

MAPPING DISTORTED PRACTICES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Jacques Hallak & Muriel Poisson



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



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Mapping corrupt practices...

Areas of planning/management	Major opportunities for corrupt practices
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transgressing rules and procedures• Inflation of costs and activities• Embezzlement
Allocation of specific allowances (fellowships, subsidies, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Favoritism / nepotism• Bribes• Bypass of criteria• Discrimination
Construction, maintenance and school repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fraud in public tendering• Embezzlement• Manipulating data• Bypass of school mapping
Teacher management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fraud in the appointment and deployment of teachers• Falsification of credentials/use of fake diplomas
Personnel behavior (professional misconduct)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ghost teachers• Absenteeism• Illegal fees• Favoritism/nepotism/acceptance of gifts• Private tutoring
Access to universities Examinations and diplomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selling of information• Examination fraud• Diploma mills and false credentials
Institution accreditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fraud in the accreditation process
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manipulating data• Selecting/suppressing information• Irregularity in producing and publishing information

Focus 1: fraud in exams

Steps	Malpractices (<i>examples</i>)	Actors involved
Examination development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leakage or selling of exam questions• Test preparation (private tutoring)• Impersonation, external assistance• Substitution of scripts• Ghost examination centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subject specialists• Testing experts• Clerks• Printers
Marking of examinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Favoritism, nepotism, bribes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professors• Graders• Supervisors
Recording results and issuing diplomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manipulation of exam results• Issuance of fake degrees and credentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administrators
Use of results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bribes to obtain admission to university	

Focus 2: fraud in accreditation

Steps

Definition of accreditation and quality assurance (QA) criteria

Accrediting process

Accreditation implementation and supervision

Malpractices

- Use on non-transparent criteria
- Fraudulent or bogus accreditation agencies (accreditation mills)
- Bribes to obtain successful certification/accreditation
- Non-accredited institutions issuing accredited degrees
- Distortion in the application of the accreditation criteria
- Circumvention of accreditation (franchising schemes)
- Profit-making schools lying about their accreditation status

Methodological approach

-5

- Mapping out opportunities for corrupt practices in higher education
- Preparation of a conceptual framework on opportunities for corrupt practices in higher education
- Methodological tools to measure corrupt practices : perception surveys, PETS, QSDS, report cards, etc.
- Identification of strategies to fight these practices, e.g. regulating the market by means of transparent criteria, reducing risks of conflict of interest, developing standards and codes of practice, facilitating public access to information, etc.
- Identification of the main strategic lines to be included in future university plans on this basis