

Occupational Qualifications Sub- Framework (OQSF) managed by the QCTO



Ms. C. Hoffman

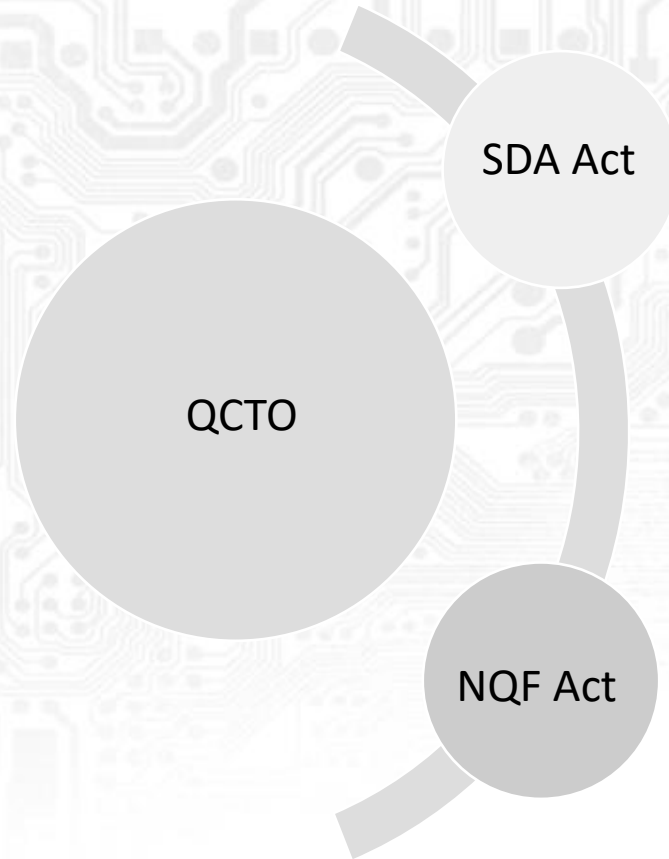
Deputy Director: Qualifications Development

20 February 2023

Presentation outline

1. QCTO's legislative mandate
2. National Qualifications Framework
3. OQSF Road travelled, the journey continues
4. Ministerial Determination
5. QCTO Qualifications Model
6. Occupational Qualifications Sub framework Policy 2021

QCTO legislative Mandate (NQF Act & SDA)



National Qualifications Framework (NQF) in South Africa

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT (NQF Act) (Act No 67 of 2008)

- The NQF is a comprehensive system approved by the Minister for the classification, registration, publication and articulation of quality-assured national qualifications

NQF Objectives

Objectives of the NQF [NQF Act - Sect 5(1) (a-d)]

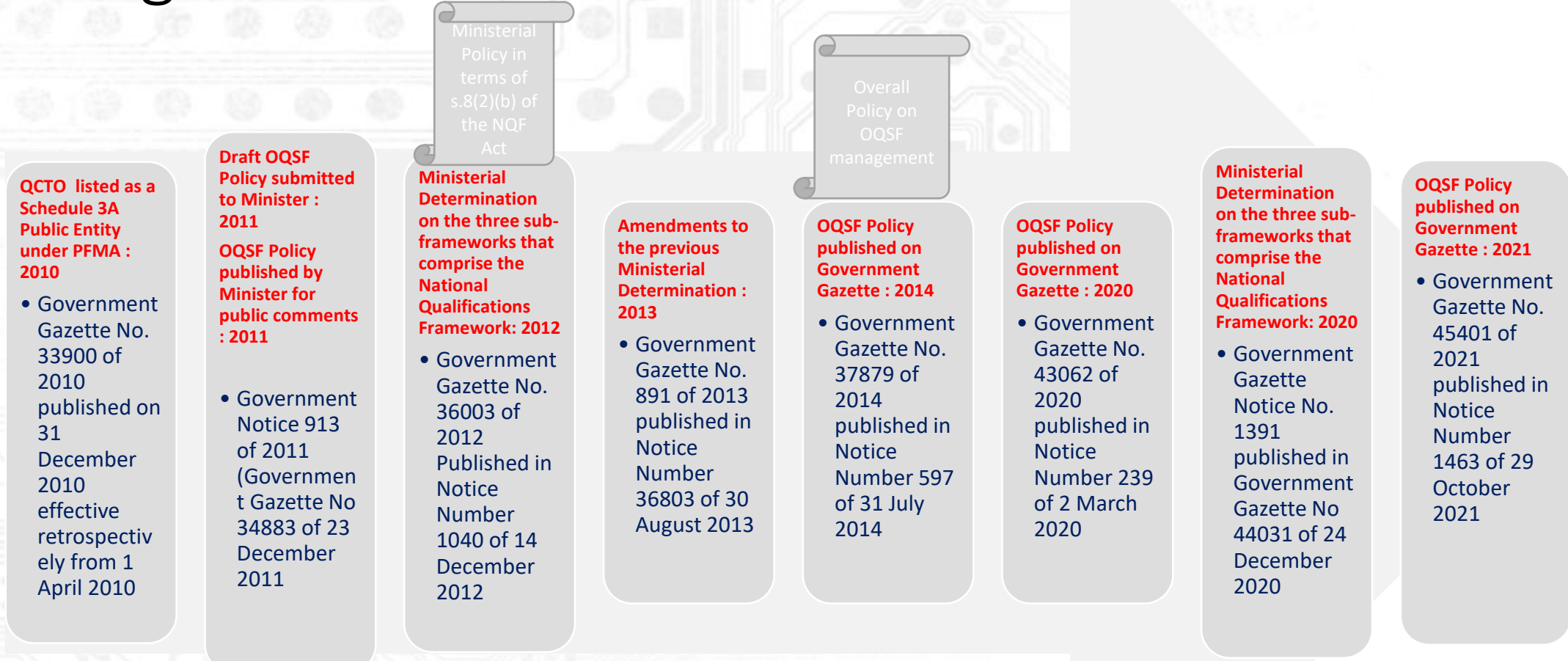
- a) Create a single integrated national framework for learning achievements;
- b) Facilitate access to, and mobility and progression within, education, training and career paths;
- c) Enhance the quality of education and training; and
- d) Accelerate the redress of past unfair discrimination in education, training and employment opportunities.

NQF

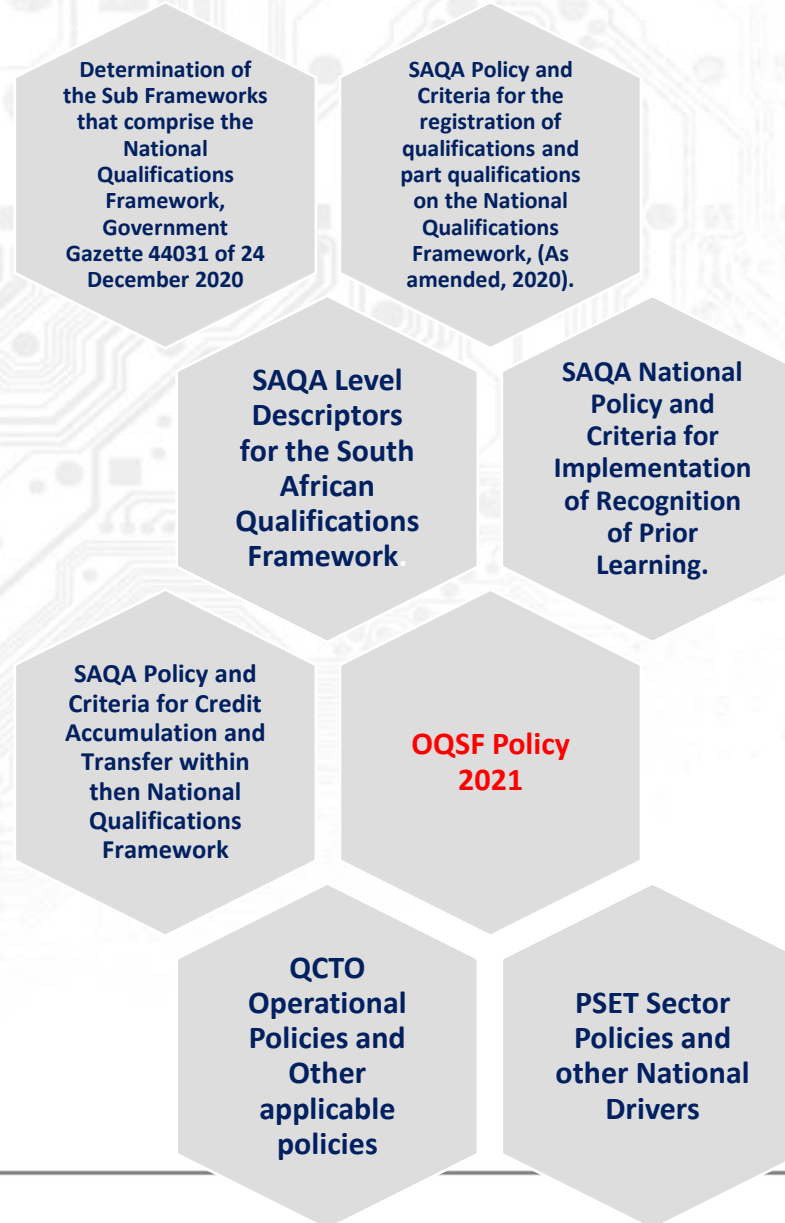
- NQF Act (No 67 of 2008) makes provision for an integrated NQF comprising three sub frameworks, each developed and managed by a Quality Council.

Sub Framework	Quality Council responsible
General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub framework (GFETQSF)	Umalusi
Higher Education Qualifications Sub Framework (HEQSF)	Council on Higher Education (CHE)
Trades and Occupations Qualifications Sub Framework commonly known as Occupational Qualifications Sub Framework (OQSF)	Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)

Looking back on the road travelled



Broader Policy environment



Ministerial Determination 2020

Ministerial Determination on the three sub-frameworks that comprise the National Qualifications Framework, Government Gazette Notice No. 1391 of 2020 published in Government Gazette No 44031 of 24 December 2020.

- a) The Determination was gazetted by Minister of Higher Education Science and Innovation, in terms in terms of sect 8(2)(e) of the NQF Act 2008 (Act 67 of 2008) after having considered the advice from SAQA as required by the NQF Act
- b) The previous determinations in government Notice No. 1040 of 2012 published in Government Gazette No. 36003 of 14 December 2012 and Government Notice No. 891 of 2021 published in Government Gazette No. 36803 of 13 August 2013 respectively, are repealed.
- c) The Determination came to effect from the date of publication of the notice in the government gazette

Ministerial Determination ...

- a) The Ministerial Determination states that the OQSF comprises of qualifications at NQF Level 1 to 8 with occupational purposes.
- b) There are 9 qualifications types
- c) The minimum credits that may be awarded at each level of the NQF across the sub frameworks are 120 credits per level
- d) SAQA will register part qualifications at any level of the NQF.

Articulation, Recognition of Prio Learning and Credit Accumulation and Transfer

- e) Articulation between different programmes and qualifications within and between the sub-frameworks is essential to advance the objectives of the NQF.
- f) Each qualification will by design have clear articulation rules and pathways aligned to the purpose and scope of the qualification.
- g) The QCs must, in consultation with curriculum developers and providers, produce articulation pathways maps for each registered qualification and part qualifications both within and between sub-frameworks.
- h) SAQA and the QCs must ensure the alignment and implementation of all Articulation, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) policies

Ministerial Determination - Implementation and Transitional requirements

- a) In accordance with the Ministerial Determination (*Ministerial Determination on the three sub-frameworks that comprise the National Qualifications Framework, Government Gazette Notice No. 1391 published in Govt. Gazette No 44031 of 24 December 2020*) the following implementation and transitional arrangements apply:
- b) The registration end date for Pre 2009 qualifications and unit standards on the OQSF shall be 30/06/2023.[Clause 13]
 - i. (This means that all pre 2009 qualifications and unit standards (historically registered qualifications and programmes have a definite date by which they will cease to be offered. These historically registered qualifications and programmes must be transitioned into the new dispensation. – These skills development offerings cannot be offered post the transitional arrangements period.
 - ii. Old trades are covered by the above provision as they are qualifications that the QCTO is issuing certificates against to confirm the learning achievements. All recorded trades are recognised as qualifications and thus fully covered by the above provisions.
- c) The last date of first-time learners enrolling for Pre-2009 qualifications and unit standards shall be 30 June 2024 .[Clause 14]
- d) The last date of achievements for learners enrolling for Pre-2009 qualifications and unit standards on the OQSF shall be 30 June 2027. [Clause 15]
 - i. No new certificates will be issued for new learners against the pre 2009 qualifications and unit standards post the teach out period, only replacement certificates will continue to be issued.
- e) The QCs must ensure that the accreditation periods for pre 2009 qualifications coincides with the Ministerial Determination. [Clause 20]
- f) All qualification registered on the NQF must be aligned to the new NQF Level Descriptors by 30 June 2023, to ensure coherence in learning, and enable the allocation of qualifications to particular levels in order to assess their compatibility and parity of esteem. [Clause 21]

Stakeholders that are affected by the changes in the skills development system

The following stakeholders are affected by the changes:

- Learners
- Employers
- Skills Development Providers (TVET Colleges; Private Providers, Public)
- Assessment Centres
- RPL Centres
- Professional Bodies
- Regulatory bodies
- Statutory and non statutory bodies
- SETAs

NQF Level	Determination of Sub-Framework that comprise the NQF (Government Gazette No. 36003 of 14 December 2012 and Government Gazette No. 891 of 2013 published in Government Gazette No. 36803 of 13 August 2013)	
10	Doctoral Degree Doctoral Degree (Professional)	*
9	Master's Degree Master's Degree (Professional)	*
8	Bachelor Honours Degree Post Graduate Diploma Bachelor's Degree	Occupational Certificate (Level 8)
7	Bachelor 's Degree Advanced Diploma	Occupational Certificate (Level 7)
6	Diploma Advanced Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 6)
5	Higher Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 5)
4	National Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 4)
3	Intermediate Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 3)
2	Elementary Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 2)
1	General Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 1)

HEQSF

OQSF

GFETQSF

Currently on the OQSF – Pre 2009 Qualifications, Recorded Trades, Occupational Qualifications

Pre 2009 qualifications and stand alone unit standards registered to date

- Basic Certificate
- Post Basic Certificate
- Certificate
- Higher Certificate
- Advanced Certificate
- National Certificate
- National Higher Certificate
- General Education and Training Certificate (GETC)
- Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC)
- N4 - N6
- N Diploma

1451

- Recorded Trades

624

- Diploma
- Post Basic Diploma
- Certified Diploma
- National Diploma
- Advanced Diploma
- Professional Diploma
- National Professional Diploma
- Post Graduate Diploma
- National Degree
- National First Degree
- Professional Qualification
- Post Graduate Professional Qualification

Occupational Qualifications from 2010 to date

- Occupations Certificates (Full Qualifications and Part Qualifications)

704

1	MANAGERS	25
2	PROFESSIONALS	46
3	TECHNICIANS AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS	108
4	CLERICAL SUPPORT WORKERS	15
5	SERVICE AND SALES WORKERS	30
6	SKILLED AGRICULTURAL, FORESTRY, FISHERY, CRAFT AND RELATED TRADES WORKERS	135
7	PLANT AND MACHINE OPERATORS AND ASSEMBLERS	120
8	ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS	10
	TRADES	73

Skills Levels Realms

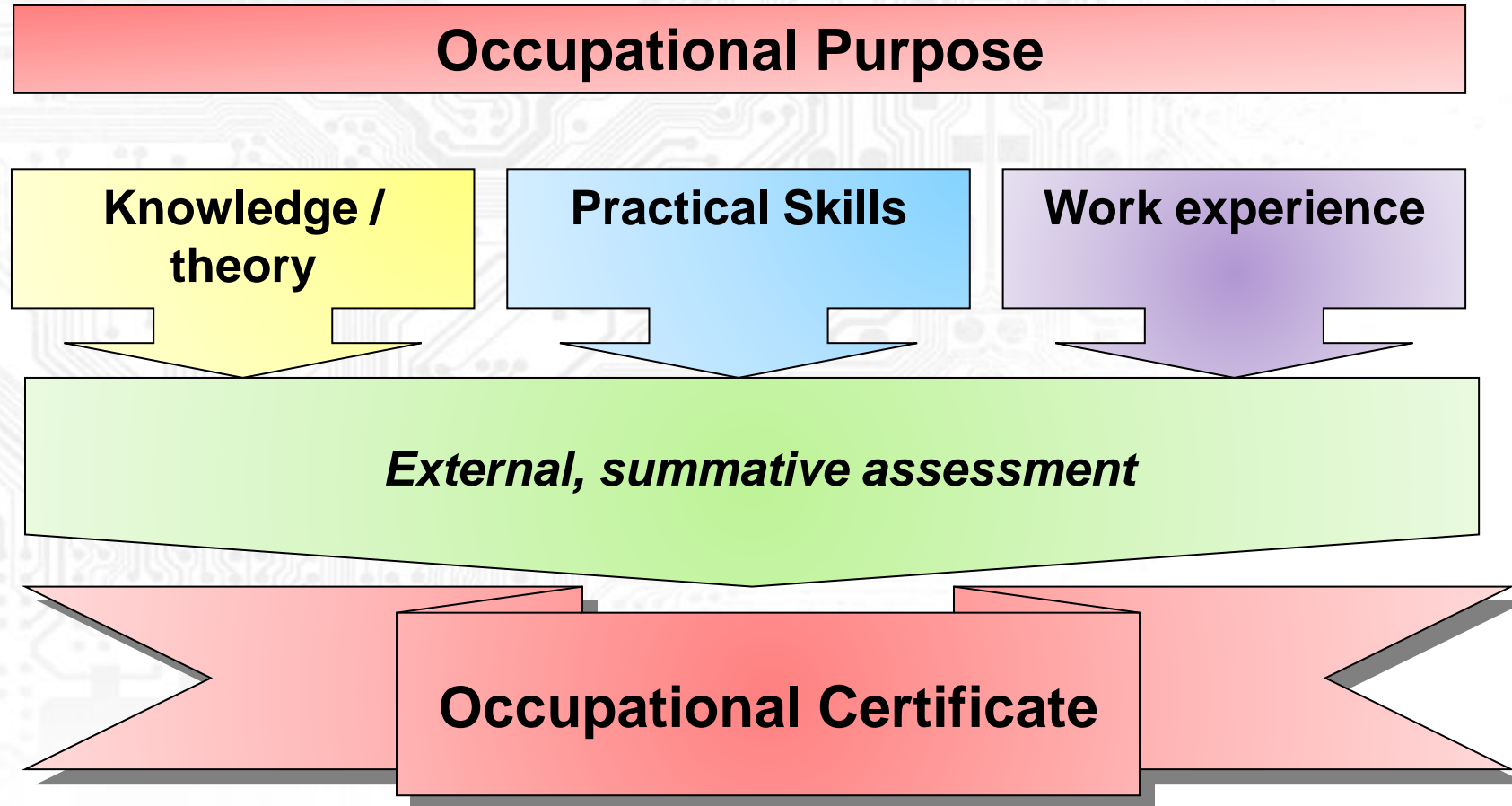
NQF Level	Skills Realms
10	Advanced
9	
8	
7	
6	Intermediate skills
5	
4	
3	Entry
2	
1	

Skills Levels

OFO Major Group		Skill Level	
1	Managers	5, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range and complexity of the tasks • Field of knowledge required • Tools or equipment used • Materials worked on or information worked with • Goods and or services provided
2	Professionals	5, 4	
3	Technicians and Associate Professionals	4, 3	
4	Clerical Support Workers	4, 3, 2, 1	
5	Service and Sales Workers	4, 3, 2, 1	
6	Skilled Agricultural, Forestry, Fishery, Craft and related Trades Workers	4, 3, 2, 1	
7	Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	2	
8	Elementary Occupations	2, 1	

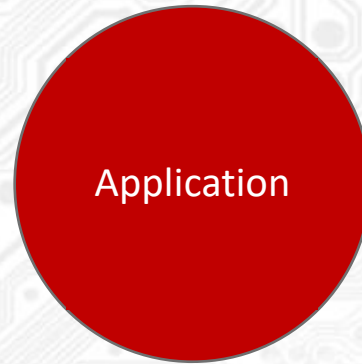
NQF Sub-Framework/ Quality Council	NQF Level	NQF Sub-Framework and Qualification Type		NQF Sub- Framework/ Quality Council
Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) Council on Higher Education (CHE)	10	Doctoral Degree Doctoral Degree (Professional)		
	9	Master's Degree Master's Degree (Professional)		
	8	Bachelor Honours Degree Post Graduate Diploma Bachelor's Degree	Specialised Occupational Diploma	Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF) Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)
	7	Bachelor's Degree Advanced Diploma	Advanced Occupational Diploma	
	6	Diploma Advanced Certificate	Occupational Diploma Advanced Occupational Certificate	
	5	Higher Certificate	Higher Occupational Certificate	
	General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework (GFETQSF) Umalusi	4	National Certificate	
3		Intermediate Certificate	Intermediate Occupational Certificate	
2		Elementary Certificate	Elementary Occupational Certificate	
1		General Certificate	General Occupational Certificate	

QCTO Qualifications Model

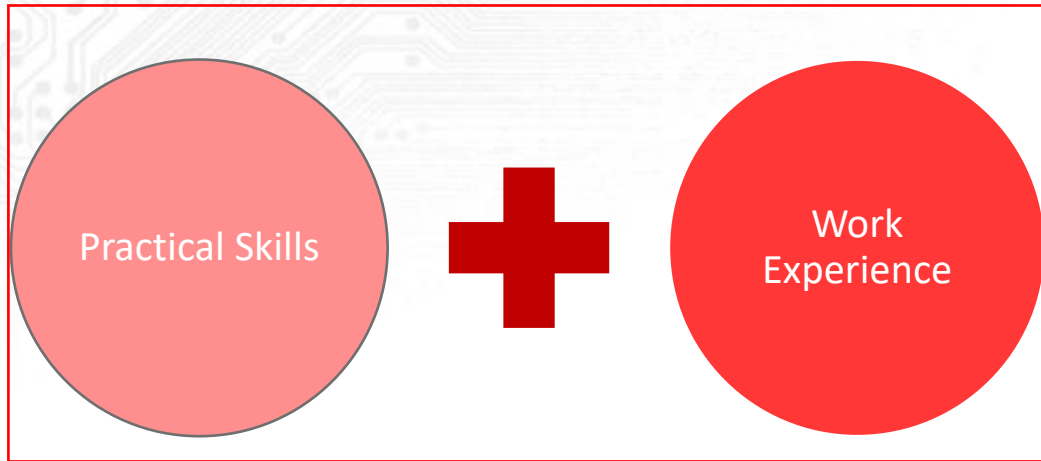
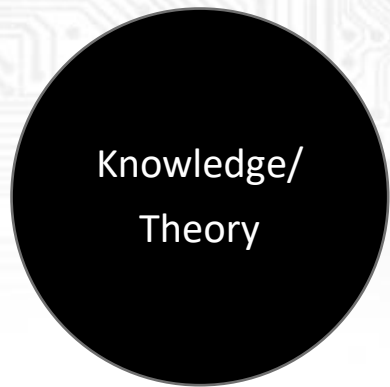


Occupational Qualifications (Full & Part) and Skills Programmes Model – OQSF Policy 2021

OQSF Policy 2021, Published in *Government Gazette Notice No. 1463* published in *Govt. Gazette No 45401* of 29 October 2021



Means the functional combination of the practical component and the workplace component through skills learning or simulated work experience learning.



Three important documents for each qualification

1

Qualification Doc

Qualifications Details

- SAQA Qual ID
- Qual Title; Originator; Sub Framework
- Registration status; SAQA Decision No
- Registration Start Date
- Registration End Date
- Last date of enrolment
- Last Date of Achievement
- Purpose and Rationale
- Qualifications Rules (Modules to be covered, KM, PM, WM)
- Exit Level Outcomes
- Associated Assessment Criteria
- International Comparability
- Articulation
- Notes

2

Curriculum Doc

Module Specifications

- (List of modules to be covered, KM, PM, WM)
- Module
 - Purpose of the module (Main Focus; What the leaning will enable learners to demonstrate an understanding of)
 - Topics (% Split per topic)
 - Guidelines per topic, including topic elements
 - Internal Assessment Criteria and Weight per topic
 - IAC (Internal assessment to be conducted by SDPs)
 - Provider Accreditation requirements (Physical, Human, Legal)

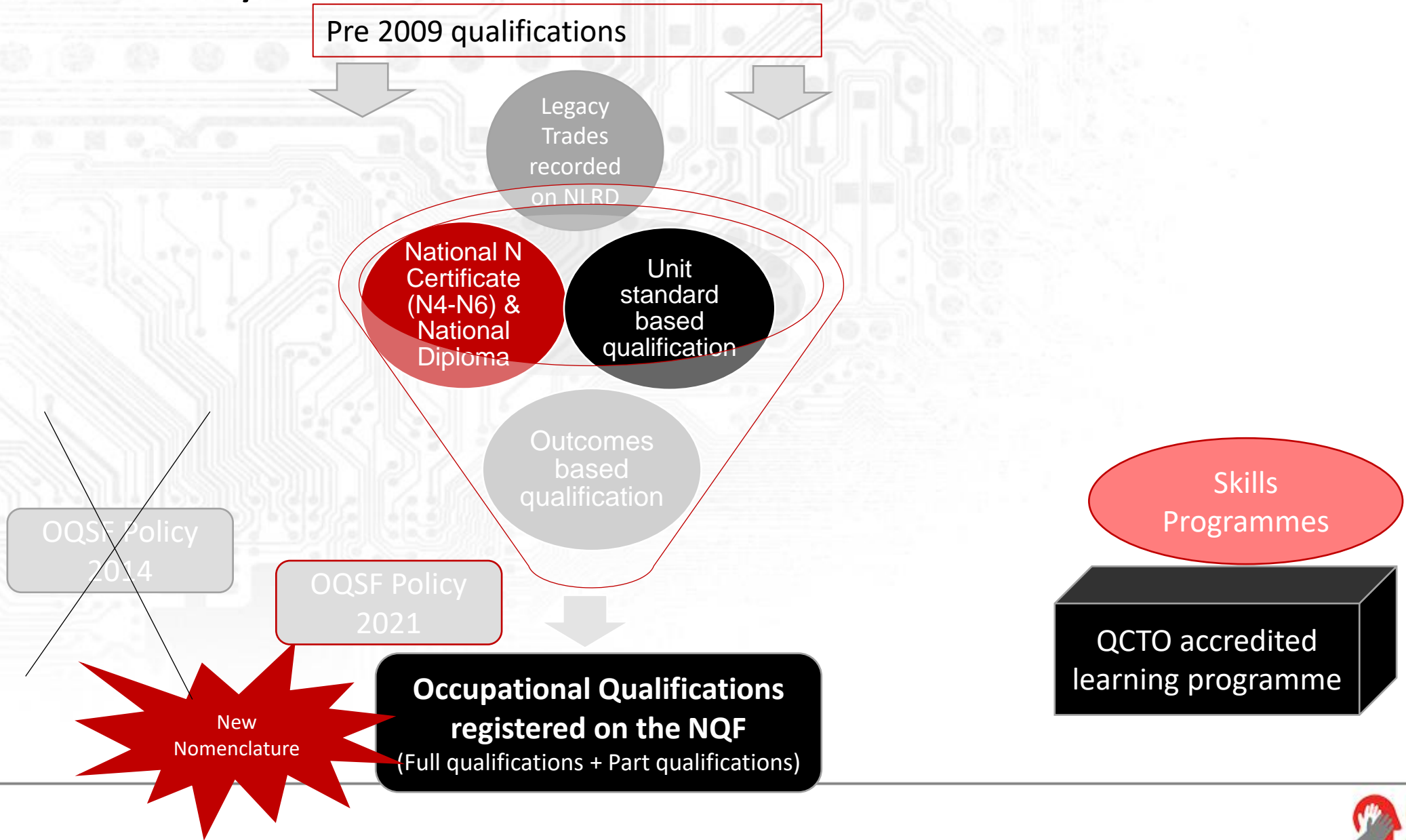
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External Assessment Specifications Doc/Qualification Assessment Addendum

Assessment Strategy

- Assessment Model to be used for External Integrated Summative Assessment
- Applicable details: Structure of the Assessment, number of days required for EISA, Info about Exemplars

OQSF Policy 2021



How does the OQSF enable this change?

No	OQSF Policy 2014	OQSF Policy 2021
1.	Gives effect to Ministerial determination 2012 & 2013	Gives effect to Ministerial determination 2020. [Clause 3.2]
2.	Facilitates the development and registration of full qualifications and part qualifications on the NQF	Facilitates the development and registration of full qualifications and part qualifications on the NQF as well as for approval and recording of Skills Programmes by the QCTO [Clause 3.1]
3.	Provides for 1 qualification type as per the Ministerial Determination 2012 & 2013 *Occupational Certificate	Provides for 9 qualification type as per the Ministerial Determination 2020 * 9 Qualifications Types [Clause 5.6]

How does the OQSF enable this change?

No	OQSF Policy 2014	OQSF Policy 2021
4.	<p>Full qualification: <u>Rules of combination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Three compulsory components<ul style="list-style-type: none">i) Knowledge theory; ii) Practical Skills; iii) Work Experienceb) Minimum credits of 25c) Minimum of 20% credits to each component. The remaining 40% credits may be spread to any of the components as requiredd) FLC is a requirement for qualifications at NQF Level 3 and 4.e) The duration of training and learning is specified in credits per module in the components	<p>Full qualification: <u>Rules of combination</u></p> <p>Refer to next slide</p>

No	OQSF Policy 2014	OQSF Policy 2021
4.		<p>Full qualification: <u>Rules of combination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Clear minimum requirements for Full Qualifications [Clause 5]b) Clear requirements for Part Qualifications. [Clause 5.8]c) 60% of the credits must be at the level of the qualification. [Clause 5]d) Qualification must contain 5%-10% of soft skills (e.g. 21st Century skills, personal development, self-learning, workplace preparation, personal finance management, basic entrepreneurship, emotional intelligence etc.) [Clause 5.7.3]e) The duration of training and learning is specified in credits per module in the componentsf) Naming convention of full occupational qualifications is designated as follows Type; Qualification Descriptor; Qualifier (where required); NQF Level; Credits.

No	OQSF Policy 2014	OQSF Policy 2021
4.		<p>Full qualification: <u>Rules of combination</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Clear minimum requirements for Full Qualifications [Clause 5]b) Clear requirements for Part Qualifications. [Clause 5.8]c) 60% of the credits must be at the level of the qualification. [Clause 5]d) Qualification must contain 5%-10% of soft skills (e.g. 21st Century skills, personal development, self-learning, workplace preparation, personal finance management, basic entrepreneurship, emotional intelligence etc.) [Clause 5.7.3]e) The duration of training and learning is specified in credits per module in the componentsf) Naming convention of full occupational qualifications is designated as follows Type; Qualification Descriptor; Qualifier (where required); NQF Level; Credits.

No	OQSF Policy 2014	OQSF Policy 2021
5.	Skills Programmes Not referenced on this OQSF Policy	Skills Programme [Clause 17.1] a) Defined as a QCTO-accredited learning programme [Clause 5.9.1] <u>Rules of combination</u> Refer to next slide

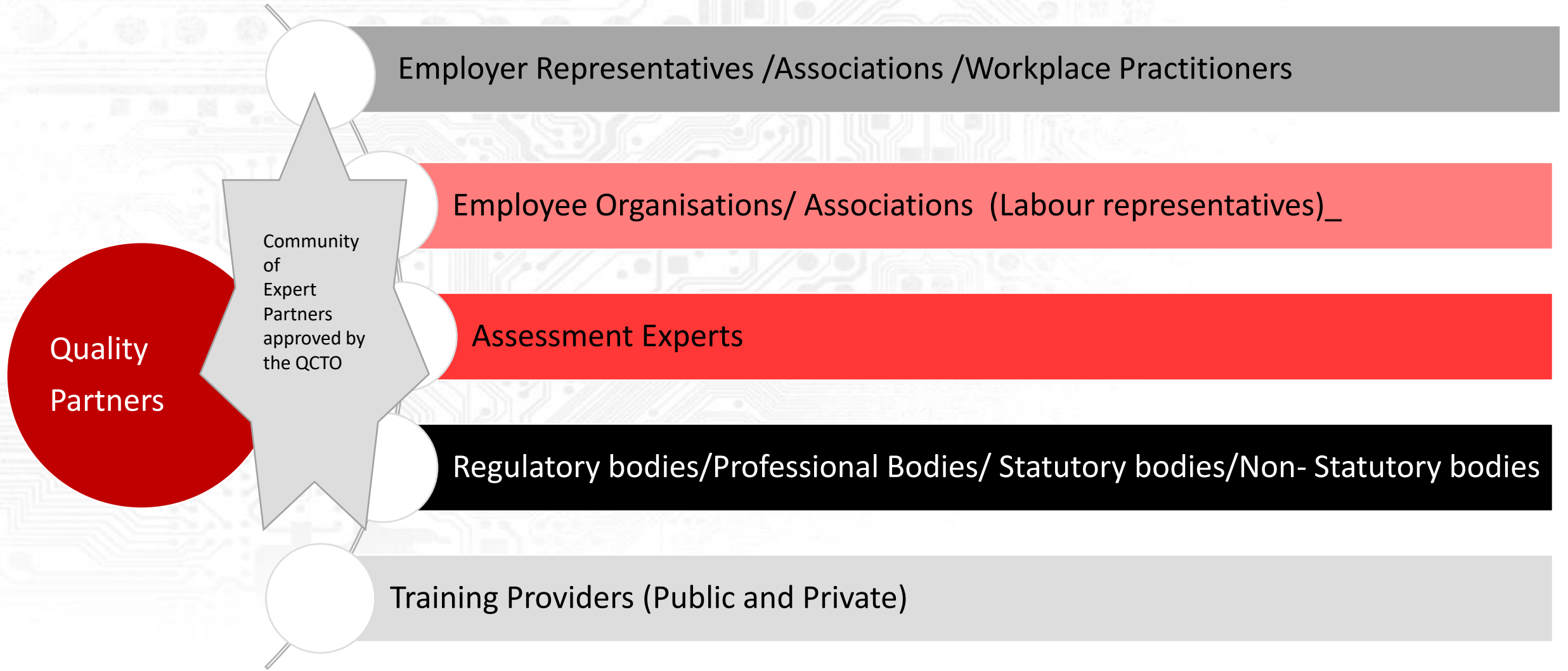
No QQSF Policy 2014

5.

QQSF Policy 2021

- Skills Programme (SP)
- b) Minimum requirements for admission to a skills programme are specified. [Clause 5.9.2]
- c) Minimum duration of a skills programme is two weeks (with a minimum of 8 credits). [Clause 5.9.3]
- d) Record consisting of Skills Programmes and learners who achieved against programmes will be maintained by the QCTO. [Clause 5.9.5]
- e) Successful completion of a SP - Learner should have successfully completed a final supervised assessment. [Clause 5.9.6]
- f) Learners completing a Skills Programme will be issued with a certificate. [Clause 5.9.9]

Development of occupational standards – Collaborative work by industry



Accreditation

- The QCTO will approve and issue accreditation for Skills Development Providers to offer Occupational Qualifications and/or Part-Qualifications and Skills Programmes. [Clause 17.1]

Quality Assurance

- Quality assurance within the OQSF covers all aspects of the qualifications, from qualification design and development to the implementation of the occupational qualifications and part-qualifications, the accreditation of skills development providers, the external integrated summative assessment and certification of successful learners. [Clause 17.1]

Assessment

- The standards for occupational qualifications and part-qualifications are established and maintained in the final external integrated summative assessment of a learner's occupational competence; [Clause 18.1]
- Competency is demonstrated through the successful completion of a final supervised assessment. Access to the EISA process can be obtained via the relevant qualifications as well as through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). [Clause 5.12]
- Successful completion of EISA at an accredited assessment centre [Clause 14.4 (b)]
- Successful completion of a Skills Programme would require that a learner should have completed a final supervised assessment. [Clause 5.9.6]

Certification

- Certification is the formal recognition of the learner having completed all aspects of an occupational qualification or part-qualification or skills programme. [Clause 18.1]
- The QCTO is responsible for the issuing of certificates for all occupational qualifications, part-qualifications and skills programmes and to ensure that the certificates issued are credible. [Clause 18.4]
- The QCTO is further responsible for verifying the authenticity of the certificates that it has issued. [Clause 18.6]

QCTO Management information system

- Details of occupational qualifications and part-qualifications on the OQSF and information on accredited skills development providers, including learner achievements, will be recorded on the QCTO management information system for submission to the National Learners' Records Database [Clause 19.1]

ANY

QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!



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