Embracing Change: Recognising Foreign Qualifications in the Context of COVID-19

AQVN WEBINAR SERIES PRESENTATION
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Presenters:

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1. About SAQA
2. What SAQA seeks to achieve
3. SAQA responsibilities
4. Why we recognise foreign qualifications
5. How we recognise foreign qualifications
6. Embracing change
7. Recognition in the pandemic
8. Challenges faced
9. Lessons learnt
10. Way forward
ABOUT SAQA


THE NQF ACT MANDATES SAQA TO

DEVELOP & IMPLEMENT

ADVANCE THE OBJECTIVES

CO-ORDINATE SUB-FRAMEWORKS

OF THE NQF

Based in Pretoria, South Africa
WHAT SAQA AIMS TO ACHIEVE

Vision
A world-class National Qualifications Framework that works for the People in South Africa

Values
- Quality qualifications
- Social and economic transformation
  - Integrity
  - Integration
- Quality service
- High energy and corporate vibrancy

Mission
To oversee the further development and implementation of the NQF and to advance its objectives, which contribute to the full development of the lifelong learner and to the social and economic development of the nation at large
SAQA RESPONSIBILITIES

OVERSEE
NQF implementation and co-ordinate NQF Sub-Frameworks

DEVELOP
and implement NQF policies and criteria

REGISTER
qualifications and professional designations on the NQF

PROVIDE
evaluation and advisory services for foreign qualifications

CONDUCT
research and collaborate with international counterparts

ADVISE
the Minister of Higher Education and Training on NQF matters

MAINTAIN
a National Learners’ Records Database

RECOGNISE
professional bodies

PROVIDE
verification services for national qualifications

INFORM
the public about the NQF
WHY WE RECOGNISE QUALIFICATIONS

- Trust
- Quality
- Mobility
  - Immigration
  - Further studies
  - Professional registration
  - Employment
Using the NQF as a recognition instrument for benchmarking foreign qualifications in South Africa by comparing the closest comparable South African qualification.
Recognised qualifications per month

April 2020: 176
May 2020: 603
June 2020: 785
July 2020: 927
August 2020: 953
September 2020: 1176
October 2020: 1241
November 2020: 1081
December 2020: 806
January 2021: 956
February 2021: 974
March 2021: 1157
April 2021: 1001
May 2021: 546
June 2021: 547

RECOGNITION IN THE PANDEMIC
RECOGNITION IN THE PANDEMIC... cont

Recognised qualifications by NQF organising field

- Education, Training and Development: 3837
- Business, Commerce and Management Studies: 2190
- Physical, Mathematical, Computer and Life Sciences: 1819
- Health Sciences and Social Services: 1412
- Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology: 1058
- Human and Social Studies: 843
- Physical Planning and Construction: 560
- Communication Studies and Language: 344
- Law, Military Science and Security: 327
- Agriculture and Nature Conservation: 242
- Services: 158
- Culture and Arts: 139
Recognised qualifications by NQF level

- NQF 1: 5
- NQF 2: 128
- NQF 3: 997
- NQF 4: 2191
- NQF 5: 111
- NQF 6: 968
- NQF 7: 2849
- NQF 8: 2202
- NQF 9: 2205
- NQF 10: 209
RECOGNITION IN THE PANDEMIC…cont

Top 10: Recognised qualifications by country

- Zimbabwe: 3011
- UK: 1463
- India: 1010
- Nigeria: 966
- USA: 846
- Lesotho: 526
- DRC: 421
- Ghana: 388
- China: 317
- Namibia: 266
“If everything didn't happen the way it happened this year, then think about it, everything would just be the same. And there's something very wrong with that thought. It wasn't supposed to remain the same, going on and on in an endless hum drum motion, repeating all the old rhythms, living in all the old lies, playing back all the same voices in the mind. It needed to end. Something needed to be over. Something new needs to take its place.”

— C. JoyBell C.
“Nothing is so painful to the human mind as a great and sudden change.”
— Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, *Frankenstein*
“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.” – George Bernard Shaw
Way Forward

Automation Automation Automation

“Times and conditions change so rapidly that we must keep our aim constantly focused on the future.” - Walt Disney