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Abstract

This is a multi-purpose book aiming at a diverse audience. It is possible to read it in a non-linear fashion based on the needs of the individual reader. Initially it has been written for the students of the Inter-University Interdepartmental Master's Degree Programme "Higher Education Policy: Theory and Praxis" (MaHep) of the Dpts. of Educational Sciences and Social Work (University of Patras), Primary Education (University of the Aegean) and Social and Educational Policy (University of Peloponnese) (<https://mahep-upatras.gr>). Therefore, its organization follows the structure and development of the specific postgraduate programme of studies (MaHep). However, it is hoped that it will also be useful: a) to employees of the specialized bodies in Greek universities dealing with strategic planning and quality assurance, b) to other bodies and institutions that would like to systematize or implement methods of strategic planning and quality assurance, c) to students, junior and senior researchers and those involved in the preparation of (competitive or non-competitive) project proposals. It consists of two parts. The first part deals with strategic planning (Chapter 1), quality assurance and evaluation (Chapter 2) and the tools

used for both strategic planning and quality assurance/evaluation implementation (Chapter 3). The second part relates to the writing of proposals for academic, research or training purposes for personal interest or in the context of a competitive proposal in Greece and/or abroad (Chapter 4). Chapter 5 focuses on the importance of monitoring an approved proposal in the phase of implementation. Chapter 6 discusses the types of project evaluation and the role of evaluators. Chapter 7, initially, refers to the framework of the development of a European Research Area (ERA) and the corresponding Greek legal framework in order to enable the interested parties to understand and follow the relevant research context. Finally, it informs about several, indicative, funding bodies pertaining to research or educational projects. The connecting link between the two parts of the book is the idea that both the work of strategic planning and quality assurance may be understood as a 'project' to be implemented whether funded (as is seasonally the case with the development and consolidation of the relevant bodies of Greek universities - MODIP in Greek) or not. Therefore, the reader who is primarily interested in the first part is invited

