LUANAR QUALITY
ASSURANCE NEWSLETTER

LUANAR QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

HOW COMMITTED IS LUANAR TO EXCELLENCE?

LUANAR is dedicated to maintaining excellence in teaching, learning, research, outreach, and governance. To this effect, LUANAR has a Quality Assurance (QA) policy which ensures high standards across all university functions, aligning with LUANAR's vision and strategic priorities.

WHAT IS LUANAR'S QUALITY POLICY STATEMENT?

LUANAR strives to advance knowledge and produce excellent graduates to meet both national and international standards.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF LUANAR QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY?

1. Ensure high-standard, relevant academic programs.
2. Provide accessible infrastructure for quality education.
3. Safeguard academic standards.
4. Align award standards with local and international requirements.
5. Enhance student experience.
6. Improve institutional processes and service delivery.
7. Meet stakeholder expectations on resource management.

WHAT ARE THE KEY PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN LUANAR QUALITY POLICY?

• Holistic quality approach
• Auditing, self-assessment, and monitoring
• Internal and external peer review; and
• Data-driven decision-making

BUT HOW IS LUANAR QUALITY ASSURANCE STRUCTURED?

LUANAR has a Directorate of Quality Assurance (DoQA), led by the Director who reports to the Deputy Vice Chancellor. The Directorate works with the University Quality Assurance Committee (UQAC) and Departmental Quality Assurance Committee (DQAC) towards ensuring quality in LUANAR products and services.

WHAT ARE LUANAR QUALITY ASSURANCE FOCUS AREAS?

• **Admissions:** Ensuring inclusivity and merit-based selection.
• **Programme Development:** Designing market-relevant courses.
• **Teaching & Learning:** Delivering knowledge through qualified faculty.
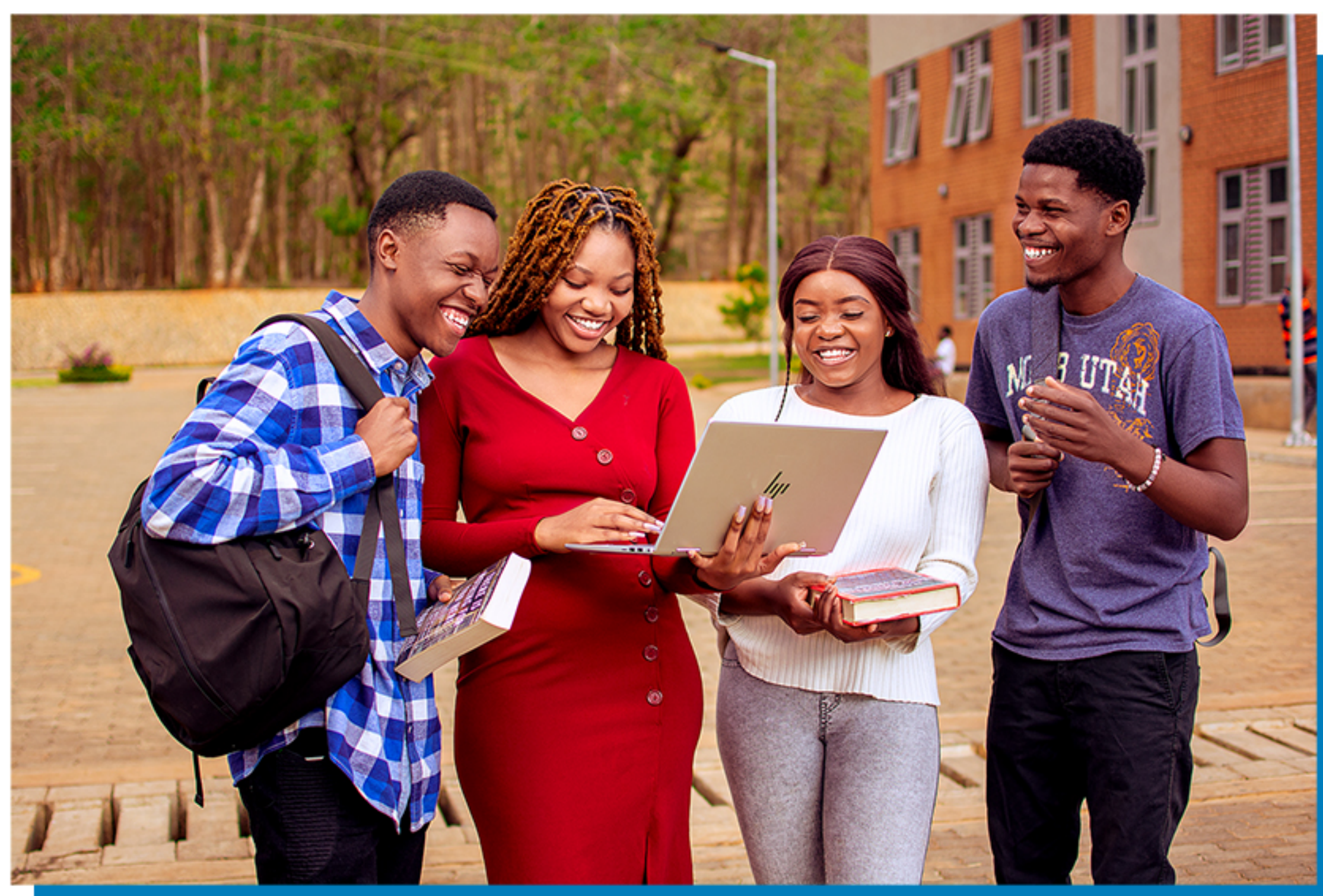• **Research & Consultancy:** Strengthening research capacity.

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a University with endless possibilities

LUANAR ACHIEVES HIGH RANKING IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA RANKINGS

THE Times Higher Education

For the first time, LUANAR participated in Times Higher Education (THE) Sub-Saharan Africa Rankings and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Impact Ranking in 2024, achieving the following (https://www.timeshighereducation.com/impactrankings?page=35#):

#1 in **Malawi**   **#8** in the **SADC** Region

#15 among 129 universities in **Sub-Saharan Africa**

#801 among 1976 universities in the world under SDGs Impact ranking.

What Was the Ranking Process Followed by the THE?

LUANAR, just like other participating universities, provided data in three key areas:
- Numeric Indicators: University performance metrics.
- Qualitative Evidence: Policy documents and web-based verification.
- Student Survey: Over 500 LUANAR students participated in evaluating curriculum relevance, African content integration, facilities, accommodations, and teaching quality.
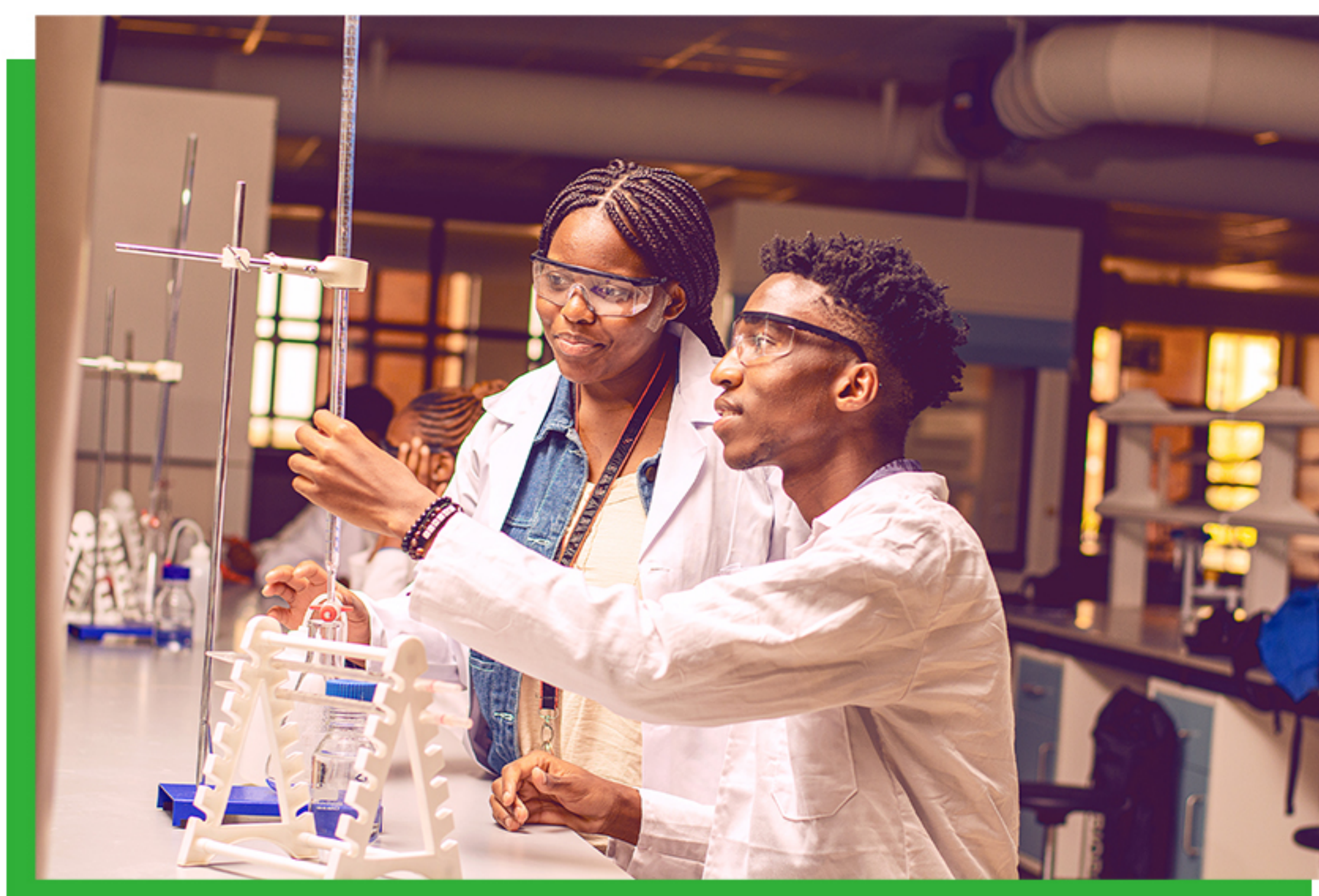
LUANAR PROGRAMMES ACCREDITED

LUANAR's academic programs have been accredited by the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) for the period 17th December 2024 – 16th December 2029.

What Did the Accreditation Process Comprise?

- Pre-Assessment Visit by NCHE
- On-site assessments conducted from 2nd – 6th September 2024 which included:
  - o Evaluation of programme relevance, staffing levels, infrastructure, and financial resources.
  - o Interviews with students, staff, and management to verify compliance.

What Were the Results for the Accreditation Assessment?

- 60 programmes got accredited without conditions.
- 50 programmes were accredited with conditions, requiring improvements.

LUANAR QUALITY ASSURANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

What Are These Responsibilities?

- Quality teaching, learning, and research;
- Efficient financial and resource management;
- High academic and administrative staff standards; and
- A culture of quality among students and staff.

What's Next?

LUANAR is required to submit improvement plans before 14th April 2024. The plans need to be implemented within a period of one year from the time the accreditation results were communicated to the institution. Failure to comply within one year may lead to withdrawal of accreditation for affected programs.

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