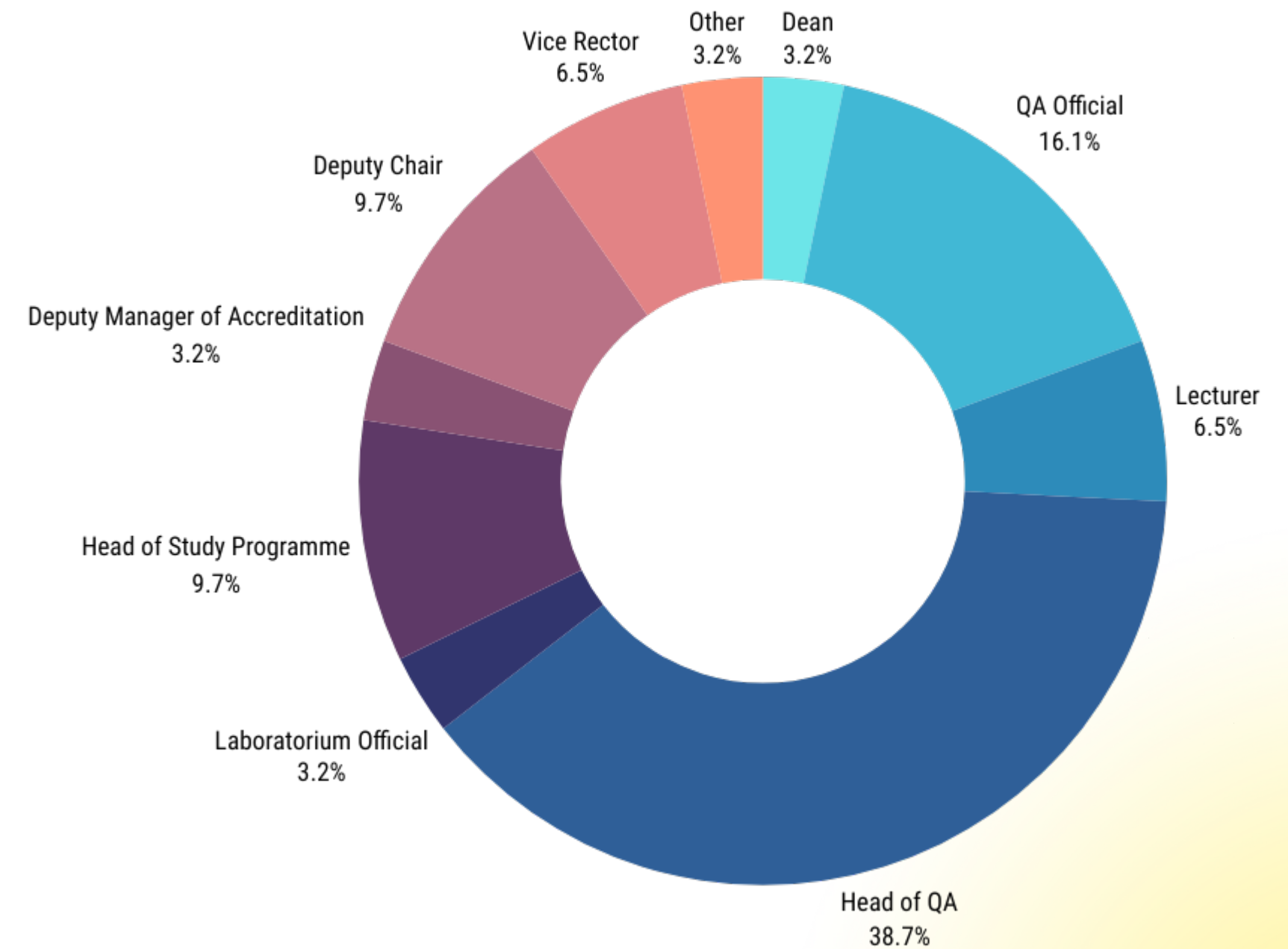
Universitas Prima Nusantara Bukittinggi	Universitas Borobudur	Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Ekonomi Indonesia Jakarta	Institut Bisnis Nusantara	Institut Teknologi dan Bisnis Jakarta
Universitas Islam Riau		Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim AMI Jakarta	Universitas Agung Podomoro	
Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Kesehatan Medistra Indonesia		IKPIA Perbanas	Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Maritim AMI	
Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika		Universitas Tarumanagara	Universitas Negeri Jakarta	
Universitas Azzahra		STIKES IKIFA	Universitas Indraprasta PGRI	
Universitas Mataram	ITL Trisakti	STIKES Pertamedika	Universitas Mercu Buana	



# General Fact: Respondents

In any orderly organisation, the final decision would be taken by those in the highest position of the leadership structure. The leadership levels of respondents in their organisations reflect the degree of decisiveness in policy choice and implementation.

We understood that the questionnaire was responded/delegated by, or with the approval of the most senior management of the participating HEIs. Due to the QA specific nature of this domain, the highest rate was represented by the heads of QA (38.7%), then followed by the QA officials with 16.1%.



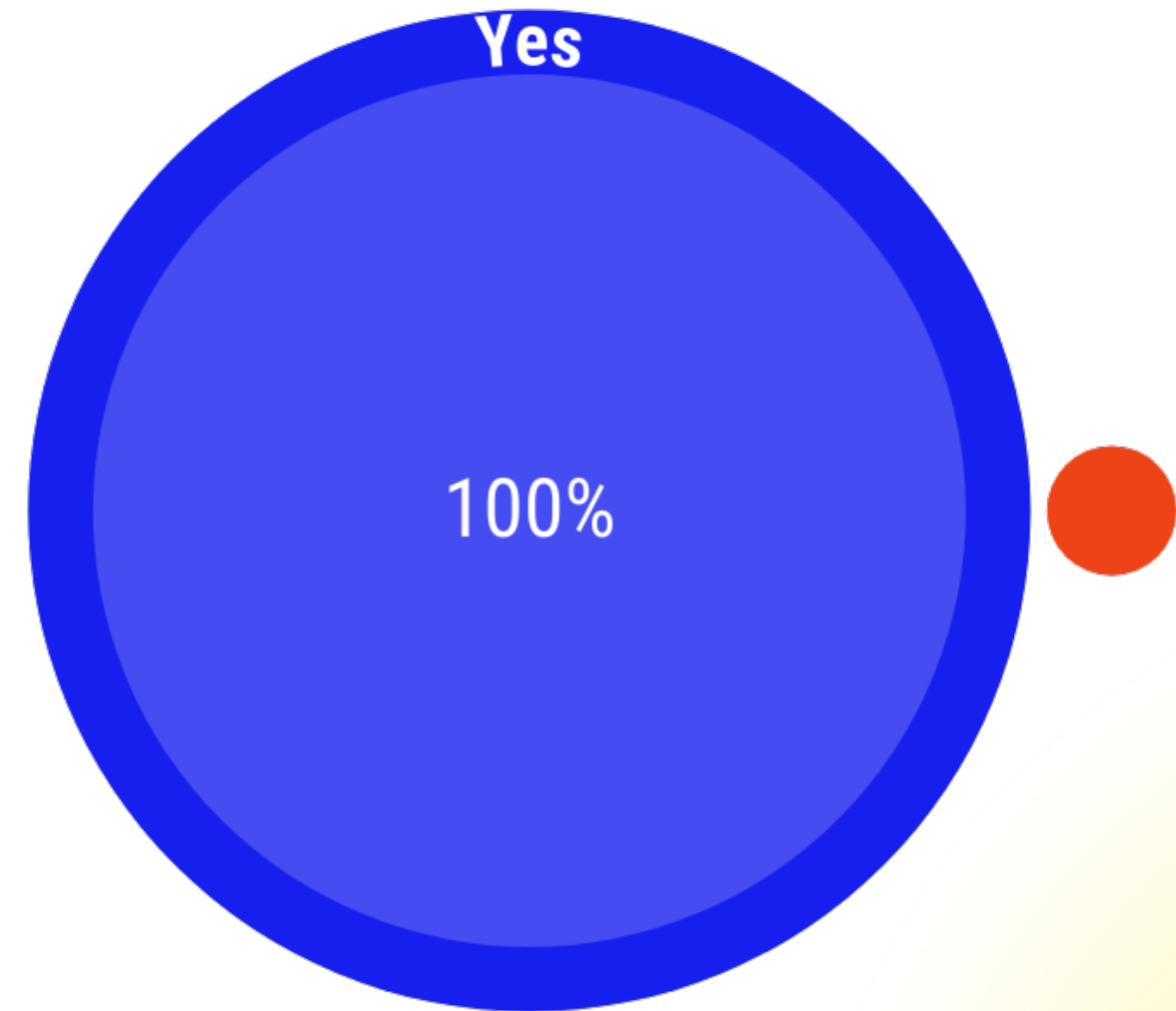


1.

## Is this your first time attending an AQAS outreach event?

It was the first time for all of the respondents to attend this kind of AQAS socialisation programme. We can also assume that the majority of the attendees had never been in similar outreach activity with other recognised and active international QA agencies in Indonesia.

At the same time, it was the first time for LLDikti III, for AQAS, for EuroInsight Institute and Consultancy to organise such an outreach event. It has paved the way to assist and facilitate the internationalisation of Indonesia's private HEIs through QA pathway.



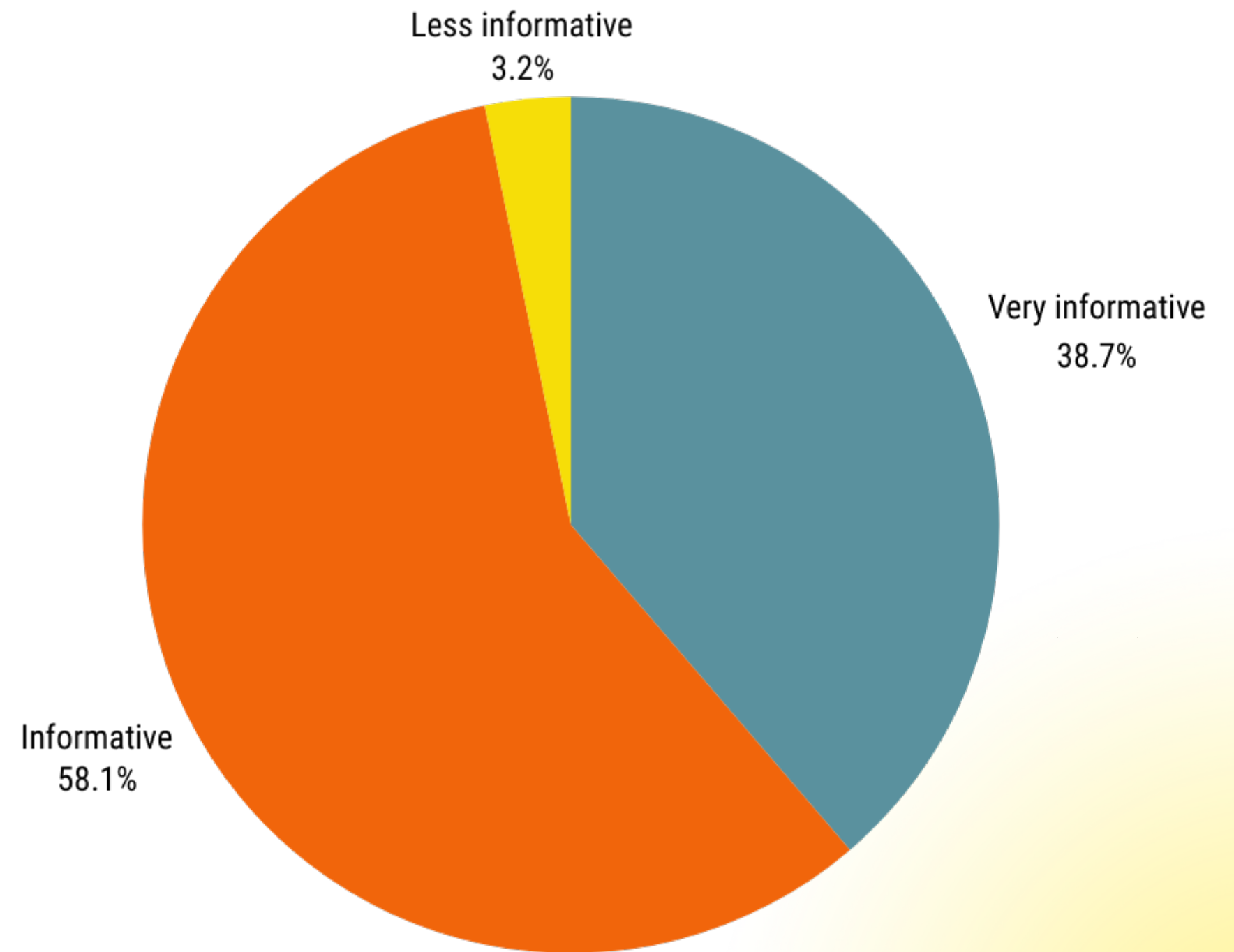


2.

## What do you think about the information related to and conveyed by AQAS?



The impressions from the audience as represented by the respondents on AQAS information delivery was highly positive. The lion's share found it informative (58.1%), and when combined with the 'very informative' impression, the aggregate will amount to 96.8%.



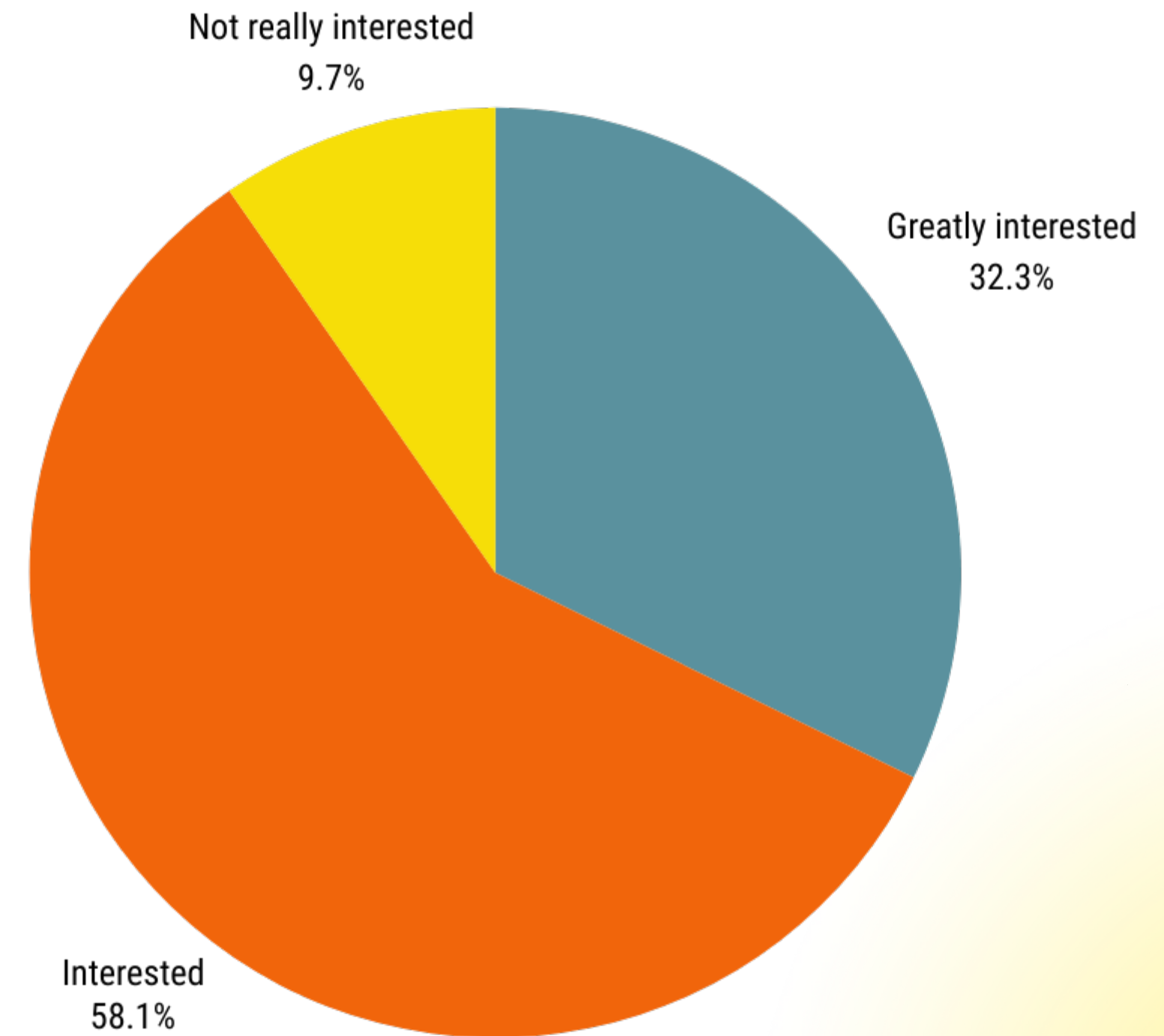


3.

## How interested is your institution in participating in international accreditation procedures through AQAS after this socialisation?



The respondents have expressed their deep excitement to consider to apply for international accreditation procedures through AQAS (total 90.4%, in which 58.1% 'interested' and 32.3% 'greatly interested'). The 'undecided' or 'not really interested' was 9.7%.



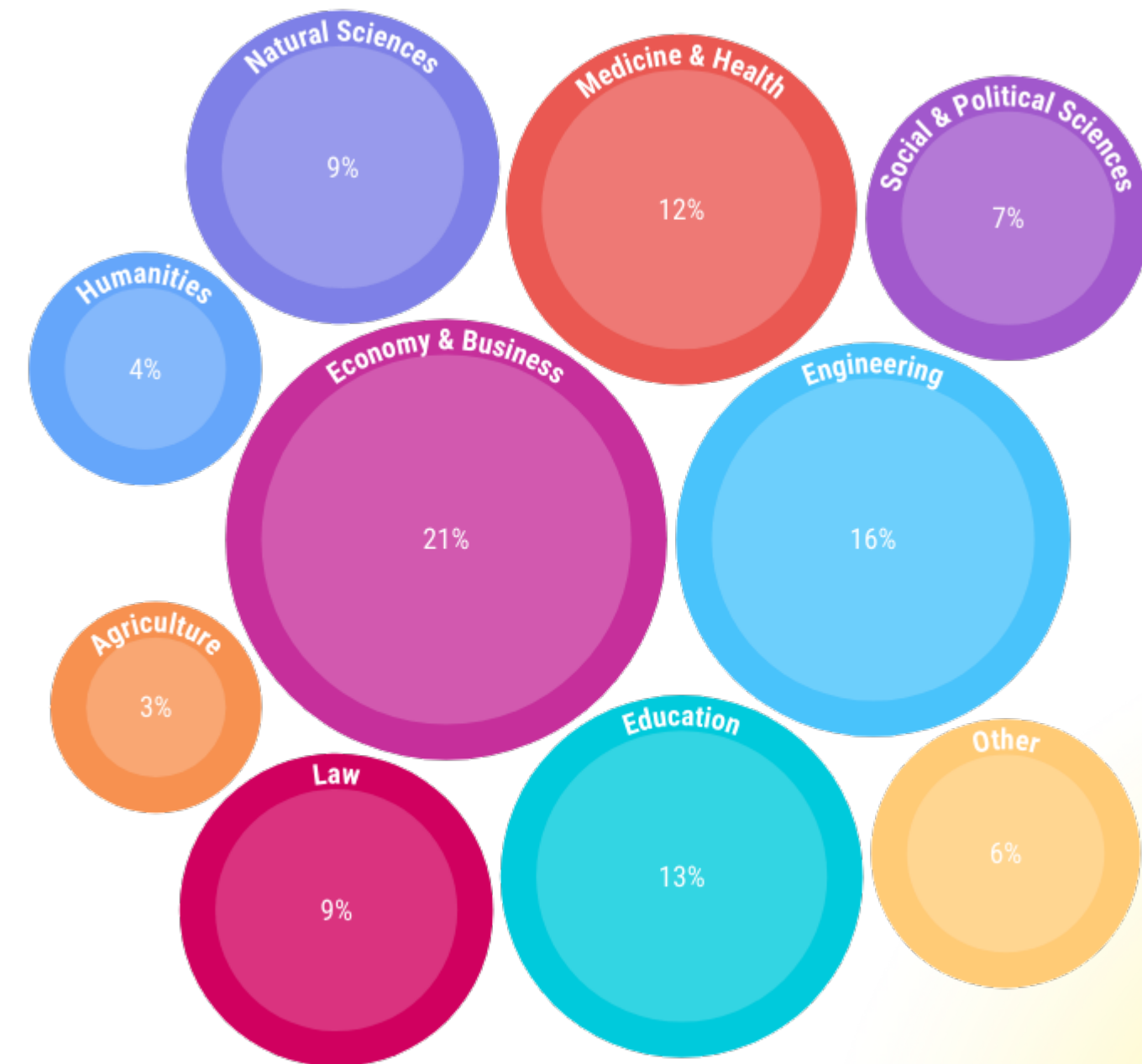


4.

## If interested, what cluster of study programmes will be the priority?

The priority cluster of study programmes to be internationally accredited was controlled by Economy & Business (21%), followed by Engineering, Education and Medicine & Health.

This aspiration may indicate the 'maturity' of the clusters based on internal assessment made by the HEIs. However, it may require 'pre-check' procedure to ensure the effort and investment would be worth it for the ultimate outcomes.

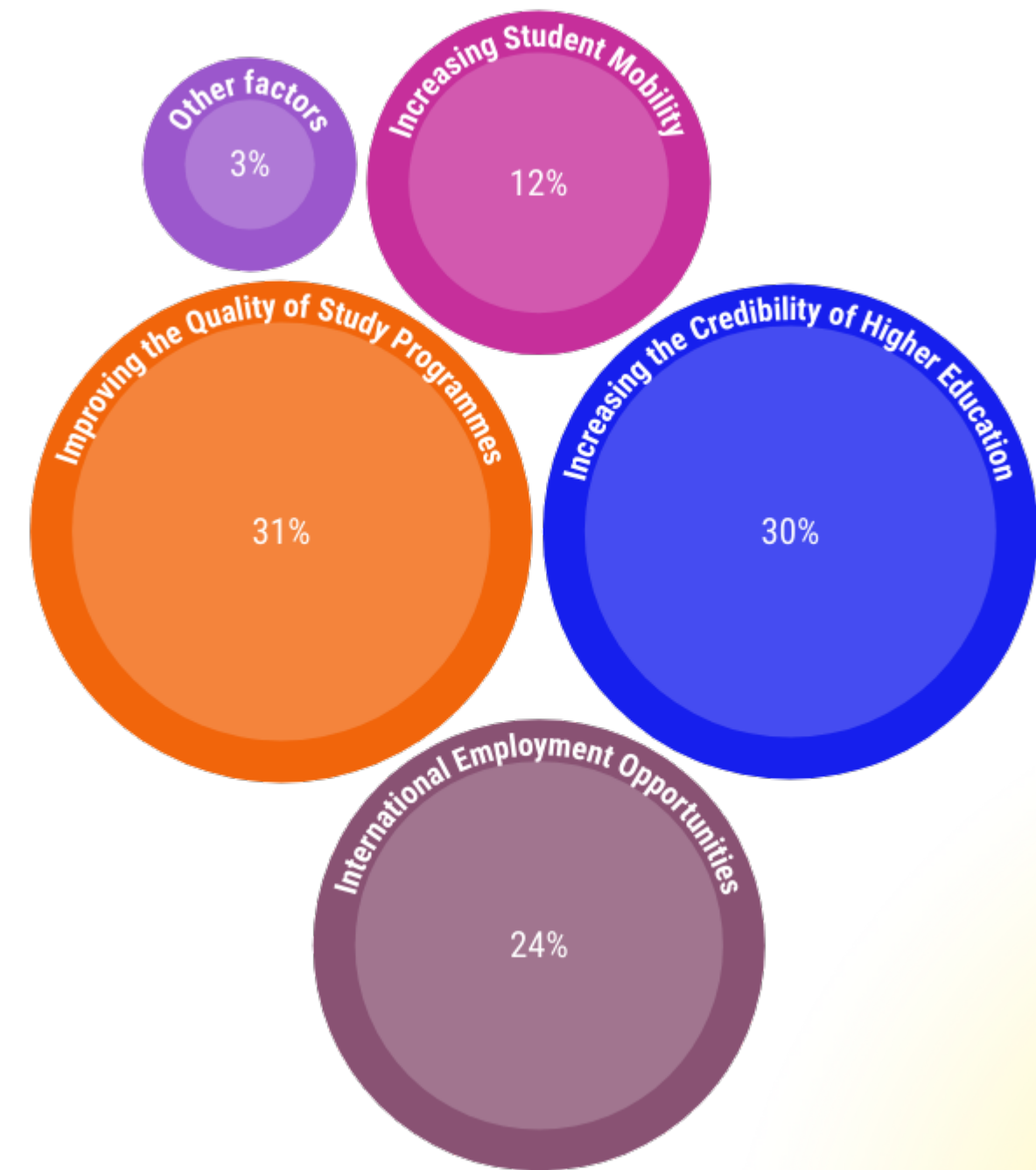




5.

**Mention the main motivation that encourages your institution to include its study program in the AQAS international accreditation procedures? (Maximum 3 factors)**

There appeared diverse motivations for the HEIs to apply for international accreditation procedures through AQAS. The strongest stimuli were to improve the quality of study programmes and increase the institutional credibility. If both motivations combined, they will create an aggregate of 61%. It is a good indication because to ensure a study programme can pass an international accreditation process, it should beforehand start with improving the quality of the study programme and having higher level of corporate credibility. This latter attainment may reflects the degree of efforts toward institutional maturity.



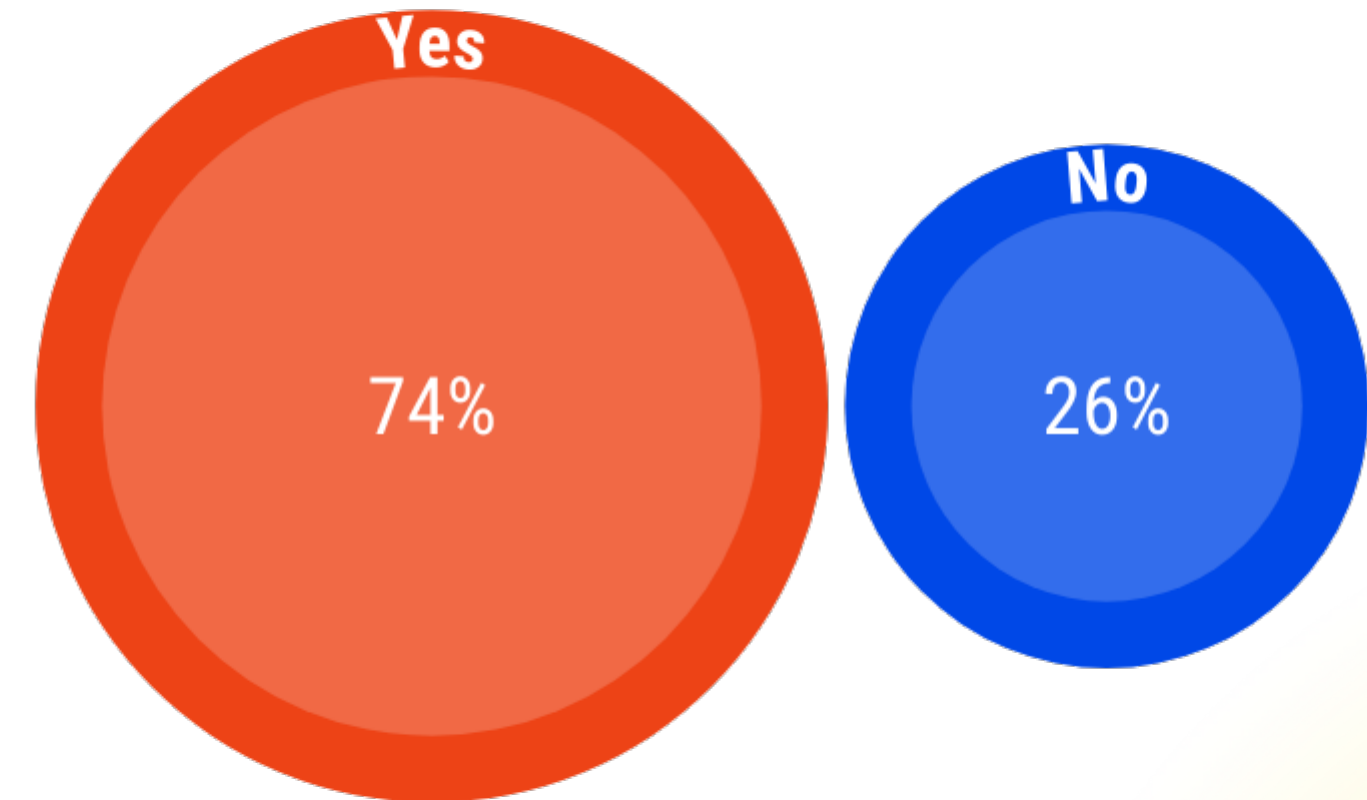


6.

Considering the strict requirements, standards, criteria and indicators of external quality assurance, before applying for an international accreditation through AQAS, is your institution willing to follow a 'pre-check' procedure?



The HEIs represented by the respondents have been aware of the stringent standards of accreditation process through AQAS. However, most of the HEIs seem to be undeterred in their consideration to apply for such procedures, even when required to follow a 'pre-check' by AQAS (74%).



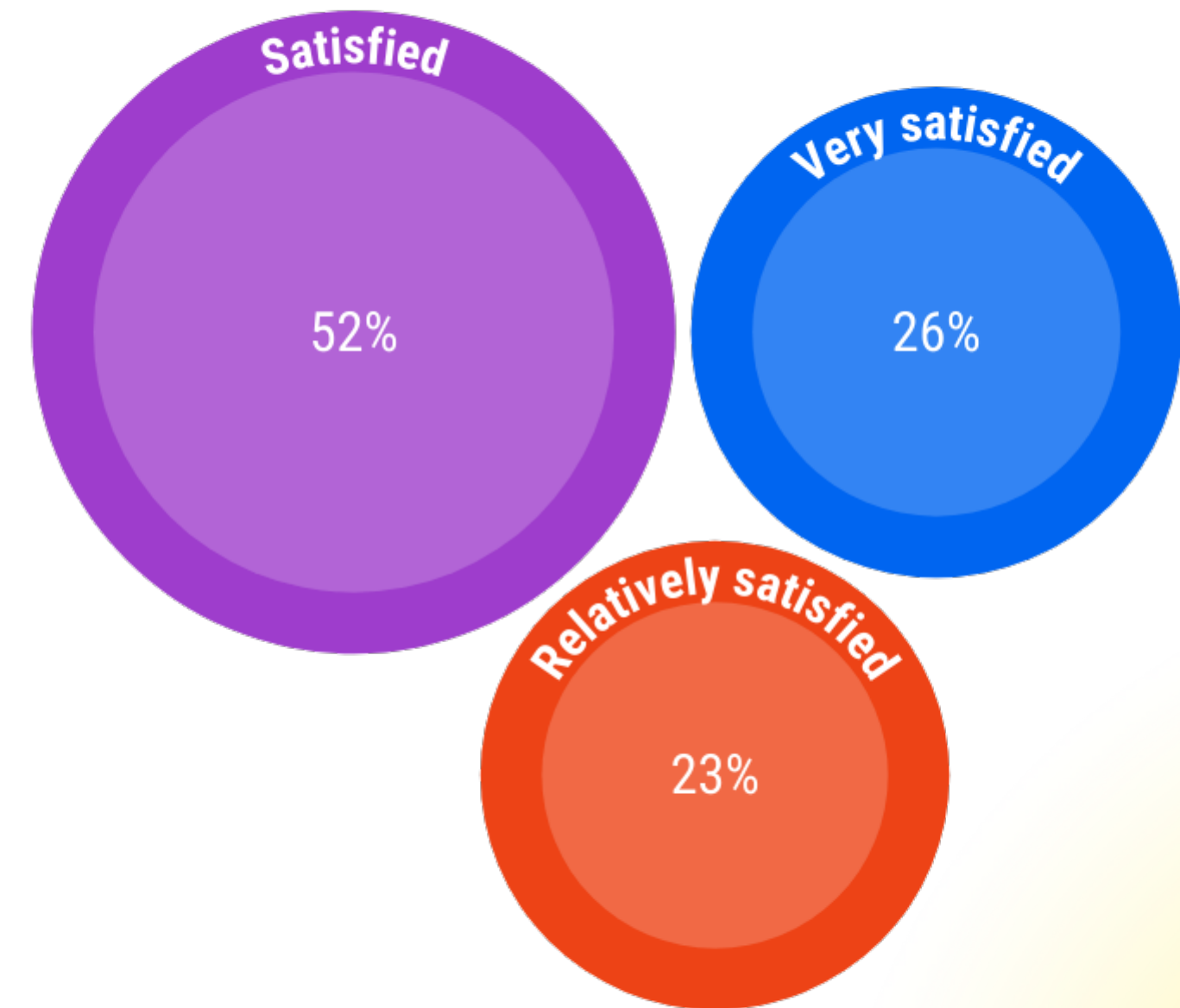


7.

## How satisfied are you with the overall organisation of this socialisation event?



The respondents have asserted their satisfaction to the organisation of of this event on the whole. Only the levels of satisfaction were varied with the largest was 'satisfied', and consecutively followed by 'very satisfied' and 'relatively satisfied'. It represent an indirect compliment to the seamless and successful organisation of this outreach event.



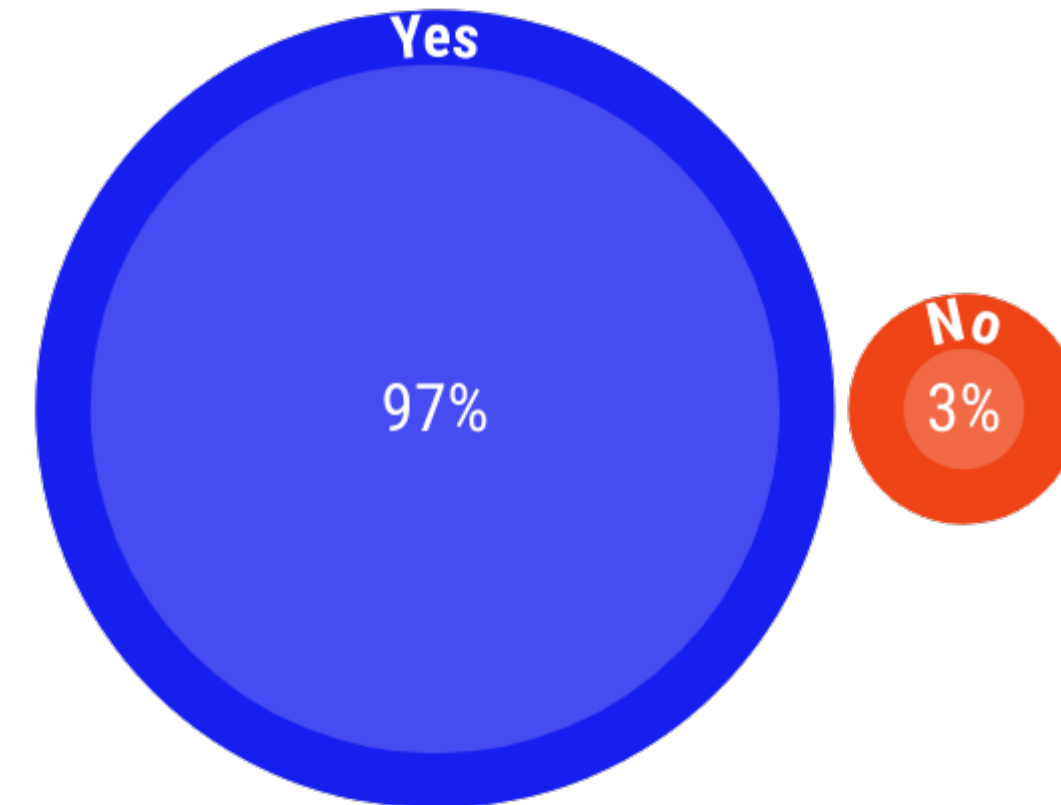
8.

## Would you recommend this outreach event and international accreditation procedures of AQAS to friends or colleagues?



The vast majority of the respondents were eager to recommend this kind of socialisation and information on international accreditations according to European standards -- in this case, AQAS -- to their friends and colleagues.

Beyond the implication that it reflects a keen interest of Indonesia's private HEIs on international QA, this positive response could potentially generate a vibe as a trigger for all parties to focus more on HEIs quality enhancement toward international standards.







## Conclusion

From this survey, several conclusions can be drawn. First, the returning responses was relatively low. From the estimated 230+ attending HEIs the answered rate of the questionnaire was about 11%. For a purely scientific generalisation it could have been statistically discarded. Fortunately, it is not for a speculative scientific purpose, but rather a baseline to draw and design future strategic engagement so that each returning response does count and matter.

Second, the enthusiasm of the participating HEIs for international accreditations was strong. Their motives were also well aligned with internationalisation ideals. This spirit deserves a supportive welcome from primary responsible public organisations and stakeholders such as LLDikti III, backed by international QA agencies like AQAS, and other players.

Third, the overall organisation of the webinar received a high score from the audience. However, it leaves sufficient space for improvement in organising similar event in the future.





# Strategic Recommendation

Based on the survey and subsequent review, in the endeavour to assist and facilitate Indonesia's private HEIs to improve and enhance their study programmes' quality through international accreditations, let us propose the 'Trident Strategy' or 'Strategi Trisula' in Indonesian. According this proposed design, three actions should be carried out simultaneously, either separately or collaboratively by relevant and multiple actors.

There seems to exist a need for a 'pre-check' procedure before the HEIs finalising their decision to lodge application for an international accreditation procedure in order to assess the maturity as well as to prognose the potential of the study programme to achieve 'without condition' or 'with condition' accreditation predicate. This base point-filter approach is intended to prevent squandering working hours, effort and financial capital yet with 'suspended' accreditation result. When required, we are open to separately discuss on several 'pre-check' methods suitable for Indonesia's private HEIs and may be applicable elsewhere. The first prong of the trident is therefore to select a number of regarded matured study programmes from interested private HEIs for international accreditations through 'pre-check' procedure. Only through positive prognosing result a selected few may be allowed to take part in international accreditation procedures. This approach may involve actors such as LLDikti III, AQAS or other international QA agencies.





# Strategic Recommendation

The second prong -- a medium-term programme -- is to establish a kind of 'incubation programme' for potential private HEIs to follow international accreditation. Through this nurturing endeavour, the participating HEIs obtain reinforcement and supervision from independent management consultants to help preparing and accelerating the HEIs to achieve their goals. This programme may involve LLDikti III to assist in designing and setting up the infrastructure including support from public funding.

It may also involve independent firms like EuroInsight Institute and Consultancy or other management consulting from the private sector.

The third prong of the trident is to encourage the HEIs to create and offer international study programmes with international curriculum. It may be set up independently or through cooperation with partner HEIs in, for instance, The Netherlands, Europe or elsewhere, to be part of the study programmes that are internationally accredited at the partner institutions overseas. This strategic design may involve LLDikti III and consultants with strong HE internationalisation knowledge, experience and network.







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