

## African Academic Credit System (ACTS)

### Report of the Policy Country Visit to SENEGAL

(Dakar, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024)

**Date:** Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 – 12.00 – 13.00

#### ACTS Experts who participated in the visit:

- Marina Larrea (OBREAL)
- Pablo Beneitone (Higher Education Expert of OBREAL)
- Senghane Mbodji (Higher Education Expert of Senegal)

#### List of participants from Senegal

- Olivier SAGNA - Directeur de la Coopération Internationale - Direction générale de l'Enseignement Supérieur

The meeting took place in the framework of the Workshop on Mobility, Academic Recognition and the African Credit Transfer System (ACTS), which is why many of the central issues to be discussed had already been addressed by the Senegalese higher education representatives. This meeting confirmed the willingness of the authorities to be part of the implementation phase of the ACTS.

#### 1. Purpose of the site visit

The purpose of the national meeting in Senegal was to present and discuss the current status of credit systems and the process of harmonisation within the African higher education space. The event aimed to share the preliminary results of the ACTS state-of-the-art study, to gather feedback from higher education authorities in Senegal, and to reflect on national contributions to the future development of the system.

#### 2. Presentations and Key Discussions

Marina Larrea presented the background of the HAQAA (Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation) project, outlining its goals for supporting higher education standards across Africa.

Senghane Mbodji presented the methodology he applied to the study on the state of the art of the credit system at the continental level. He also gave an introduction to the preliminary results achieved by the study at the level of West and Central Africa, as well as in Senegal.

Pablo Beneitone presented the ACTS initiative, detailing the study findings relevant to Africa, and globally. He underscored the primary aim of ACTS: to serve as a common reference to align credit systems across African nations, thus facilitating academic mobility and credential recognition.

During the meeting, several key themes were addressed, revealing the scale and complexity of the process of harmonising credit systems in Africa, in particular through the ACTS initiative. Particular attention was paid to the experience of Senegal and other West African countries in implementing credit systems aligned with the LMD model and international frameworks.

#### **4. Opinion of the ACTS Technical Team on Senegal's participation in the implementation phase**

The ACTS Expert Team considers Senegal a key actor in the implementation of the African Credit Transfer System. The country's demonstrated commitment to harmonisation, its institutional readiness, and its leadership in regional policy discussions position it as a strong contributor to the pilot phase and broader continental rollout of ACTS.