

Public report on the quality of the advanced masters globalisation and development; governance and development; development evaluation and management.

Most important conclusions from the external visitation and the internal process monitoring and control (IPS) of the advanced masters globalisation and development; governance and development; development evaluation and management.

The [visitation report](#), published in 2016, mentions some strong points and contains some recommendations for further improvement that have been implemented by the programmes after the visitation through a follow-up plan. This plan was submitted to the Education Board of the University of Antwerp. The study programmes were accredited by NVAO on the basis of the visitation report. In the spring of 2019 the programmes went through the internal process monitoring and control.

Below are the most important conclusions from the visitation, the follow-up plan and its implementation and the internal process monitoring and control.

Strengths of the programmes

The programmes' main strength is their well-established **student-centered approach**. Students receive excellent treatment, by strong communication and sufficient attention to their well-being. Students are very keen on the **guidance and feedback** they receive throughout their programme. The programmes provide students with extensive and rigorous information for example for writing the thesis, but also more on other aspects of the programmes through an academic survival guide. Another admirable asset is the **quality culture** of the programmes. The Institute of Development Policy is very committed to the quality of its programmes. An example of this is the meticulous and continuous follow-up of **student feedback** for each course unit through feedback sheets. These sheets summarise the most important output from student feedback, supplemented with the teacher's own experience and are used to finetune the course content of the next academic year (full PDCA cycle). Besides that, the programmes regularly ask for feedback from its (recently graduated) **alumni** and ensure strong follow-up. It must be said that these alumni are often very satisfied with the education they were offered by the programmes. The content of the programmes is praised because of its focus on both **quantitative and qualitative methodology**. Last but not least, the **intake policy** of the institute is seen as an asset because it is one of the causes of the rich **diversity** in the student group.

Recommendations for further improvement of the programmes

The programmes are encouraged to rewrite the **learning outcomes**, to ensure the visibility of the different focuses of the three programmes. This exercise has been done and the updated learning outcomes have been published. s. Another point of attention for the programmes is to continuously keep monitoring the **workload for students**. The programmes only last one academic year and the combination of the courses with the master's thesis seems to be difficult for various students. In addition, the programmes are encouraged to involve **employers** more in collecting feedback to keep up with contemporary dynamics in the field. This process has started with the take-off of the alumni impact barometer research using alumni and employer surveys. The three programmes deserve more international visibility. That is precisely why the programmes are encouraged to ensure strong **communication** and promotion, something the institute is actively pursuing through creative strategies of outreach. Finally, the programmes must ensure that they continue to offer sufficient theory from a **non-Western perspective**, something that various students are sensitive to. The programmes were asked, among other things, to look for ways to attract non-European lecturers. To this end, the programmes have already attracted guest lecturers from Nicaragua and the Philippines and academic assisting staff from Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, the Philippines and Uganda.