

Ministerial Strategy for the Higher Education sector in the Kurdistan region of Iraq 2021-2024

The Strategy for higher education of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) fits with the APPRAIS project

The Ministry of higher Education and Scientific Research adopts a **vision and long-term strategy** that lead to design a new road map for reformation of the higher education system.

Within this framework, the **priorities** of the Ministry's strategy for higher education will contribute to develop the regional governmental strategy which aims at reforming the management structure of Universities

- by introduce a modern democratic system where the staff's ownership of their institution and students rights of quality education are protected,
- by introducing teaching and research quality assessment systems to monitor performance and link key performance indicators to promotion,
- by implementing audit mechanisms to ensure the rule of law, control of corruption, safe environment, gender equality and protecting the rights of minorities, disabled individuals etc.



The Goals of the Ministerial Strategy:

1. Reforming teaching and establishing a modern Teaching Quality Assurance (TQA) system.
2. Reforming the research training and funding system to revitalize scientific research.
3. Establishing continuous academic development program.
4. Building capacity by investing in people and infrastructure.
5. Reforming the management structure of the universities and technical institutes to minimize waste and promote university independence.
6. Reforming the administrative system to minimize bureaucracy and put students and staff first.

The Objectives of the Ministerial Strategy:

1. **Bologna Process Implementation:** Implementing Bologna Process at KRG universities, in order to be up to the international standards, to be more responsive to the market needs and to prepare graduates for the market, as well as to create scientific relations with international academic communities.
2. **Curriculum Development:** Reforming the curriculum of all the scientific departments aiming at changing and developing education curriculum and to bring them up according to the modern and contemporary standards and to be fit with the market needs.
3. **Pedagogy:** Introducing a new pedagogical training program.
4. **Internationalization:** Internationalizing universities and higher education in the Kurdistan Region.
5. **KUR:** Creating a tool that helps universities to leverage the quality and the visibility of the universities internationally, through the implementation of Kurdistan University Ranking KUR.
6. **Creating strong synergy between education, research and socioeconomic systems;**