Developing the African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF)
2nd peer learning Webinar
16 July 2020
Session 1
QUADRO CONTINENTAL AFRICANO DE QUALIFICAÇÕES (ACQF)

CADRE CONTINENTAL AFRICAINE DES QUALIFICATIONS (ACQF)
# AGENDA 16 July

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<th>Time (CET)</th>
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<td>11.00-11.10</td>
<td>Opening. Introduction to working methods of Webinar. Objectives of programme.</td>
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<td>11.10-11.20</td>
<td>Main messages and learnings from the 1st Webinar.</td>
<td>Eduarda Castel-Branco, ACQF project team</td>
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<td>11.20-11.50</td>
<td>National Qualifications Framework Mozambique: building the integrated comprehensive framework. Good practice: TVET qualifications register</td>
<td>Prof Ana Maria Nhanpule, Dr Jeffy Mukora NQF Task Force Mozambique</td>
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<td>11.50-11.55</td>
<td>Break – 5 minutes</td>
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<td>11.55-12.25</td>
<td>ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework Contributing to comparability, mobility and regional integration</td>
<td>Dr Megawati SANTOSO, ASEAN QRF – Committee (chair)</td>
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<td>12.55-13.20</td>
<td>Discussion, questions</td>
<td>Prof. Kuzvinetsa P. Dzvimbo, CEO ZIMCHE Participants</td>
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<td>13.20-13.30</td>
<td>Themes and questions for next Webinar</td>
<td>AUC-ETF</td>
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### 3 case studies today

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<th>Case 1: AFRICA</th>
<th>Case 2: ASIA</th>
<th>Case 3: EUROPE</th>
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<td><strong>Southern Africa: Mozambique</strong></td>
<td><strong>Association SouthEast Asian Nations QRF</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ireland - NFQ</strong></td>
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<td>Unified NQF in advanced stage – towards approval.</td>
<td>Regional integration</td>
<td>Longstanding experience</td>
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<td>10 years experience with QF HE</td>
<td>10 countries</td>
<td>10 levels</td>
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<td>5 years experience with TVET QF (QNQP): eco-system: QA, Credit system, Register Qualifications</td>
<td>8 levels, KU and S</td>
<td>Evaluation of NFQ</td>
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<td>New challenges, new debates</td>
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ACQF Vision

VISION FOR THE ACQF

- Enhance comparability, quality and transparency of qualifications from all sub-sectors and levels of education and training and support people’s lifelong learning outcomes;
- Facilitate recognition of diplomas and certificates, and mobility of learners and workers;
- Work in complementarity with national and regional qualifications frameworks, and support the creation of a common African education space;
- Promote cooperation and alignment between qualifications frameworks (national, regional) in Africa and worldwide.

ACQF:
- Overarching framework against which national and regional frameworks and level descriptors - can be calibrated.
- Referencing qualifications framework – NQFs reference to ACQF following criteria and procedures. Use of ACQF levels in qualifications documents.
- Catalyst to develop national frameworks
- Reference for comparison with other international frameworks

The ACQF will be:

- INCLUSIVE
  - qualifications of all levels and sub-systems of education and training
- RECEPTIVE TO INNOVATION
  - from new trends and technologies
- OPEN
  - to stakeholders’ contribution; good practice from Africa and the world

The ACQF is vital to the processes that contribute to create an African education space:
- Advance the implementation of CESA 2016-2025
- Harmonise higher education in Africa and implement the Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)
- Implement the AUTVET Strategy to Foster Youth Employment
ACQF MAPPING STUDY - NQFS IN AFRICA (37 COUNTRIES)

- **No NQF** 11% (4)
- **Early thinking** 16% (6)
- **In development & consultation** 30% (11)
- **Adopted legal act, started implementation** 38% (14)
- **Advanced implementation** 5% (2)
1. Feasibility analysis

2. Technical annexes ACQF: Common Guidelines

3. ACQF policy and technical document with Action Plan

4. Capacity development, buy-in: peer learning, training, practical application

ACQF process: main outputs 2020-2022

Dialogue, consultation, information, AU decision-making
Phase 1 (2020):
July: 2 and 16th
Sept (2 Webinars)
Oct (3 Webinars)

Cases:
African NQFs
African RQFs
International cases
NQFs
EQF
ASEAN QRF
AQF

ACQF Capacity development

Phase 1: basic level – peer learning
Phase 2: advanced level
Practical application
Training + e-learning platform + Webinars

ACQF Experts Network: sustainability
Main themes of the peer learning programme

1. NQFs – main concepts and instruments, types, contributions - through cases
2. Regional qualifications frameworks: interplay, referencing, contributions
3. Developing and implementing an NQF
4. Learning outcomes: common language education-LM; uses, types, common guidelines. Role in NQFs
5. Levels and level descriptors: role, uses, links with qualifications design
6. Making NQF more transparent and visible to end-users: registers, catalogues of qualifications; interconnected qualifications DB.

Learning and sharing with practitioners from relevant institutions
ACQF Peer learning 2020 – combination of QF experiences

July 2020

Kenya, Slovenia, EQF

Mozambique, ASEAN QRF, Ireland

Mauritius, France, Portugal

CAMES, Morocco, Arab Qualifications Framework

September 2020

October 2020

Angola, Ghana, eSwatini, Zimbabwe

Zambia, Cabo Verde, SADCQF, EAQFHE

South Africa Sector QF (tbc) Final debate
Qualifications and Qualifications frameworks

**Qualifications**: means a formal outcome of an assessment and validation process which is obtained when a competent authority determines that an individual has achieved learning outcomes to given standards;

**National qualifications framework**: means a policy and instrument for the development and classification of qualifications according to a set of criteria for specified levels of learning achieved, which aims at integrating and coordinating national qualifications subsystems and improve the transparency, access, progression and quality of qualifications in relation to the labour market and civil society;
### Kenyan NQF
- 2014, 2018: NQF Act and Reg
- 10 levels
- Inclusive scope: academic pillar and professional
- KNQA
- Steering Committees: for NQF, CAT, KNLRD, RLP
- Qualifications Eco-system: professional bodies, TVET, Basic Education,
- Achievements: standardised Qualifications across disciplines and levels; national accreditation and QA standards; internationalisation of Kenyan Qualifications; easier learner progressions; portability of Qualifications; framework engage with stakeholders/industry
- Consultation, consultation,

### Slovenian NQF
- 10 years – Law pf 2015
- 10 levels
- K-S-C
- Inclusive scope (LLL)
- Types qualifications: educational; vocational; supplementary
- Validation non-formal and informal learning
- Referenced to EQF (2013)
- Online register of qualifications innovative functionalities
- QA:
  - National Coordination Point

### EQF
- 12 years
- 8 levels
- K-S-RA
- Inclusive scope (LLL)
- Validation non-formal informal learning
- From 3 to 43 NQFs (39 countries – 36 referenced)
- EQF levels on national qualifications
- Mutual learning – Trust
- Change in thinking: LO
- Developing systematic approach to comparison QFs other parts world
- EQF AG: 39 countries, social partners, students
- Europass: digital credentials
- New perspectives: Micro-credentials
Overarching qualifications framework – how does it work (ex.: EQF)

Legal basis: Recommendation Council EU 2017

8 levels, inclusive scope. Knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy.

Referencing and alignment of NQFs to EQF based on common criteria and procedures

Website: publication of approved referencing reports – for wider public

Use EQF levels on national qualifications documents and qualifications databases

Qualifications Database(s) – interconnected

Governance set-up: EQF AG - Member States EU, other states and stakeholders to steer, debate, co-decide.
Overarching (Meta-) Qualifications Framework

(Case: EQF)
Some questions from participants

- How are NQFs reacting, coping and adjusting to the new highly challenging context of Covid-19?
- Issue of regulation and QA of remote, digital and online learning.
- Are the shared definitions (NQFs, Qualifications) to be adopted or are they references - guides?
- In context of CESA: relationship between harmonization of curriculum and QF / ACQF?
- Importance of partnerships, debate and consultation stakeholders – to build a meaningful NQF
Europass Digital Credentials
THANK YOU!

ECB@ETF.EUROPA.EU