

AGENDA (DRAFT 13.04.2023)

TITLE:

Online familiarisation event: Exploring the feasibility of a Regional qualifications framework

SUBJECT:

DARYA THEMATIC MODULE 2 – STAKEHOLDER DRIVEN FLEXIBLE AND PERMEABLE APPROACHES TO QUALIFICATIONS

DATE AND TIME: 17 JULY AND 15 SEPTEMBER 2023

CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME: **17 JULY (10:00 – 12:30)** AND 15 SEPTEMBER (TIME TBC)

DUSHANBE, TASHKENT, ASHGABAD TIME: **17 JULY (13:00 – 15:30)** AND 15 SEPTEMBER (TIME TBC)

BISHKEK, ASTANA TIME: **17 JULY (14:00 - 16:30)** AND 15 SEPTEMBER (TIME TBC)

SUMMARY:

Globalisation processes witness economic integration, migration of jobs, workforce and learners in regions and countries around the world. As economies become increasingly globalised, more countries are interested in internationalisation of their qualifications systems, to increase transparency and trust in their qualifications. Trust in qualifications is essential in order to support economic cooperation, mobility of learners and workers within and across sectoral and geographical borders. In DARYA Module 2 stakeholders from Central Asia will explore the area of regional cooperation in skills & qualifications among countries of Central Asia, identify possible scenarios of integration and will discuss, agree on and implement joint developments.

The webinar on 17 July & 15 September will focus existing international and regional examples of structured cooperation on skills and qualifications: regional and cross regional qualifications frameworks, international sectoral frameworks, the role of electronic databases/registers in promoting international transparency. The event is part of a series of familiarisation events in DARYA Module 2. Familiarisation events will precede the capacity building activities and are aimed at providing basic familiarisation on the key elements included in the Thematic Module 2 and establishing a joint understanding among the countries of Central Asia on concepts, definitions, state of play and challenges in the reform of national qualifications systems.

DARYA Thematic Module 2 aims at responding to the needs of the countries for relevant skills and qualifications that allow people to realise their personal and professional aspirations, and companies to prosper. It will cover familiarisation, peer-learning, capacity development and piloting activities in the core areas of development of national qualifications systems:

- Methodologies for the development of learning outcomes-based qualifications,
- Implementation of national and sectoral qualifications frameworks,
- Validation/recognition of formal, non-formal and informal learning,
- Stakeholder engagement in the implementation of national qualifications systems,
- Regional cooperation in the field of qualifications in Central Asia

Objectives of the meeting

- To start a reflection on the added value of cooperation on qualifications in Central Asia,
- To learn about the first findings of the DARYA feasibility study on the regional cooperation in the area of qualifications in Central Asia: evidence from ongoing processes in Central Asia with pertinence to skills and qualifications (economy and trade, strategic drivers, labour migration and education mobility)
- To familiarize with existing examples of regional and international cooperation on qualifications: European Qualifications Framework, development of the African Continental Qualifications Framework
- Identify specific needs for the capacity building sessions which follow the familiarization phase

Target audience:

Practitioners/technical level staff from relevant institutions (Ministries of Labour, Ministries of Education, VET and skills agencies, qualifications and quality assurance bodies), employers' organisations, sectoral and professional organisations, educational institutions, trade unions, institutions responsible for the recognition of qualifications and diplomas.

Day 1 - 17 July

Central European Time	Sessions
10:00 - 10:15	<p>Welcoming, technical introduction and agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical introduction into Zoom - Brief intro to DARYA project and insights from the latest activities - Objectives of the meeting and its structure, introductions <p><i>Nadezda Solodjankina, ETF</i></p>
10:15 – 10:25	<p>Interactive session (poll)</p>
10.25 – 10.40	<p>Regional qualifications frameworks – aims, benefits, functioning mechanisms</p> <p>Expert presentation</p> <p><i>Speaker: DARYA international expert</i></p>
10.40 – 10.55	<p>Reactions, questions, clarifications, discussion</p>

Central European Time	Sessions
10:55 – 11:20	<p>African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF): aims, mechanisms, ongoing developments, perspective from countries</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p><i>Eduarda Castel Branco, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, Thematic coordinator of the ACQF development project, European Training Foundation</i></p> <p><i>Representative of an ACQF country</i></p>
11:20 – 11:35	Reactions, questions, clarifications, discussion
11:35 – 11:45	Tea/coffee break
11:45 – 12:05	<p>DARYA feasibility study on the regional cooperation in the area of qualifications in Central Asia: first findings</p> <p>DARYA project launched a feasibility study in May 2023 to explore the existing evidence on the ongoing regional and international processes in Central Asia with relevance to skills and qualifications, such as trade, economic cooperation, strategic drivers, mobility of learners and labour migration. In the subsequent phase of the study possible scenarios of structured regional cooperation on qualifications in Central Asia will be discussed with stakeholders in Central Asia and further elaborated</p> <p><i>Speaker: Feasibility study researchers team</i></p>
12:05 - 12:20	Questions and discussion
12:20 – 12:30	Closure of Day 1

Day 2 – 15 September (date to be confirmed)

Central European Time	Sessions
10:00 – 10:10	Recap and reflections on the previous session
10:10 – 10:35	<p>Regional qualifications frameworks in the world Conclusions of the ETF study on existing RQFs</p> <p><i>ETF or the research company that worked on the study– speaker to be identified</i></p>
10:35 – 10:50	Reactions, questions, clarifications, discussion
10:50 – 11:10	<p>European Qualifications Framework (EQF) implementation The presentation will share the experience of 15 years of the regional qualifications framework of the European Union (EQF), the principles and mechanisms of the EQF, the path from the establishment in 2008 up to present days, links to 3rd countries, ongoing issues at stake</p> <p><i>Speaker: European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (to be confirmed)</i></p>

Central European Time	Sessions
11:10 – 11:25	Comments, questions, clarifications, discussion
11:25 – 11:35	Coffee/tea break
11:35 – 11:50	<p>Perspective of an EU Member State – impact of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) The presentation will look into the added value and usage of the EQF in an EU Member state and from a sectoral perspective</p> <p><i>Speakers: to be confirmed</i></p>
11:50 - 12:05	Comments, questions, clarifications, discussion
12:05 – 12:30	<p>Considerations from the countries of Central Asia <i>Moderated discussion with participants</i></p>
12:30 – 12.45	<p>Conclusions and next steps Closure of the event</p> <p><i>ETF</i> <i>DARYA project experts</i></p>