



Co-funded by
the European Union



The self-assessment
phase

Harmonisation, Quality Assurance
and Accreditation in Africa

HAQAA3 

Luis Miranda, ENQA

20 May 2025



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



The review process from the QAA's perspective (recap)



Purpose and benefits of the self-assessment phase

For the experts

- First point of information about the agency
- Starting point for them to prepare for the site visit
- Evidence for their findings and final review report

For the agency

- Opportunity for critical reflection and learning about your organisation
- Engagement with stakeholders
- In-depth learning and critical reflection about the ASC-QA

Formal requirements of the SAR (I)

- Clear information, critical reflections and sufficient evidence (analysis, not just description)
- Covers past, present and future
- Description and assessment of all EQA activities
- SWOT analysis
- Essential:

Full agency review: Information and analysis on how the agency meets the standards of parts B and C of the ASG-QA

Consultancy visit: Information and analysis on how the agency/ministry meets the selected standards of parts B and C of the ASG-QA

Follow-up visits: Information and analysis on how the agency has worked on the recommendations received during the last review to meet the standards of parts B and C of the ASG-QA

Formal requirements of the SAR (II)

- Ca. 40-60 pages (excluding annexes)
- Language: EN/FR/PT
- Deadline to be agreed in advance: November 2025 – June 2026
- Use the SAR template (annex VI of review guidelines, p. 25)

Contents of the SAR

- Introduction
- Development of the SAR
- HE and QA context in your country
- History, profile and activities of the agency
- HE QA activities of the agency
- SWOT analysis
- Internal QA procedures
- Alignment of the agency with each standards of the ASG-QA Parts B and C
- International activities
- Engagement with stakeholders
- Areas of Future Development
- Glossary and annexes

Note for consultancy visits

- Not all standards need to be covered in the SAR, but at a minimum:

Part B

- ✓ Standard 2: Designing External Quality Assurance Mechanisms Fit for Purpose

Part C

- ✓ Standard 1: Legal Status
 - ✓ Standard 2: Vision and Mission Statement
 - ✓ Standard 3: Governance and Management
 - ✓ Standard 4: Independence of QAA
 - ✓ Standard 7: Financial and Human Resources
- Others may be added if feasible and relevant (to be discussed when drafting the ToR)
 - Some sections of the report may be addressed very briefly

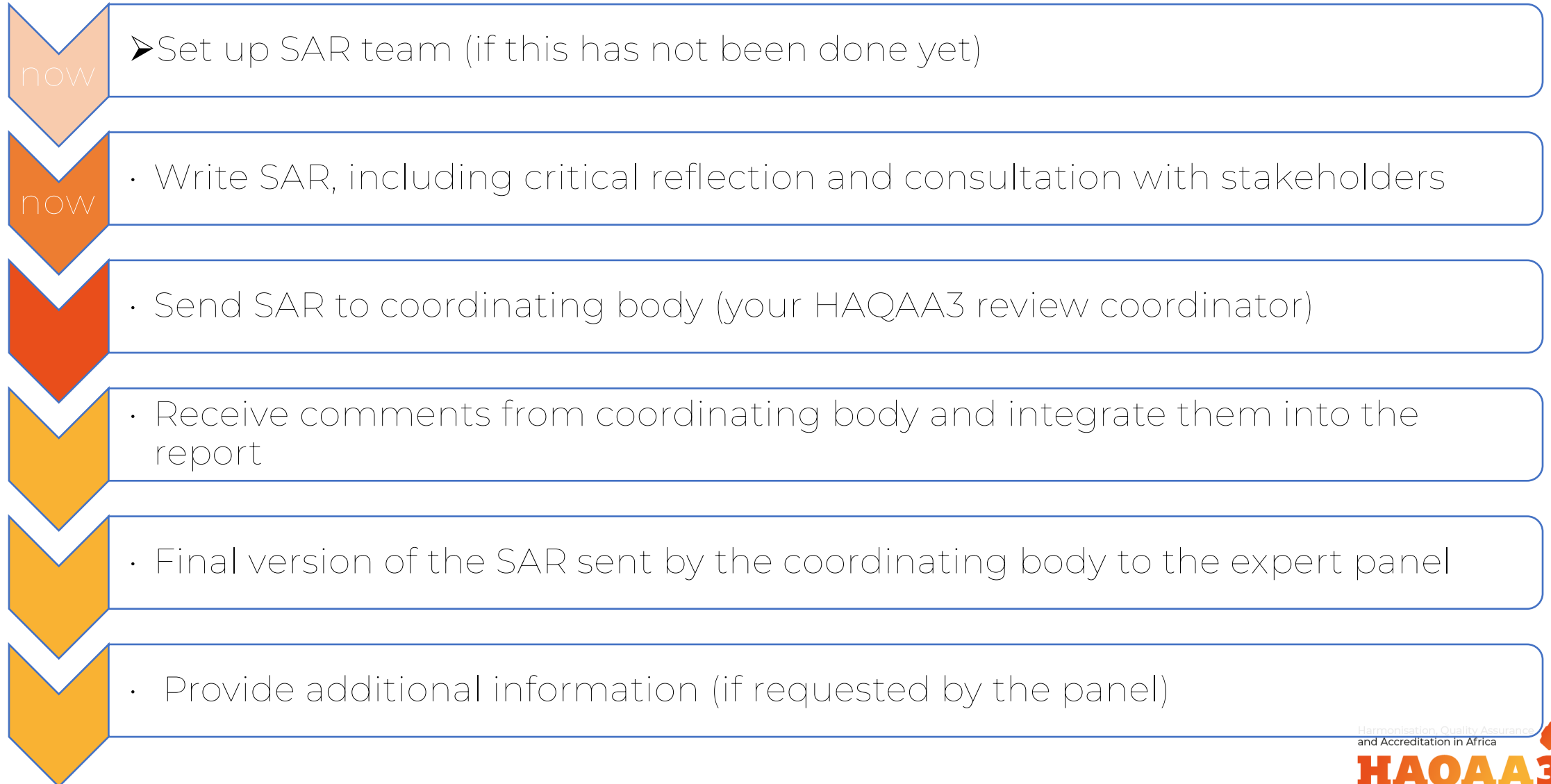
How to get there? (I)

- Collect evidence
 - Consult stakeholders
 - Review, reflect and analyse
 - Present findings
-
- Main work usually done by a self-assessment team
 - Different approaches to writing it
 - Final report signed off by head of agency
 - Screening by the HAQAA3 coordinator (AAU/ENQA)

How to get there? (II)

- Don't focus on the review outcome, but on your own activities and how they align to the ASG-QA.
- Look into the standards and into your own activities, and identify how they fit into each other.
- Bear in mind that harmonisation $\neq$ unification.

Self-assessment timeline



Support for the QA agency

- Training session in autumn 2025 about the site visit.
 - Individual meetings between HAQAA3 coordinator (AAU/ENQA) and the agency.
 - HAQAA3 coordinator as main contact point.
-
- Materials from today's training
 - HAQAA3 review guidelines
 - SAR template
 - [ASG-QA](#) and [ASG-QA Users' Guide](#)



Any questions?