

## The conceptual framework of tracing graduates in IRAN(IRANTRACE)

### 1- The approach of trace

The predicted model for graduating students is a mixed model. In the sense that it acts as a centralized model in a part and as a decentralized in other part. According to theoretical discussions and according to the latest global experiences, the decentralized approach is preferable for different reasons, but given that doing such in Iran have a nodding acquaintance, it was decided that, in order to transfer knowledge to universities and higher education institutions, the core of this survey would be to be located at the institute, and through the main base, all necessary documentation including related literature, common practices, The required power tools, the necessary infrastructure available to the volunteering centers, are to be carried out for tracing. In order to be able to use the data collected for macro-imaging analyzes, promoting a uniform and unified approach at the first time is essential. also by creating a central base or core that takes action in all running centers, the trace can be implemented in a coordinated and one-handed manner.

In this regard, the Iranian Graduate Survey Information System has been designed and implemented under the name IRANTRACE, which, of course, takes its initial steps and will complete in the next phase of the project. It provides all the guiding principles, tools, and Provides advice to universities.

In the decentralized part, actions such as creating a database of addresses, updating the knowledge of the learners, and how to contact them, are designed at each university or executive center, and are put in place using the standard questionnaire. In order to realize the objectives of the plan, it is strongly recommended that all the centers use a standard questionnaire. Obviously, in the further stages, each university, according to its missions, can add sections to the questionnaire and use its results for specific purposes for review in its curriculum.

The other agenda of the centralized base is to connect and create the flow of information with partner organizations according to the expected pattern. Considering that the review of the performance or practical effects of some policies, such as the development of specific training or specific sub-systems for policy-makers, is an urgent need. Considering the effects of such policies on the labor market, the situation of these flows and special training can be accomplished through massive cross-sectional surveys; in the conceptual model, the design of this function is also foreseen, and penetration tracking through the core is done with the legal relationship with the partner organizations. This section of graduation surveys differs according to the nature and manner of decentralized continuous surveys, and more precisely, one or more specific cohorts are only observed for employment or lack of employment in existing statistical databases. The results of these studies has also different applications and they are quite schematic and immediate.

Another mission of the core or the base station is to establish a consistent relationship with the international trace networks in the world and to transfer the day's knowledge to the executive units.

### 2. Statistical Population

The statistical population of this project- in the conceptual part - is the whole of graduates. In other words, the design of these studies is such that a standard questionnaire applicable to all higher education sub-systems is shared, and in the first phase of the general plan, it is recommended that this framework be preserved for everyone. At the same time, for the purposes of each educational system, he target

community can be narrowed down and examined with specific questions. In general, at this stage, the statistical population is the entire graduates of any educational systems, which, of course, the needed cut offs will be explained in the next section.

### 3. Cohort (unique or combination)

Alumni surveys are different, based on the fact that only one cohort be traced or several cohorts at the same time. In the proposed model, it is recommended that a cohort of alumni be initially navigated at a widespread level (covering all educational systems). Because according to the objectives of the plan, the information about of the employment status of all graduates in a preferred time segment is prioritized, and the comparison of the cohorts of a learning stream can be left to the other stages.

### 4. Scroll type (cross-section or panel)

The type of scrolling in this phase is of a cross sectional design. First of all, it should be noted that basically the conceptual design phase does not complete the scan and according to the proposal, it has been stipulated that a test will be conducted for graduates of a university only for the purpose of examining the practical aspects of the survey. So, although in the decentralized process of the project by any university, it is recommended that panel surveys be carried out, In these surveys, each cohort study is questioned in regular intervals.

### 5. Occasional or regular

The tracking of the graduates in this project has been just tentative and the selection of a cohort was a coincidence, but surveys of each university in the decentralized section are recommended to be conducted at regular intervals. Otherwise, there can be no definite conclusions about the effects of activities and Student training programs in the job market.

### 6. Count or take away

What is important in graduates tracing is that reliable results can be obtained only in the case of a whole number or census method (no matter what the return rate is obtained from the entire statistical population). In the experimental phase of the project, the sample was all numbered and a questionnaire was sent to all graduates.

### 7- Employment Occasion

Another characteristic of scrolling models is determining the waiting time or the occasions to find a job. In our conceptual model, for all graduates, it is recommended to have 4 years of opportunity due to the need to wait for military service for men, and have a unique manner for all. So, in each episode, graduates 4 years ago will be questioned.

### 8. Data Collection Method

The method for collecting data in the pilot phase of the plan was sending a questionnaire to the graduates' email. There was no better access to this test phase, but in the decentralized implementation of the project, according to the facilities available in each university, other methods could be used. International experiences recommend using post and official letter aimed at creating a direct communication with the graduates. In this manner a continuous communication for subsequent surveys will be established and the response rate will be strengthened.

## 9. Contact with Graduates

The projected pattern in this plan is that in the centralized section the existing email addresses in the IRPHE database be used, and in cases where only the telephone number is available, by sending a message and receiving the address of them. But for each university it is necessary to create and regularly update the database of graduate addresses. At the same time, for cases requiring field surveys or visiting interview, field surveys are also foreseen with the collaboration of the Statistics Institute. These types of surveys are usually used to answer specific research questions by the statistical methods and sampling.

10.

The questionnaire is described in Appendix 1 and is a standard but less detailed questionnaire. The questionnaire has five sections. In the first section, personal and statistical information has inserted. The second part is devoted to questions about the status of graduate education and the third part explains status of post-employment job search. The fourth part of the questionnaire is about of the characteristics of current employment of individuals, and the fifth part is about the conditions of unemployment (if unemployed). Also, respondents who have recommendations, can explain them at the end of the Questionnaire. At final, contact's address and the subsequent permission for further survey may be included.

## 11. Organization and co-workers

IRANTRACE Graduates Organization includes the following:

- A) The head office of the network is established in the "Institute for Research and planning in Higher Education "(IRPHE), including following staff:

Moderator and coordinator: Ms. Maasumeh Gharun

Information Technology Director: Dr. meghdad Mirabi

Technology expert and system administrator: Mr. Iman Jebelli & Shabnam Askari

Expert and coordinator of current affairs: Mrs. Parivash Asadi

- B) Volunteers and representatives of volunteer universities: one alumni affiliation and one representative of the IT department of the university
- C) Interface of partner organizations: one representative of the Social Security Organization, one representative of the Pension Fund, one representative of the Institute of Statistics
- D) Specialist and International Interface: Mr. Harald Schumburg from INCHER Research Center in Kassel University ( Germany)

The conceptual pattern of the design in seen in Figure 1 and the structure of the communication and organization of the design are visible in the graphic diagram 2.

The functional features of this conceptual model are:

- (A) Long-term perspectives and continuity and continuity of regular surveys that generate reliable information on the employment situation of graduates.

B) Specialized capacity building: Alumni surveys can streamline and integrate knowledge in a state-of-the-art higher education curriculum as a process of learning, structured knowledge, and organize a training and training session by establishing a communication network.

C) Production of high quality information due to the standardization of processes and content available to the network for stakeholders and connecting to the latest global knowledge and experience in this regard.

(D) Action on the International Standards Framework and comparability at the international level and the move towards the internationalization of the higher education system in terms of design, use of scrolling tools and comparison of results

Figure 1: The conceptual pattern of the trace in “Decentralized Process”

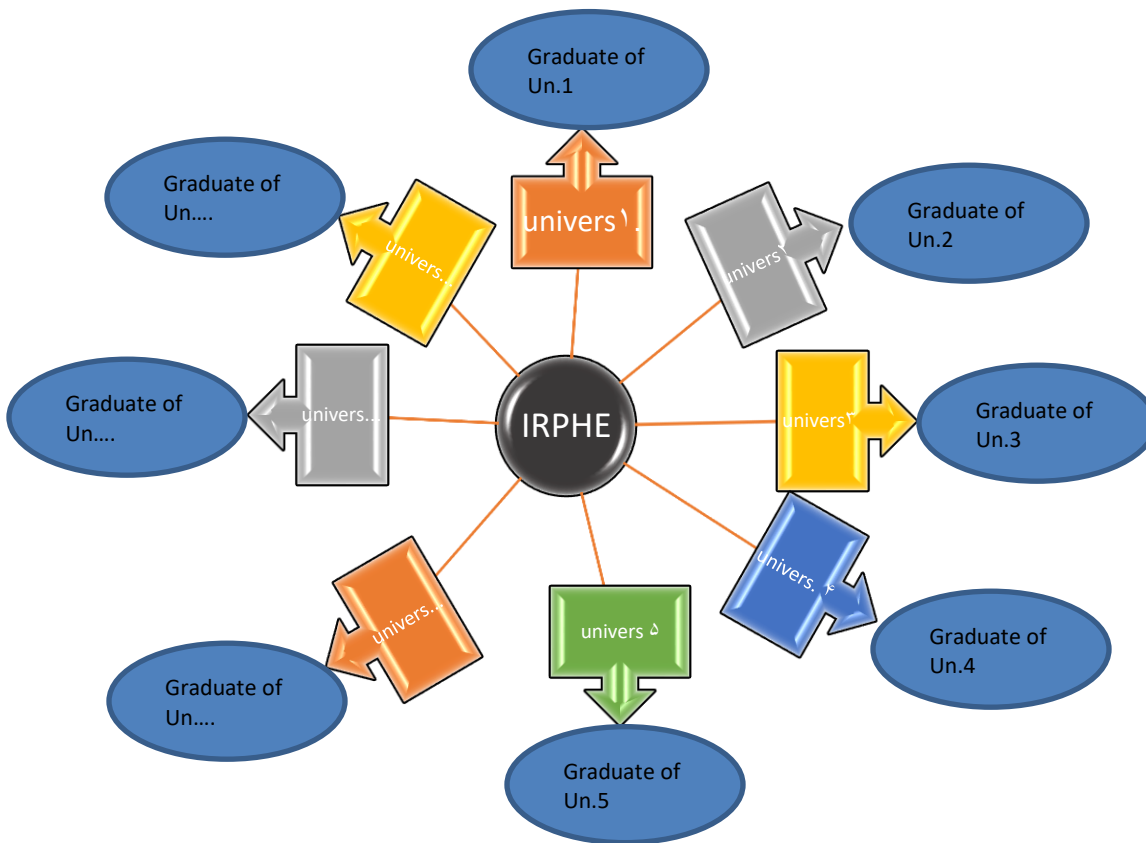
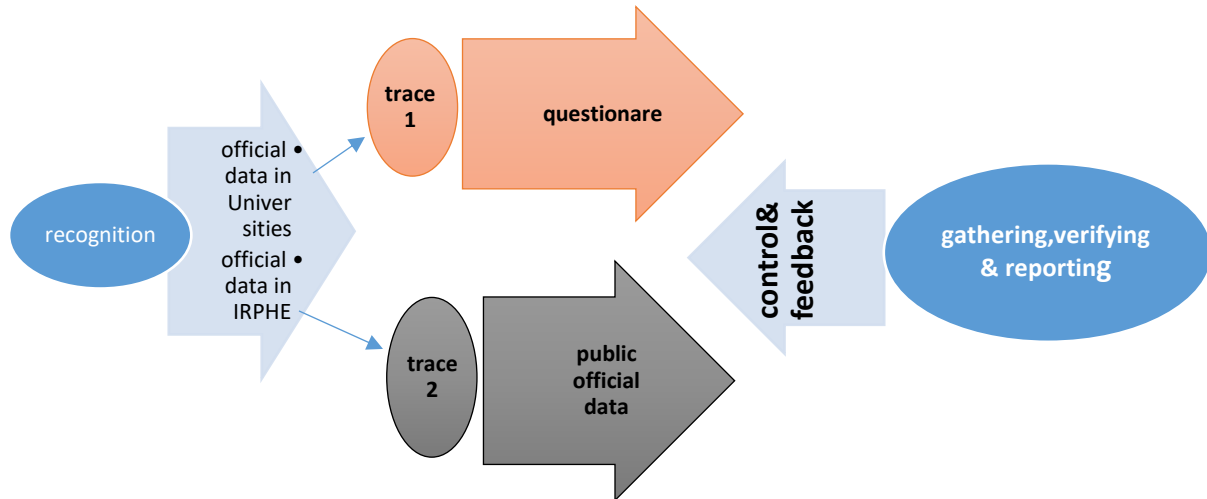


Figure 2: The conceptual pattern of the trace in “Centralized Process”



Trace 1: A centralized approach based on stakeholder announcements and requests

Trace 2: A centralized registered approach based on planning organizations or academic centers request