

Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development
 (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
 Master's Course, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences,
 Hiroshima University
 AY2021 Self-inspection and Annual Report

Overall review of evaluation results

(Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz))

The program aims to develop human resources with an ability to conduct research and practical work using social scientific approaches, and those with a high level of communication skills to collaborate with people with diverse backgrounds based on international cooperation principles in development studies under the theme of Sustainability Studies. Since the establishment in October 2020, faculty members from Hiroshima University and the University of Graz have collaborated to provide research guidance through a common curriculum, offering distinctive educational content of both universities such as public policy to alleviate poverty in developing countries, economic analysis, social science analysis, and sustainable management of companies.

The results of this Self-inspection and Annual Report are as follows; 16 criteria were judged to be “fully applicable,” five criteria were judged to be “applicable,” and four criteria were judged not subject to evaluation.

In the future, we will steadily implement the approved curriculum, and also continue to identify issues and consider improvement measures based on the needs of students, etc. in cooperation with the University of Graz.

Area 2: Criteria for internal quality assurance

Criterion 2-1: Internal quality assurance is functioning effectively.

Analysis item 2-1-1	Initiatives to systematically and continuously collect and analyze the information necessary for self-inspection/evaluation are implemented in the school or the program, and verification is conducted on whether such initiatives are functioning effectively.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Number of meetings held by the Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee: 7 (20 members)
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence	The Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee of the Graduate School conducts inspections and evaluation of educational and research activities, etc. The results of the class improvement questionnaire for each term are accumulated as evidence, and faculty members' opinions in response to students' evaluation in the class improvement questionnaire are fed back.

Distinctive activities and efforts	
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Analysis item 2-1-2	The opinions of students, alumni and other parties concerned are collected and analyzed systematically and continuously, and efforts for utilizing such opinions are made.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Self-evaluation

Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable

Not very applicable Not applicable

evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	
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Analysis item 2-2-2	Related personnel participate in faculty development (FD) workshops held by the university, schools, programs, etc., and the content is shared at the program committee, etc. for the improvement of education and research.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	FD materials of the Graduate School, etc.
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	Faculty members who participated in FD workshops held by the University and Graduate School, etc. share the content at the Program Committee for the improvement of education and research.

Area 3: Criteria for information disclosure

Criterion 3-1: Information on educational and research activities is properly disclosed and thus accountability is fulfilled.

Analysis item 3-1-1	The objectives of the schools, departments, programs, etc., the admission policy, the curriculum policy, and the diploma policy are properly publicized and made known to people, including faculty members and students.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei Brochure of the Graduate School https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/gshs/kouhoukankou

	<p>Admission information for the Joint Degree Programme Hiroshima - Graz "Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development"</p> <p>https://www.jointdegree.eu/de/sustainable-development/</p> <p>Student Handbook pp. 3-4</p>
<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>The Admission Policy, Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy are all published on the website and in the brochure of the Graduate School. The Admission Policy is also published in the application guidelines, and the Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy are also published in the Student Handbook to make them widely known.</p>

Area 4: Criteria for facilities/equipment and student support

Criterion 4-1: Facilities and equipment suitable for the educational research organization and curriculum have been established and effectively used.

Analysis item 4-1-1	Self-study rooms, group discussion rooms, information equipment rooms, classrooms and educational facilities are available outside of class hours, thus an independent learning environment is well prepared and effectively used.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p> <p>Not very applicable Not applicable</p>
Evidence	The number of library books purchased, the number of users of the library
<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>Each laboratory has graduate student rooms and seminar rooms. The library has an open-stack reading area and an employment information material area. We also actively provide the library as an open space with wireless LAN access for students who do not have their own laboratories.</p> <p>In addition, all graduate student rooms are equipped with random keypads for security.</p>

Criterion 4-2: Counseling, advice and support are provided to students in terms of their daily lives, career paths, financial assistance, etc.

Analysis item 4-2-1	Appropriate support is provided to students in terms of course guidance, learning, daily life, financial matters, etc.
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Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p> <p>Not very applicable Not applicable</p>
Evidence	<p>Website of the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (Financial support for students whose entrance university is Hiroshima University)</p> <p>https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/system/files/157311/Program_Information_for_Entrance_HU_20210113%20%28002%29.pdf</p> <p>Student Handbook p. 22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and Professional Degree Programs"</p>
<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>Each laboratory has established a communication system between the faculty and the students. In cooperation with the University of Graz, interviews are held as necessary to share issues related to educational and research activities and student life. In addition, a scholarship system unique to the program has been established to provide financial support for students whose entrance university is Hiroshima University.</p> <p>Based on the "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and Professional Degree Programs" in the Student Handbook, students and supervisors conduct interviews to share issues and progress in educational and research activities.</p>

Area 5: Criteria for admission of students

Criterion 5-1: Students are properly admitted.

Analysis item 5-1-1	The admission process is carried out with an appropriate system in line with the admission policy.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Number of meetings held by the Admissions Committee: 12 (16 members) Admission Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz) https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	The Admissions Committee determines the implementation plan and methods of the admission process and conducts appropriate selection in accordance with the admission policy. The admission policy is clearly stated in the application guidelines and on the website. In cooperation with the University of Graz, an online management system has been established in consideration of the time difference, convenience of applicants, and crisis management.

Analysis item 5-1-2	Efforts are made to verify whether students are actually admitted in accordance with the admission policy, and the results are used to improve the admission process.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Admission information for the Joint Degree Programme Hiroshima - Graz "Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development" https://www.jointdegree.eu/de/sustainable-development/
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence	The admission policy is clearly stated in the application guidelines. A draft of the admission criteria is prepared jointly with the University of Graz in accordance with the admission policy, and appropriate decisions are made at the admission decision meeting (Board of Representatives). A system has been established to share information with the University of Graz and make improvements in case problems should arise in the

Distinctive activities and efforts	admission process.
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Criterion 5-2: The number of students enrolled is adequate for the admission quota.

Analysis item 5-2-1	The number of students enrolled does not significantly exceed or fall below the admission quota.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Number of students enrolled: 2; percentage of admission quota: 100%
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	A system to manage the admission quota of the entire Graduate School has been established in cooperation with the University of Graz. Thus, in AY2021, two students (one student whose entrance university is Hiroshima University and one student whose entrance university is the University of Graz) were enrolled to fill the admission quota of two.

Area 6: Criteria for curriculum and learning outcomes

Criterion 6-1: The organization of the curriculum and the content of the class subjects are systematic and of an appropriate level in accordance with the diploma policy and the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-1-1	The organization of the curriculum and the content of the class subjects are systematic and of a level appropriate for the degree to be awarded.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz) https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei Student Handbook pp. 6-8: "Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion" (Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University and University of Graz))
[Remarks]	In cooperation with the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable

<p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>Development (Hiroshima University - Leipzig University) at the Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering, Basic Subjects are offered, allowing students majoring in social sciences and those majoring in science and engineering to study in the same classroom and to come into contact with different perspectives and ways of thinking, thereby promoting their understanding of multiple fields beyond their conventional framework of expertise. In addition to this, in cooperation with the University of Graz, the program offers subjects regarding the knowledge and theories necessary to deepen understanding of sustainable development, which are Specialization Subjects, Integration Subjects and Master Thesis Classes. The curriculum is systematically organized to foster students with an ability to conduct research and practical work using social scientific approaches based on international cooperation principles in development studies in order to resolve pressing regional and global issues related to the SDGs, and also to foster those with excellent collaboration and communication skills to be exerted at universities, research institutions, governments, international organizations, private businesses, NGOs, etc., so that the students can acquire competitive capabilities to secure employment in the international labor market. Furthermore, these class subjects are taught by faculty members with high expertise who have been screened for educational qualifications at the Graduate School, and thus educational content of a level appropriate for the degree to be awarded has been ensured.</p>
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Criterion 6-2: Appropriate forms of classes and teaching methods are adopted in accordance with the diploma policy and the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-2-1	The curriculum is systematically organized based on the curriculum policy; forms of classes and teaching methods (guidance for research, thesis, etc.) appropriate for the education of the field are prepared; and the methods and content of the classes are clearly shown to the students.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p> <p>Not very applicable Not applicable</p>
Evidence	<p>Curriculum Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)</p> <p>https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei</p> <p>Student Handbook pp. 6-8: "Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion" (Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University and University of Graz))</p>

<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>The curriculum for the program is organized and implemented based on the following policy so that the students are able to achieve the objectives stated in the Diploma Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic Subjects (36 credits) are offered to allow students to develop a bird's-eye view of sustainable development and the fundamental ability to explore sustainable development for their own intrinsic growth from various perspectives. - Specialization Subjects (78.5 credits) are offered to allow students to learn theories regarding development economics and their application to global issues. - Integration Subjects (23.5 credits) are offered to deepen students' understanding of sustainable development through seminar classes by bringing together the various scientific approaches they have studied. - Master Thesis Classes (30 credits) are offered to promote students' independent research and help them acquire research capabilities and practical skills to achieve the SDGs based on international cooperation principles in development studies.
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Criterion 6-3: Appropriate course guidance and support are provided in accordance with the diploma policy.

Analysis item 6-3-1	A system for course guidance and study counseling that can meet the needs of students is in place, and advice and support are provided.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p> <p>Not very applicable Not applicable</p>
Evidence	Student Handbook pp22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and Professional Degree Programs"
<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>Course guidance is provided at the orientation for new students. In addition, the timing for each student to establish a class registration plan and a research plan, etc. is shared by the students and the faculty. Each faculty member provides appropriate support for course guidance and study consultation.</p>

Analysis item 6-3-2	Efforts are made to cultivate students' skills necessary for social and professional independence.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p>

	Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Student Handbook pp. 6-8: “Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion” (Joint International Master’s Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University and University of Graz))
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	<p>In order for students to develop a bird’s-eye view of sustainable development and the fundamental ability to explore sustainable development for their own intrinsic growth from various perspectives, Sustainable Development Subjects (four subjects including “Japanese Experience of Human Development - Culture, Education, and Health”) and Career Development and Data Literacy Subjects (seven subjects including "Career Management - Theory & Career Development" and "Introduction to MOT") are offered as Common Graduate Subjects. Common Subjects for the Graduate School and Foundation Subjects (four subjects each) are also offered.</p> <p>Credits of Integration Subjects can be approved as necessary credits. This is designed to deepen students’ understanding of sustainable development and enhance their practical skills by bringing together the various scientific approaches they have studied. Also, this aims to encourage them to explore their research fields more deeply, develop their career after completion, and enhance their intellectual curiosity, etc.</p>

Criterion 6-4: Fair grading is carried out rigorously and objectively in accordance with the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-4-1	Grading and credit recognition are carried out in light of the educational policy of the field, and are effective in the educational field.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master’s Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Curriculum Policy: https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei Syllabus https://momiji.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/syllabusHtml_en/index.html
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	Courses are arranged in accordance with the Program's curriculum policy. In addition, syllabuses clearly stating the grading methods, etc. are prepared for all class subjects and are available to students.

Analysis item 6-4-2	Grading criteria are made known to the students.
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Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Student Handbook p. 8: "Grade objection filing system"
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	An agreement on the credit transfer system has been signed between Hiroshima University and the University of Graz, and the rules are clearly stated in the Student Handbook. In addition, Hiroshima University's system for filing grade objections is also notified via the Student Handbook. If a petition is filed by a student, the University responds appropriately and fulfills its accountability.

Analysis item 6-4-3	It is systematically confirmed that grading and credit recognition for each class subject are carried out rigorously and objectively in accordance with the grading criteria.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Syllabus https://momiji.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/syllabusHtml_en/index.html Student Handbook p. 8: "Grade objection filing system"
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	The grading methods are clearly stated in the syllabus, and the "Grade objection filing system" has been build to handle appeals from students. The Support Office accepts consultations on students' grade evaluation and credit fulfillment from students and faculty members, checks the status of credits required for completion, and responds to them as appropriate. Finally, the number of credits earned by students who are expected to complete the course is compiled and systematically confirmed at the Board of Representatives to determine the completion of the course.

Criterion 6-5: Fair decisions on completion are made in accordance with the objectives of the university, etc. and the diploma policy.

Analysis item 6-5-1	Evaluation criteria for degree theses, etc. related to the recognition of completion have been established and are made known to the students, and completion is recognized under an appropriate screening system.
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima

unit	University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	Student Handbook pp. 22-42: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and Professional Degree Programs," "Degree Conferral Judgment Criteria and Dissertation Evaluation Criteria [Master's Courses]," "Hiroshima University By-Laws of the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences," "Regulations of the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences Concerning the Conferral of Degrees"
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	In cooperation with the University of Graz, the completion schedule and related matters are made known to the students.

Criterion 6-6: Appropriate learning outcomes are obtained in accordance with the objectives of the university, etc. and the diploma policy.

Analysis item 6-6-1	Learning outcomes are recognized based on the status of students' career paths, such as going on to higher education and finding employment.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	

Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	Since this program has been in place for less than two years and there are only three students, it is not possible to analyze class improvement questionnaires without identifying individuals.

Analysis item 6-6-3	Results of interviews with students in terms of the levels of learning achievement and satisfaction indicate that learning outcomes have been achieved.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	
[Remarks] Grounds and reasons for evaluation Supplementary explanation of evidence Distinctive activities and efforts	Since this program has just been in place for less than two years and there are only three students, it is not possible to analyze class improvement questionnaires without identifying individuals.

Analysis item 6-6-4	Results of interviews with alumni and individuals involved in their careers indicate that the learning outcomes have been achieved.
Self-inspection/evaluation unit	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable Not very applicable Not applicable
Evidence	

<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>This item is not subject to evaluation because there are no graduates.</p>
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<p>Analysis item 6-6-5</p>	<p>There are systems and evaluation criteria to promote students' growth in research efforts and presentation of research results, and their growth in effectiveness (logical thinking, international perspectives, presentation skills, etc.) is recognized.</p>
<p>Self-inspection/evaluation unit</p>	<p>Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)</p>
<p>Self-evaluation</p>	<p>Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable</p> <p>Not very applicable Not applicable</p>
<p>Evidence</p>	<p>Student Handbook pp22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and Professional Degree Programs"</p>
<p>[Remarks]</p> <p>Grounds and reasons for evaluation</p> <p>Supplementary explanation of evidence</p> <p>Distinctive activities and efforts</p>	<p>The phases of the schedule to completion are shown to each student, and there is a functioning system whereby students can check the progress of their research efforts and results through interviews with their supervisors in each phase.</p>

Area 7: Criteria for the internationality of education

Criterion 7-1: Initiatives to internationalize the campus and develop global human resources are systematically implemented.

<p>Analysis item 7-1-1</p>	<p>International students are admitted under an appropriate system at schools, departments, programs, etc.</p>
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[Remarks]

Grounds and reasons for
evaluation

Supplementary explanation of
evidence

Distinctive activities and
efforts