



MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA) – Re-Accreditation Report



General Information

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Programme Management:

Amelie Feuerstein, Programme Manager
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Academic Programme:

MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA)

Date of Peer Review Visits:

01.12.2022 (programme presentation)
08.12.2022 (programme assessment)

Quality Assurance Officer:

Ksenija Razum

Peer Review Team:

External Professors:

Prof. Dr. Gregor van den Beek, Wirtschaftswissenschaften mit dem
Schwerpunkt Finanzwissenschaften, Fakultät Gesellschaft und Ökonomie,
Hochschule Rhein-Waal
Prof. Sam Kaninda, PhD, Assistant Professor, Université Pédagogique
Nationale, Kinshasa

Business Representatives:

Jean-Claude Tshipama, Deputy CEO at Equity BCDC, Kinshasa

External Student:

Yves Nzuzi-Khuabi, MBA Student, University of Stellenbosch Business School

Summary of the Accreditation Results

Conformity Check

- ☐ All formal criteria were fulfilled.
- ☒ Not all formal criteria were fulfilled, and conditions were made regarding the following criteria:
§ 8 StakV – Credit Point System
- ☒ The Quality Assurance Officer of Frankfurt School recommended the re-accreditation of the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA).

Review of the curriculum, concept, and quality

- ☐ All formal criteria were fulfilled.
- ☒ Not all formal criteria were fulfilled, and conditions were made regarding the following point:
Marketing Strategy
- ☒ The Peer Review Team recommended the re-accreditation of the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA).

Fact Sheet

Name of programme	MBA for Executives in Kinshasa			
Degree	Master in Business Administration (MBA)			
Type of programme	Presence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blended Learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Full-time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Part-time	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joint Degree	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Dual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Distance learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Berufsbegleitend	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Standard period of study in semesters	3 Semesters			
Number of credit points awarded (ECTS)	60 ECTS			
Classification	post-exp. master's degree			
Profile type (if applicable)	Application-oriented			
Study location	Kinshasa			
Start of study on (date) first year it was offered?	08.02.2018			
Date of first accreditation	15.11.2018			
Accredited until	30.11.2026			

Short Programme Profile

The MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA) shall prepare business executives for assuming, and excelling in, demanding positions of leadership and responsibility. It fosters both professional and personal development and equips the participants with a broad set of knowledge, skills and capabilities that are critical to succeeding at a senior management level in different industries in a highly dynamic and complex business environment.

The MBA targets business executives in Kinshasa who aim to deepen their management expertise, boost their leadership skills, and expand their network across industries. Students have typically studied business, economics, engineering, science, or law. The MBA targets a nascent private business community, creating jobs and opportunities for Congolese professionals in their own country. The programme attracts an emerging middle class in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) that typically works in middle or senior positions, either for international or Congolese companies and banks. Some of the students run their own business. Applicants want to take the MBA programme to gain skills and competencies on an international level to be ready to take the next career step within their company or to open or expand their own business in the DRC. The programme allows them to stay in the country without interrupting or quitting their jobs.

The programme educates managers to take long-term-oriented, value based, and rational decisions. Students learn to start, lead and manage a firm as a whole. The curriculum fosters entrepreneurship and best practices of international management and ethical leadership. It equips participants with a broad set of knowledge, skills and capabilities that are critical to succeed at a senior management level. International faculty brings a global mindset to the programme while at the same time fostering the ability to find local solutions for the special demands of the complex and dynamic DRC business environment. The emphasis of the courses shifts from more theoretical, general and international oriented contents (Finance, Accounting, Strategy & Marketing ...) to more hands-on and practice relevant courses towards the end of the programme (Capstone, Lean Startup Bootcamp, Thesis) where acquired knowledge and skills can be directly applied in the local context. The elective at the end of the programme gives students the opportunity to focus on a certain topic of interest and environment: They can opt between the Lean Startup Bootcamp in Kinshasa, an elective in Frankfurt together with Frankfurt MBA students or in India at one of our Partner Universities.

The form and content of the programme are designed and delivered with immediate practical relevance in mind. Problem-centred approaches ranging from case studies to guest lectures by representatives from the corporate world, ensure that participants receive a multi-faceted approach to education: theoretical and practical, research and application, general and specific, international and national. Discussions and group work in the classroom allow students to benefit from their respective expertise and ensure the transfer of theoretical concepts into practical and local contexts. In-classroom teaching is essential for this approach. In addition, students can submit their thesis in form of a consulting project on a pressing management problem of an existing company or in form of a business plan for a new venture in company or new to market.

The MBA for Executives is a part-time programme (60 ECTS) delivered in presence. The duration is three semesters (18 months). Lectures are scheduled mostly on extended weekends (Thursday afternoon – Saturday afternoon). This allows students to follow their career while studying. There are two block sessions: Two weeks towards the end of the programme in Frankfurt and one week for the elective - the location depends on the chosen elective.

Programme Accreditation at Frankfurt School

The system accreditation enables Frankfurt School to (re-)accredit its academic programmes internally. The aim of the programme accreditation is to assure the compliance with legal regulations and quality standards, to evaluate the programme's curriculum with its learning outcomes and to continuously improve and develop it to meet Frankfurt School's claim for excellence. The accreditation is conducted as follows:

Frankfurt School's Quality Assurance Officer assesses in the conformity check whether the academic programme is compliant with all relevant regulations and standards (formale Kriterien, Part 2 StakV).

An external Peer Review Team assesses the programme's curriculum and concept, the programme delivery and the continuous improvement of the programme (fachlich-inhaltliche Kriterien, Part 3 StakV). The Peer Review Team is composed of independent stakeholders and peers, taking into account different perspectives.

Based on their assessment the Quality Assurance Officer as well as the external Peer Review Team give an accreditation recommendation. The final accreditation decision is taken by the Accreditation & Continuous Improvement Committee (ACIC) and is subject to approval of the School's president. After the final approval the seal of programme accreditation of the German Accreditation Council is awarded. The accreditation period of a programme can be up to eight years.

The following regulations and standards are relevant for programme accreditation:

- Studienakkreditierungsverordnung des Landes Hessen (StakV)/Musterrechtsverordnung
- Hochschulrahmengesetz (HRG) and Hessisches Hochschulgesetz (HHG)
- Qualifikationsrahmen für Deutsche Hochschulabschlüsse (HQR)
- Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG)
- European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) Guidelines
- Lisbon Convention
- AACSB 2020 Standards and Guiding Principles
- EQUIS Standards & Criteria
- For MBA Programmes only: MBA Accreditation Criteria (AMBA) and Equal MBA Guidelines
- Frankfurt School General Course and Examination Requirement (GCER) and Specific Programme Regulations, Frankfurt School Bylaws (Grundordnung)

Measures of Improvement from the Last Accreditation (2018)

The last programme accreditation took place on 15 November 2018. The Quality Assurance Officer of Frankfurt School made conditions regarding the programme concept, the admissions and selection process as well as the modularization.

Both the Peer Review Team and the Quality Assurance Officer recommended the accreditation, and the programme was accredited for three years.

The measures of improvement were implemented within the deadline.

Due to the Covid 19 situation, the programme did not start in 2021. The Accreditation & Continuous Improvement Committee decided on 4 October 2021 to extend the programme accreditation for one year (until 30. November 2022) for the students remaining in the programme.

Results of the Programme Accreditation (2022)

1. Review of the Formal Requirements (Conformity Check)

The assessment of the programme's conformity with formal requirements was conducted by the Quality Assurance Officer of Frankfurt School. Most of the criteria were fulfilled and one condition regarding the status of the Alumni and Exit Evaluation was made.

In two recommendations the Quality Assurance Officer mentioned that the admissions process should be double checked and the requirements for the proficiency test could be more precise.

The Quality Assurance Officer recommended the re-accreditation of the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa.

2. Review of the Curriculum and Concept

The assessment of the curriculum, concept and quality of the programme was conducted by an external Peer Review Team. The external Peer Review Team acknowledged that the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa as a German

programme has a great reputation in the DRC. They highlighted the practical orientation of the programme and the cooperation with Université Protestante au Congo.

Not all criteria were fulfilled and one condition concerning a more elaborate marketing campaign was made.

Additional ten recommendations were made. Some recommendations were dealing with the idea to include more Congolese perspectives within the programme, for example by executive talks by Congolese executives, Congolese professors or cooperations with Congolese industries, companies, banks etc. Another discussed topic was the balanced structure of the student group regarding gender, but also the years of experience of the participants. Additionally, a recommendation was dealing with two possible long-term projects like a bi-lingual programme (French and English) and a PhD track.

The Peer Review Team recommended the re-accreditation of the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa.

Decision on Programme Accreditation

On 29 March 2023, the Frankfurt School Accreditation & Continuous Improvement Committee decided to accredit the MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA) as follows.

The MBA for Executives in Kinshasa (MBA) will be accredited for a period of 4 years (until 30. November 2026) and the seal of programme accreditation of the German Accreditation Council will be awarded.

Programme Management was given 6 weeks' time (until 16 May 2023) to formally object against this decision or against conditions and recommendations. No objections were raised.

The deadline for completion of the conditions is 31 March 2024.