



EXCELLENCE APPROACH

1. Integration of the excellence approach at the EKA University of Applied Sciences

In its activities, the EKA University of Applied Sciences demonstrates a strong commitment to significantly strengthen science and research, as well as to continue to build the reputation of the university through research-based studies, creativity and lecturers, whose scientific work is recognized at the world level and provides practical contribution to the industry. Therefore, looking to the future, we are open to new challenges and have set the path to achieving more outstanding results.

In order to promote the development of the university, we have created an approach of excellence that integrates within itself (Figure 1):

- the EKA constitution;
- the EKA strategy
- the EKA quality policy;
- ESG - Standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area;
- Improvement cycle: plan-do-check-act (PDCA Plan-Do-Check-Act).

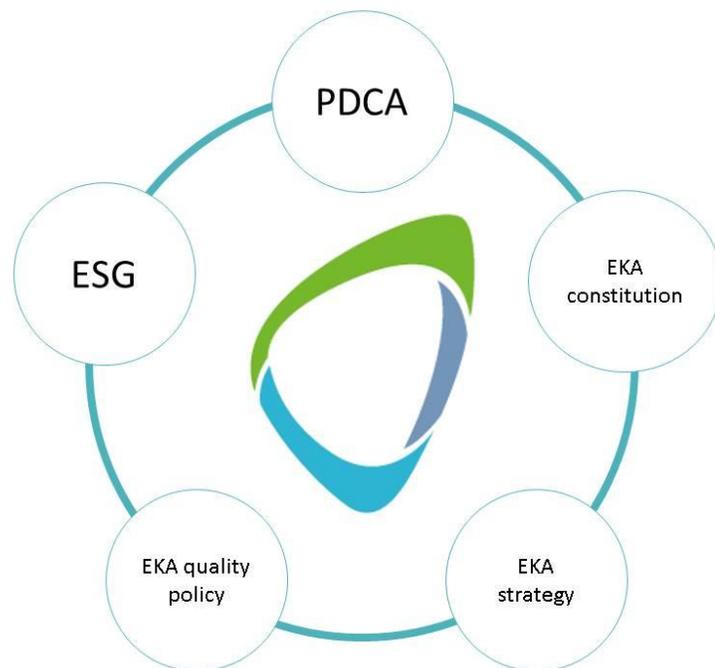


Figure 1. Integration of EKA's excellence approach.

The excellence approach helps the university to ensure continuous improvement of all key areas of activity that are important to students, staff and other stakeholders. EKA's commitment to excellence focuses on achieving higher-value results through:

- ensuring and increasing student satisfaction and their involvement in the improvement of the study process;
- meeting the needs of employees and their involvement in the improvement of processes;
- increasing the effectiveness of EKA's activities.

EKA's excellence approach helps to build an internal culture of quality in which everyone systematically carries out their activities to increase quality. The Commitment to Excellence includes ESG requirements, which promote a common understanding of quality assurance among all parties involved and is one of the foundations of the compliance requirements for EKA's quality management system.

In the EKA development strategy for 2019-2023, the university has set a goal to be one of the leading higher education institutions in Latvia by 2023 with an excellent reputation for the provision and development of studies and scientific and creative processes.

In order to achieve the goal and ensure sustainable development in its activities, the university has defined its vision and mission.

Vision

EKA is developing as a multicultural, interdisciplinary University, which prepares knowledgeable, creative and independently thinking personalities for the global market, who become industry leaders. EKA is associated with competitive, excellent education, internationally recognized diplomas, high professional quality of graduates, a developed scientific research base and highly qualified personnel.

Mission

The EKA University of Applied Sciences is a higher education institution, which, based on innovative methods and multicultural approach, seeks to provide academic and professional higher education in line with the EU level, promote students' creative potential and entrepreneurial development and their motivation for lifelong learning.

EKA's excellence approach is designed to contribute to the fulfillment of the mission and the achievement of the vision.

2. A cycle of improvement in EKA's framework of the commitment to excellence

To achieve excellence, the EKA University of Applied Sciences uses a cycle of improvement. In EKA's commitment to excellence, the development cycle provides a relationship between planning goals to meet them and improving achievement (Figure 2).

- When planning, we determine the learning outcomes to be achieved that are binding on the parties involved, the necessary measures to be taken and develop approaches to achieve the results.
- In our activities, in order to achieve the set goals, we ensure the implementation of the planned measures and developed approaches.
- We systematically analyze and evaluate our achievements and developed approaches, thus ensuring an understanding of the current situation, which allows us to see the necessary changes in processes, results and approaches.
- Based on a systematic and multifaceted evaluation of EKA's performance and its results, we make the necessary improvements by improving processes and results and changing approaches to improve operational efficiency and increase the level of satisfaction of stakeholders.

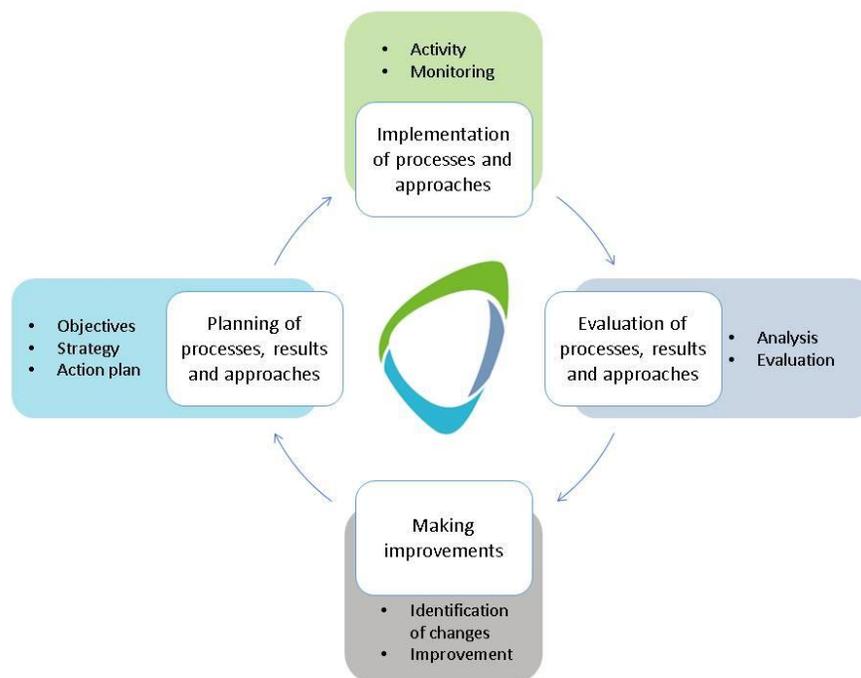


Figure 2. Structure of EKA's excellence approach.

3. EKA's principles of excellence

The principles of excellence implemented at the university characterize EKA's approach to excellence, better ensuring the functioning of the improvement cycle.

EKA's Principles of Excellence:

- achieving goals by focusing on the needs of students and stakeholders, managing relationships for better results, and implementing a student-centered educational process;

- promoting leadership demonstration at all levels of management by engaging people in achieving EKA's goals and improving its activities;
- implementation and maintenance of a process approach, analysis and evaluation of performance to ensure effective performance and goal-oriented activity;
- implementation of the improvement cycle for more high-quality results;
- fact-based decision-making for more effective management and more transparent processes.