The Mauritius Qualifications Authority

The National Qualifications Framework
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Director

Session 2
ACQF 3rd peer learning webinar

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Jungle of Qualifications
Context and purpose of the NQF

• Set up with the advent of MQA in 2003.

• An instrument for the development and classification of qualifications according to a set of criteria for levels of learning achieved.

• To improve the understanding of an education & training system within a country and in making progression routes and access to different parts of the national system explicit.

• To provide for comparability across borders, particularly in regions where there is much mobility of students and workers.
# THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>PRIMARY / SECONDARY EDUCATION</th>
<th>TVET / WORKPLACE</th>
<th>TERTIARY EDUCATION</th>
<th>LEVEL</th>
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<td>10</td>
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<td><strong>Doctorate</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td><strong>Masters Degrees eg MA, MSc, MPhil</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Post-Graduate Certificate, Post-Graduate Diploma</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Bachelor degree with Honours, Conversion Programmes</strong></td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td><strong>Bachelor (Ordinary Degree)</strong></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td><strong>HSC / GCE ‘A’ Level /BAC / IBAC</strong></td>
<td><strong>Certificate</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SC / GCE ‘O’ Level</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Certificate of Primary Education</strong></td>
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The structure of the NQF

- Consists of 10 levels, level 1 being the Certificate of Primary Education to level 10 being PhD
- Comprises of three strands namely Primary/Secondary Education, TVET/workplace and Tertiary Education
- Level descriptors – each defined in terms of progressive stages of achievement/outcomes and complexity skills applicable
The NQF and its Sub-Structures

- Standard Setting
- Recognition & Equivalence of Qualifications
- Accreditation of Programmes
- Registration of Training Institutions
- Recognition of Prior Learning
Benefits of the NQF

- Parity of esteem between academic and vocational qualifications
- Flexible education and training pathways
- Maintain international comparability of standards
- Facilitates access, mobility and progression in education & training systems
- International recognition for vocational qualifications awarded in Mauritius
- Improves the quality and accountability of the educational and training system
- Enhances quality learning and training
Governance of the NQF

- Ministry of Education
- Board of the MQA
- Industry Training Advisory Committees
- Registration Committee
- Accreditation Committee
- Quality Audit Panels
Changing NQF

- Gradual shift to mainstream of Education & Training
- Adoption of learning outcomes approach
- Move towards a commonly agreed credit system
Qualifications developed sector wise

Tourism and Hospitality Management

- National Certificate in Restaurant & Bar Services – Level 2
- National Certificate in Food Production – Level 3
- National Certificate in Restaurant & Bar Services – Level 3
- National Certificate in Front Office – Level 3
- National Certificate in Housekeeping – Level 3
- National Certificate in Pastry – Level 3
- National Certificate in Bakery – Level 3
- National Certificate in Laundry – Level 3
- National Certificate in Beauty Therapy – Level 3
- National Certificate in Tour Guiding – Level 3
- National Certificate in Restaurant & Bar Services – Level 4
- National Certificate in Food Production – Level 4
- National Certificate in Front Office – Level 4
- National Certificate in Housekeeping – Level 4
- National Certificate in Pastry – Level 4
- National Certificate in Travel & Tourism – Level 3
- National Certificate in Leisure and Entertainment – Level 3
Qualifications developed sector wise

Information & Communication Technology

- National Certificate in Computing – Level 2
- National Certificate in Computer Hardware and Support – Level 2
- National Certificate in Computing – Level 3
- National Certificate in Computer Applications – Level 3
- National Certificate in Contact Centre Operations – Level 3
- National Certificate in Computing – Level 4
- National Certificate in Contact Centre Supervisory Management – Level 4
- National Certificate in Computing – Level 5
- National Certificate in Contact Centre Management – Level 5
Recognition of prior learning

- 4 step process
  - Pre-application
  - Pre-screening
  - Facilitation
  - Assessment

- Moving to higher levels

- Funding support
KEY MILESTONES OF THE NQF

- Shift from National Trade Certificate (NTC) to National Certificate (NC)
- Development of a Quality Assurance System
- Introduction of an RPL system
- Growing network – MoUs with foreign countries
- Reference with the Transnational Qualifications Framework (TQF)
- Alignment with SADCOQF
Criteria for Alignment with SADCOF

- Responsibilities of relevant national bodies
- Demonstrable link between NQF qualification levels & SADCOF level descriptors
- NQF/NQS based on learning outcomes and credit systems
- Transparency of procedures for including qualifications on the NQF
- National QA system refers to NQF & consistent with SADCOF guidelines
- Stated agreement of relevant QA bodies
- Competent national bodies certify alignment NQF with SADCOF
Methodology for the Alignment

• Set up a National Alignment Committee
• Self Assessment exercise
• Evidence based alignment report
• Submission of alignment report
• Approval
• Publication SADC QF official platform
Outcome of the Alignment Process

• Official platform of the SADCOF must maintain a public listing of member countries that have completed the alignment process.

• In the SADC region, all new qualification certificates, diplomas, and other documents issued by competent authorities must contain the relevant SADCOF level.
Thank You

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