Quality Agreements
2019-2024

Realisation of measures and expenditure of budgets

Annual results 2021

Contact: Eva Verschoor
WU received for the year 2021, including wage compensation, a total of €6,689,000 from the Ministry of OCW (Education, Culture, and Science) for the Quality Agreements. The financial resources have been spent entirely in 2021. In doing so, WUR has complied with the financial agreements in the Quality Agreements.

Overall, the realisation of the Quality Agreements is well on track. Despite the corona pandemic and restrictions, the projects have achieved their objectives successfully. All projects remain to be very relevant, also in the changed situation due to the corona pandemic. Therefore no changes were necessary.
**Small-scale education**

### Maintaining and further developing small-scale education

**Total budget Small-scale education (€)**

- **3955K**
- **3948K**

### Intensive thesis supervision

- **Goal**: Maintain the desired level of intensive thesis supervision.
- **Approach**: More staff or other measures taken by chair groups to intensify supervision to maintain the desired level.
- **Planned result**: All chair groups maintain intensive thesis supervision despite the growth.
- **Realised result**: The 10 interviews executed showed positive outcomes. The interviews demonstrated that the desired level of intensive supervision was maintained or intensified by hiring extra staff and professionalisation of the thesis supervision.

### Extra staff for Science Groups

- **Hired staff: fte**
  - **Planned result**: A total of 7.3 fte is hired by Science Groups.
  - **Realised result**: Science groups hired a total of 7.3 fte extra staff.

### Extra staff for Chair Groups

- **Hired staff: fte**
  - **Planned result**: 37 chair groups hire 0.3 fte extra staff: 11.1 fte
  - **Realised result**: 11.1 fte extra staff hired by 37 chair groups.
More and better study guidance

More and better study guidance by strengthening and filling the gaps in the existing support infrastructure for students.

Total budget More and better study guidance (€)

- 0K
- 847K
- 903K
- 847K

Goal: Students learn to cope with stress better.
Approach: Students participate in the events to learn to cope with stress better.
Planned result: Hire a coordinator (0.4 fte) to organise the coping with stress campaign (1) and at least 4 extra activities (4). The campaign and extra activities result in a total of 5 activities executed by the psychologist.
Realised result: Coordinator is hired. All events and the stress campaign are organised.

Coping with stress campaign

Activities realised

- 5

Budget realisation (€)

- 0K
- 53K
- 51K

More study advisors

Hired study advisors

- 5.6

Budget realisation (€)

- 0K
- 547K
- 478K

Goal: Students receive more and better support from study advisors.
Approach: More capacity (fte) study advisors, to decrease the number of students consulting each study advisor.
Planned result: Hire 4.7 fte extra study advisors.
Realised result: 5.6 fte extra study advisors are hired. Extra advisors could be hired with the funding on this project that was not yet spent in 2020.

More mental support for students

Hired student psychologists

- 2.4

Budget realisation (€)

- 0K
- 207K
- 205K

Goal: Reduce the waiting times for students.
Approach: Expanding the capacity of student psychologists.
Planned result: Hire 2.4 fte extra student psychologists.
Realised result: Extra 1.6 fte student psychologist hired. A total average of 0.4 fte psychologists per year is hired for peak periods. 0.4 fte support staff for psychologists to unburden them from administrative tasks so they have more time for students.
**Goal:** Beer informed students about guidance and opportunities offered.

**Approach:** A training centre with a virtual portal will be realised and managed by a coordinator.

**Planned result:** Hire a coordinator (1). Website launched and promoted (2). We monitor the execution of these two plans.

**Realised result:** Coordinator is hired. Website 'Student Training & Support' has been promoted and updated.

---

**Goal:** Lecturers feel better equipped to recognise and deal with student issues.

**Approach:** Develop and offer additional training for teaching staff and study advisors.

**Planned result:** Offer at least 2 training sessions to staff.

**Realised result:** 9 training sessions were offered to lecturers and staff on student issues.

---

**Goal:** Students build a stronger support network among students.

**Approach:** Increasing bottom-up student guidance initiatives open for all students.

**Planned result:** Fund 4 student initiatives.

**Realised result:** 13 student initiatives were funded, of which 3 were cancelled due to the covid restrictions (2) and other reasons (1).
**Education differentiation**

*Education differentiation by strengthening talent development and career preparation in the curriculum and extracurricular.*

---

**Student Challenges**

**Realised Student Challenges**

- **Goal:** More opportunities for students to develop their talents.
- **Approach:** Continuation of the Student Challenges.
- **Planned result:** Realise one Student Challenge.
- **Realised result:** The ReThink Protein challenge finished in June 2021. The Third edition of the Urban Greenhouse challenge is running.

---

**Skills development**

**Realised measures**

- **Goal:** Students get more skill training.
- **Approach:** More skills education in our study programmes. Student assistants are offered educational skills training to support their tasks in education.
- **Planned result:** New skills implemented in study programmes, supported by instructional designers (1). Expanding digital learning environment on skills (2).
- **Realised result:** All programmes started implementing the skills learning trajectories. As from November 2020, a coordinator is hired to implement the project. The use of the digital learning environment and digital tools for skills education is expanded.

- 11 Training courses for student assistants realised, as requested by lecturers.
**Goal:** More students invest more intentional and focused in personal development and career preparation.

**Approach:** Expand our menu of extracurricular activities.

**Result:** Increase activities of the Career Service Centre (1). Hire coach for students (2), implement Bildung programme in multiple study programmes (3), organise at least 2 extra-curricular activities (4).

**Realised results:** Career Service Centre organised more activities online. Coach is hired and coached many students. More than 5 different extracurricular activities are available via the new virtual Student Training & Support centre. The Bildung Reflection programme is offered in six different study programmes.
**Professionalisation of teaching staff**

**Goal:** Improve the quality of education provided by PhD candidates who have educational tasks.

**Approach:** Education training developed and offered to PhD candidates who are assigned teaching tasks in courses.

**Planned result:** At least 140 PhD candidates will be trained on education skills per year.

**Realised result:** In total 171 PhD candidates participated in the didactical educational training courses. Many training courses needed to be offered online due to the Covid restrictions, therefore less funding was needed.

---

**Fund for peer review and professionalisation expenses**

**Goal:** Lecturers spend more time on professionalisation via training and peer review.

**Approach:** We will create a fund to offer financial compensation for professionalisation of staff.

**Planned results:** At least 15 request for compensation funded. At least 4 peer reviews (of a cluster) compensated.

**Realised results:** 23 requests for compensation are funded. 17 peer reviews of (cluster of) courses are compensated. Staff receive training courses for ANS (exam/grading portal) and study advisors also received additional training and professionalisation.

---

**Unburden and support lecturers**

**Goal:** Lecturers have more time for professionalisation or innovation as they are unburdened by supporting staff.

**Approach:** Budget will be spend on extra staff to take over tasks of lecturers to unburden them to have more time for professionalisation.

**Planned result:** Science groups hire 10.5 fte in total.

**Realised result:** Science groups have hired 10 fte in total. Some of the extra staff were hired later than planned, explaining the underspending. The last 0.5 fte will be hired as from 2022.
Adequate educational facilities

**Goal**: More digital facilities easily available for all students by using their own device.

**Approach**: Implementation of Study Anyplace Anytime.

**Planned result**: Launch the WUR app store. Students will be able to use WUR apps from the virtual app store at any time and any place.

**Realised result**: WUR Appstore available and promoted among students. 15000 additional students installed the app store. In the appstore 190 apps are available. Less CANS facilities and computers were sold with discount to students in comparison to last year.