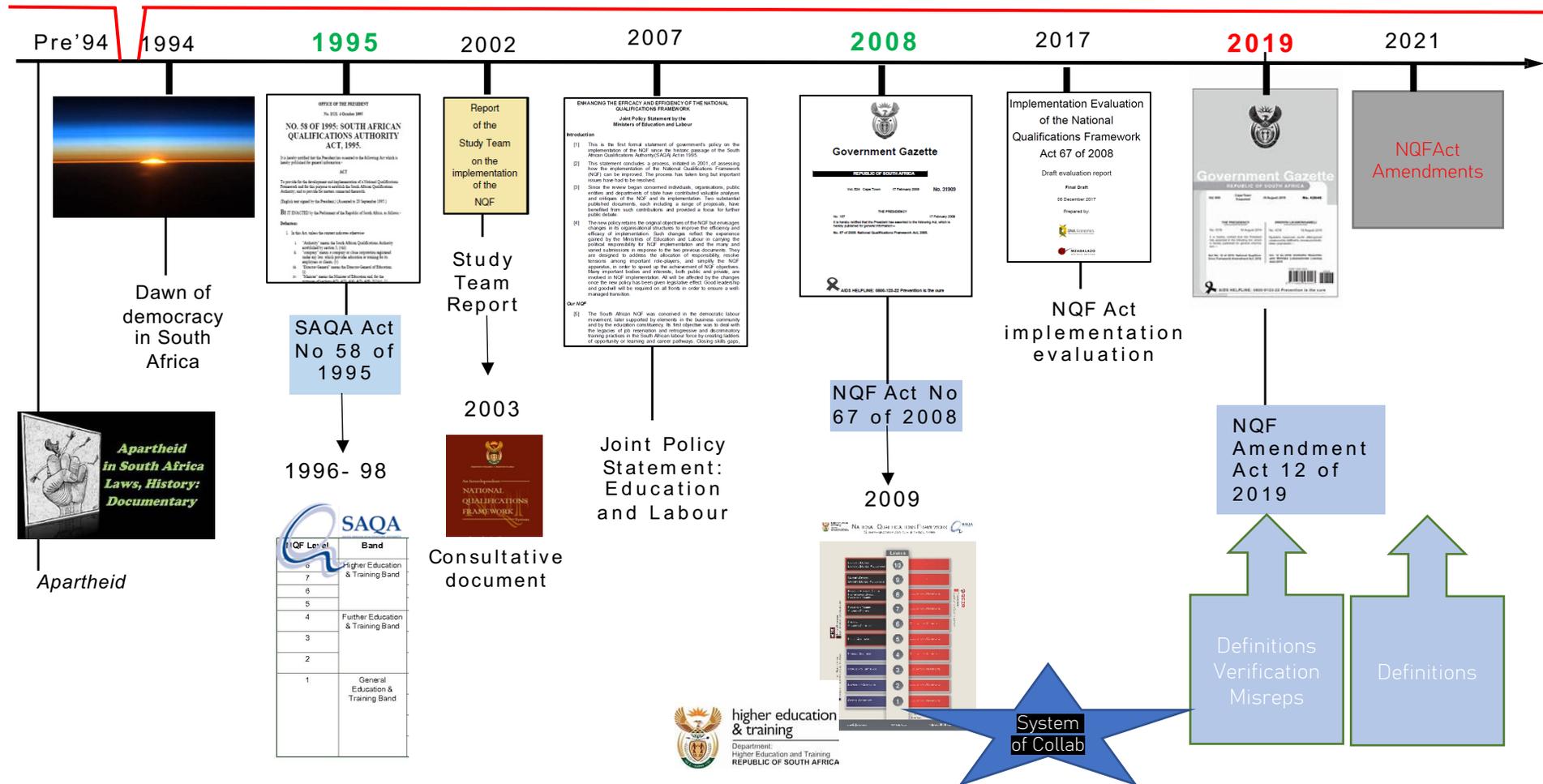

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

WORLD CLASS NQF

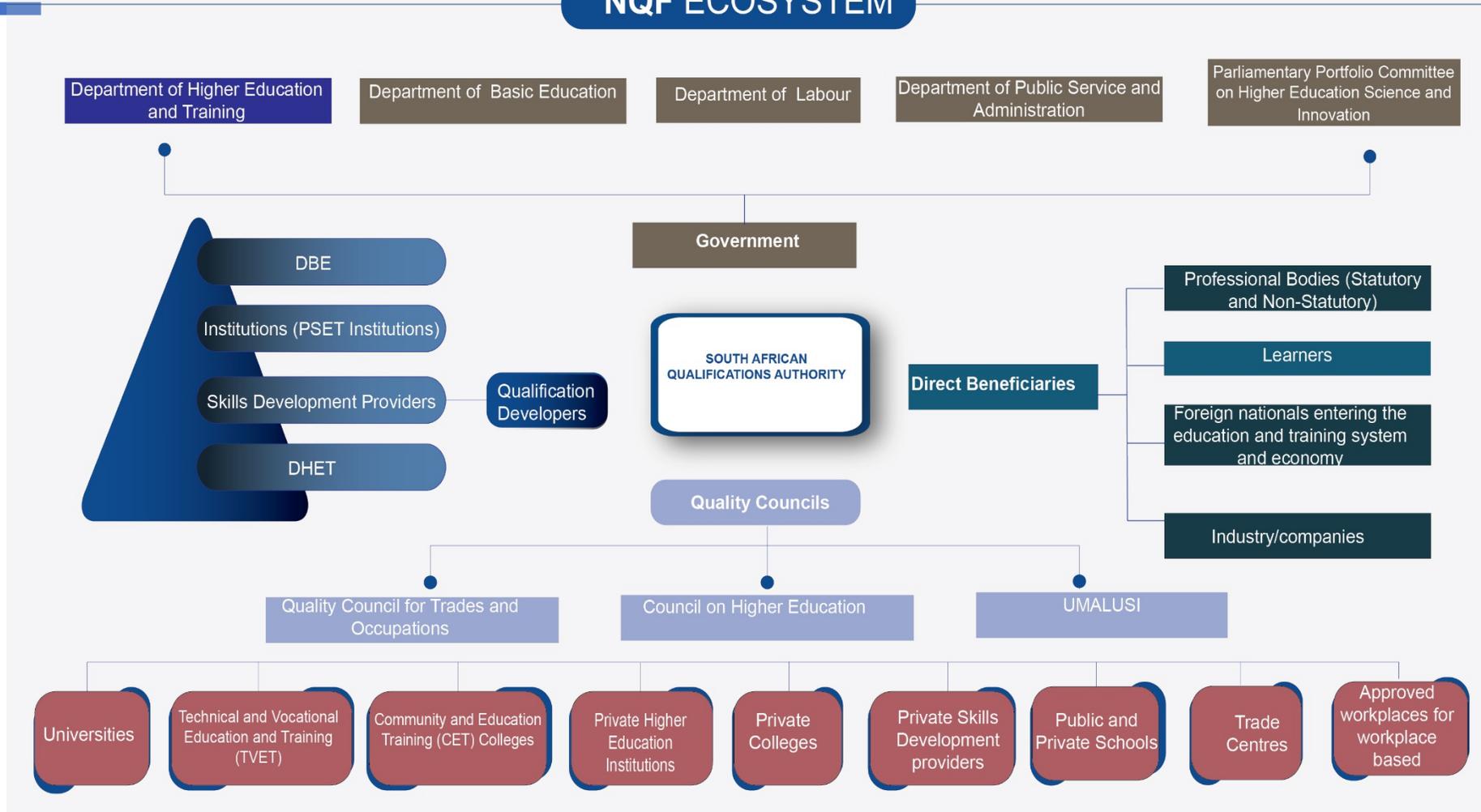
1ST ROUND TABLE EFTP KINSHASA,
10-14 NOVEMBER 2023



Snapshot of legislative evolution of the NQF



NQF ECOSYSTEM



SAQA Funding
Education and Training Providers
Additional SAQA Revenue
Qualification Developers

Other SAQA Stakeholders
SADC Qualifications Framework
African Continental Qualifications Framework
International Qualifications Frameworks
Funding bodies and Organisations

Section 6 established the ten level NQF

Section 7 of the NQF Act, Act 67 of 2008, establishes the **three coordinated qualifications sub-frameworks**.

Chapter 5 of the Act establishes the Quality Councils for each sub-framework and sets out the functions of the Quality Councils.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
Legislation Matters

National Qualifications Framework
Act, Act 67 of 2008 (As amended)



NQF Levels

10



9

8

HEQSF

7

6



5

OQSF

4

UMALUSI



3

GFETQSF

2

1

SAQA RESPONSIBILITIES

OVERSEE

NQF implementation
and co-ordinate NQF
Sub-Frameworks



ADVISE

the Minister of
Higher Education and
Training on NQF
matters

DEVELOP

and implement NQF
policies and criteria



MAINTAIN

a National Learners'
Records Database

REGISTER

qualifications and
professional
designations on the
NQF



RECOGNISE

professional
bodies

PROVIDE

evaluation and
advisory services for
foreign qualifications



PROVIDE

verification services
for national
qualifications

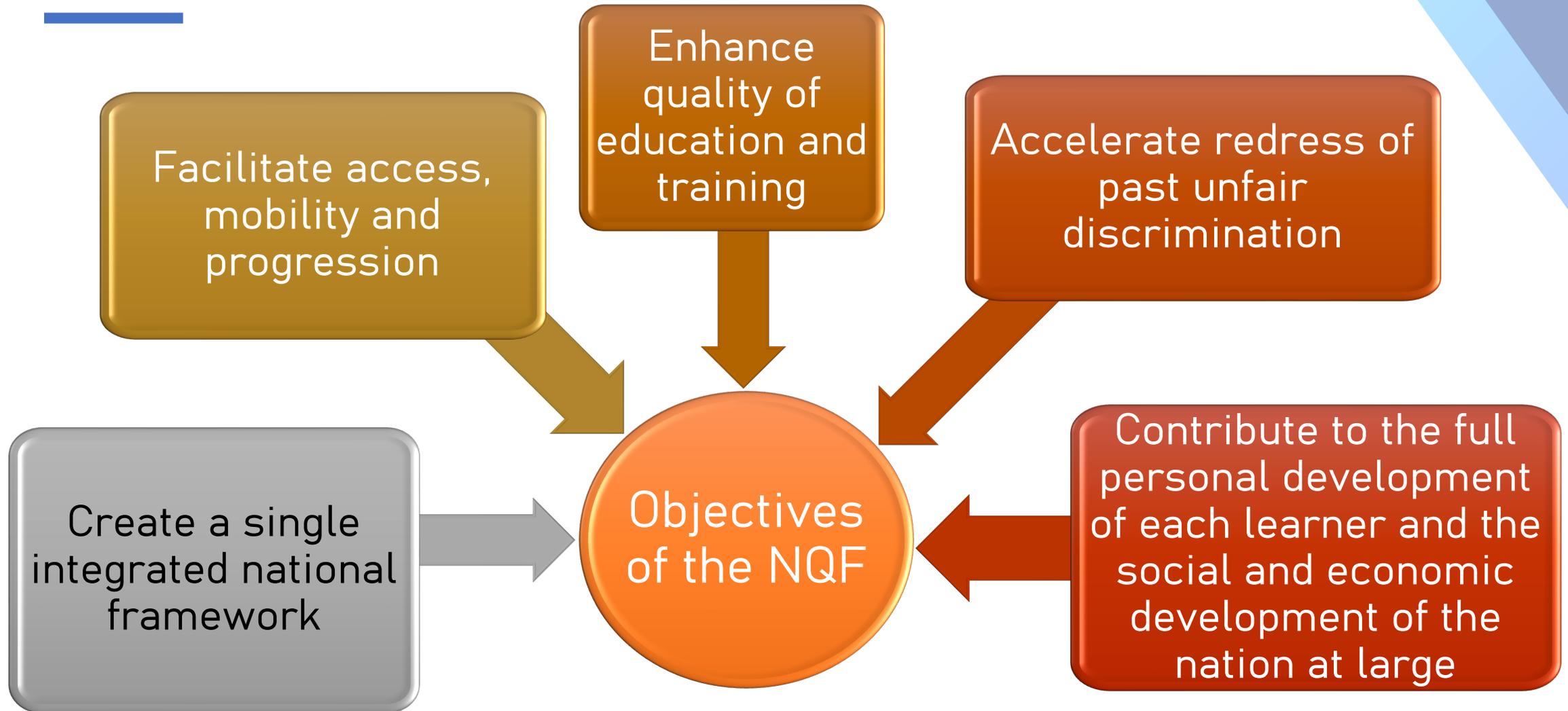
CONDUCT

research and collaborate
with international
counterparts



INFORM

the public about
the NQF



NQF

Higher Education Qualifications
Sub-Framework

National Qualifications Framework		
Level	Sub-Framework and qualification types	
10	Doctoral Degree Doctoral Degree (Professional)	*
9	Master's Degree Master's Degree (Professional)	*
8	Bachelor Honours Degree Postgraduate Diploma Bachelor's Degree	Specialised Occupational Diploma Occupational Certificate (Level 8)
7	Bachelor's Degree Advanced Diploma	Advanced Occupational Diploma Occupational Certificate (Level 7)
6	Diploma Advanced Certificate	Occupational Diploma Advanced Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 6)
5	Higher Certificate	Higher Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 5)
4	National Certificate	National Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 4)
3	Intermediate Certificate	Intermediate Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 3)
2	Elementary Certificate	Elementary Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 2)
1	General Certificate	General Occupational Certificate Occupational Certificate (Level 1)

General and
Further
Education and
Training
Qualifications
Sub-Framework

Occupational Qualifications Sub-
Framework

Terminology

CHE

(Pathways)

- vocational pathway
- professional pathway
- General or academic pathway

Umalusi

(Streams)

- Academic
- Vocational
- Occupational

QCTO

(Qualification associated with)

- Occupation
- Trade
- Profession

Terminology – Vocational vs Occupational

Vocational

- Focus on theory and practice
- Practically orientated
- Prepare learners for the world of work
- Training in a “technical” environment (TVET Colleges)

Occupational

- Focus on work-place learning
- As defined in the Organising Framework for Occupations (OFO)
- Prepare learners for a specific occupation
- Training in the work-place

QUALIFICATION

NQF Level
and level
descriptor



Qualifier



Qualification
specialisation

Qualification

Type

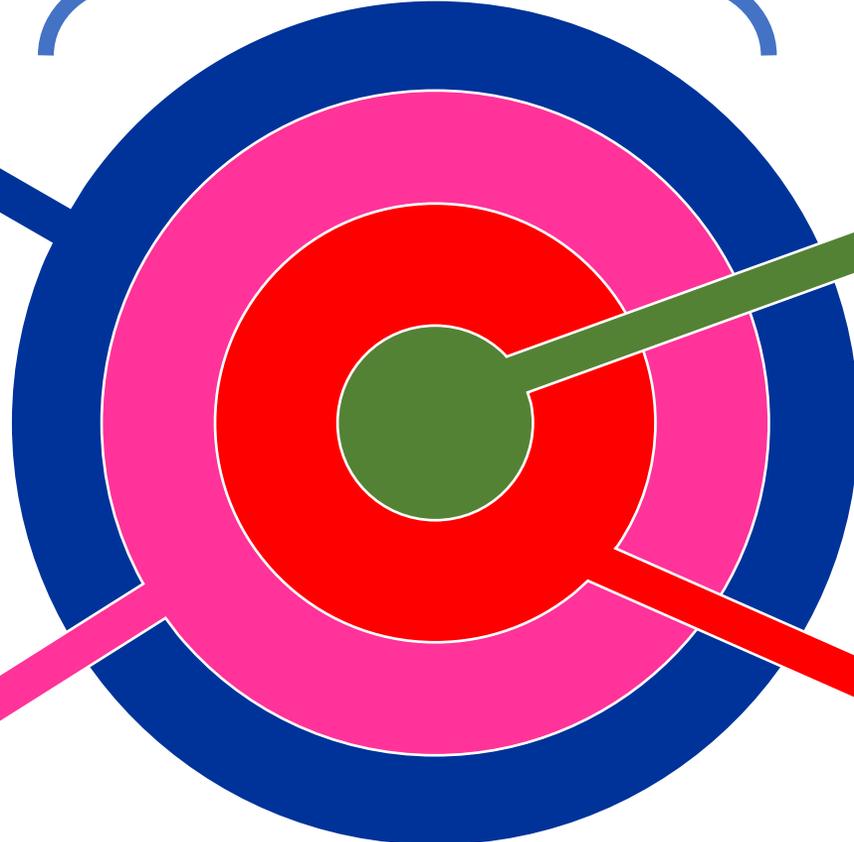
Bachelor,
Diploma,
Certificate,
Occupational
qualifications



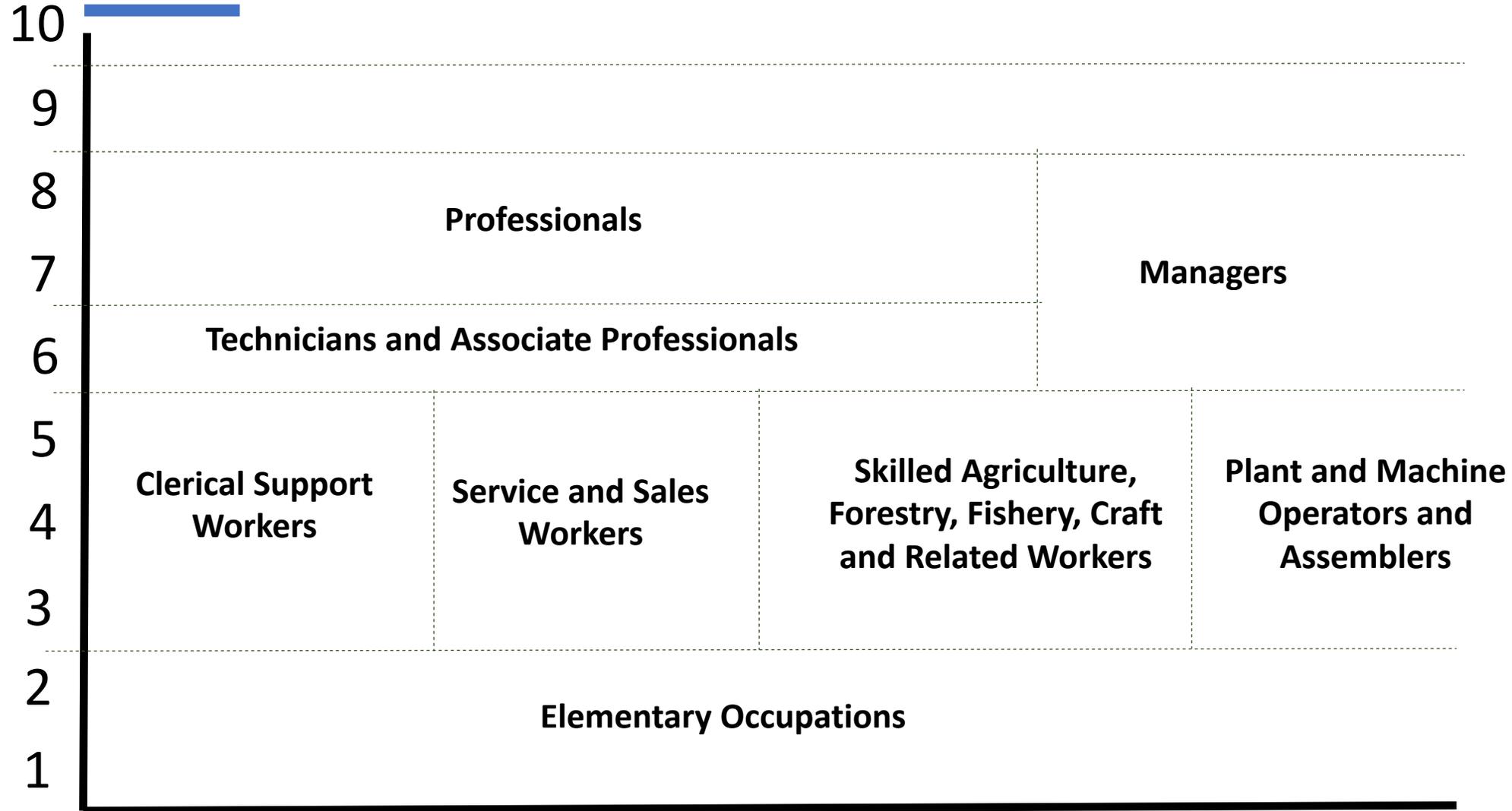
Designator/
Descriptor



Broad area of
study/
discipline/
Occupations



Level



Setting standards: Occupational Space



Setting Policies based on SAQA Policies and Criteria



Sector Education and Training Authorities

Industry Specialists



SAQA recognised Professional Bodies

Subject Area Specialists

NQF

General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework

Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework

Framework

National Qualifications Framework		
Level	Sub-Framework and qualification types	
10	Doctoral Degree Doctoral Degree (Professional)	*
9	Master's Degree Master's Degree (Professional)	*
8	Bachelor Honours Degree Postgraduate Diploma Bachelor's Degree	Occupational Certificate (Level 8) Specialised Occupational Diploma
7	Bachelor's Degree Advanced Diploma	Occupational Certificate (Level 7) Advanced Occupational Diploma
6	Diploma Advanced Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 6) Occupational Diploma Advanced Occupational Certificate
5	Higher Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 5) Higher Occupational Certificate
4	National Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 4) National Occupational Certificate
3	Intermediate Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 3) Intermediate Occupational Certificate
2	Elementary Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 2) Elementary Occupational Certificate
1	General Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 1) General Occupational Certificate

Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework



Forms of RPL

Purpose

RPL for access:

- into a learning programme / qualification

An alternative access route into a programme/course of learning/qualification for those who do not meet the formal minimum requirements for admission

- into the EISA of Occupational Qualifications

Provides the evaluation and acknowledgement of the knowledge and skills that a candidate has gained to enable access to the EISA

- to a trade test through Artisan RPL (ARPL)

Provides an active pathway to full Artisan Trade Occupational Qualifications registered on the NQF, linked to listed trades in all sectors of the economy.

- into Professional Designations

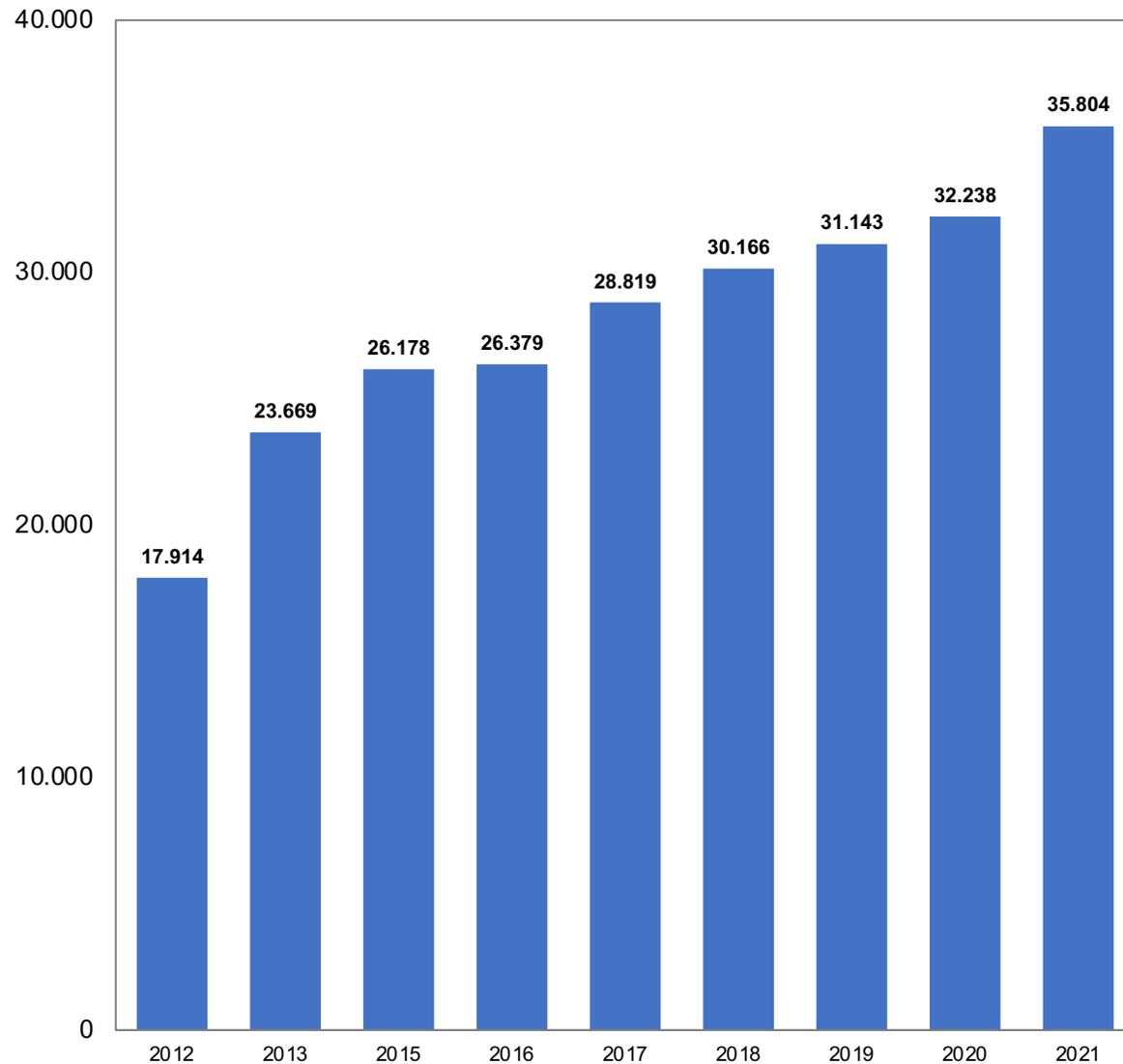
Provides an alternative access route to Professional Designations awarded

- for recognition and promotion in the workplaces (RPL for advancement)

Provides an alternative access route to employment for example, Government, when a candidate does not have the requisite qualifications for a specific job or occupation

Forms of RPL	Purpose
RPL for credits:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in completing a qualification 	<p>Is used to provide for the awarding of credits for the purpose of completing a qualification when a learner change study programmes or institutions</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for advance standing / exemption 	<p>Is used to grant a learner for admission to studies at a higher level than the learner's prior formal studies would have allowed</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • towards granting a full qualification 	<p>Is used to provide for the awarding of credits for the purpose of awarding a full qualification</p>

Achievements via RPL

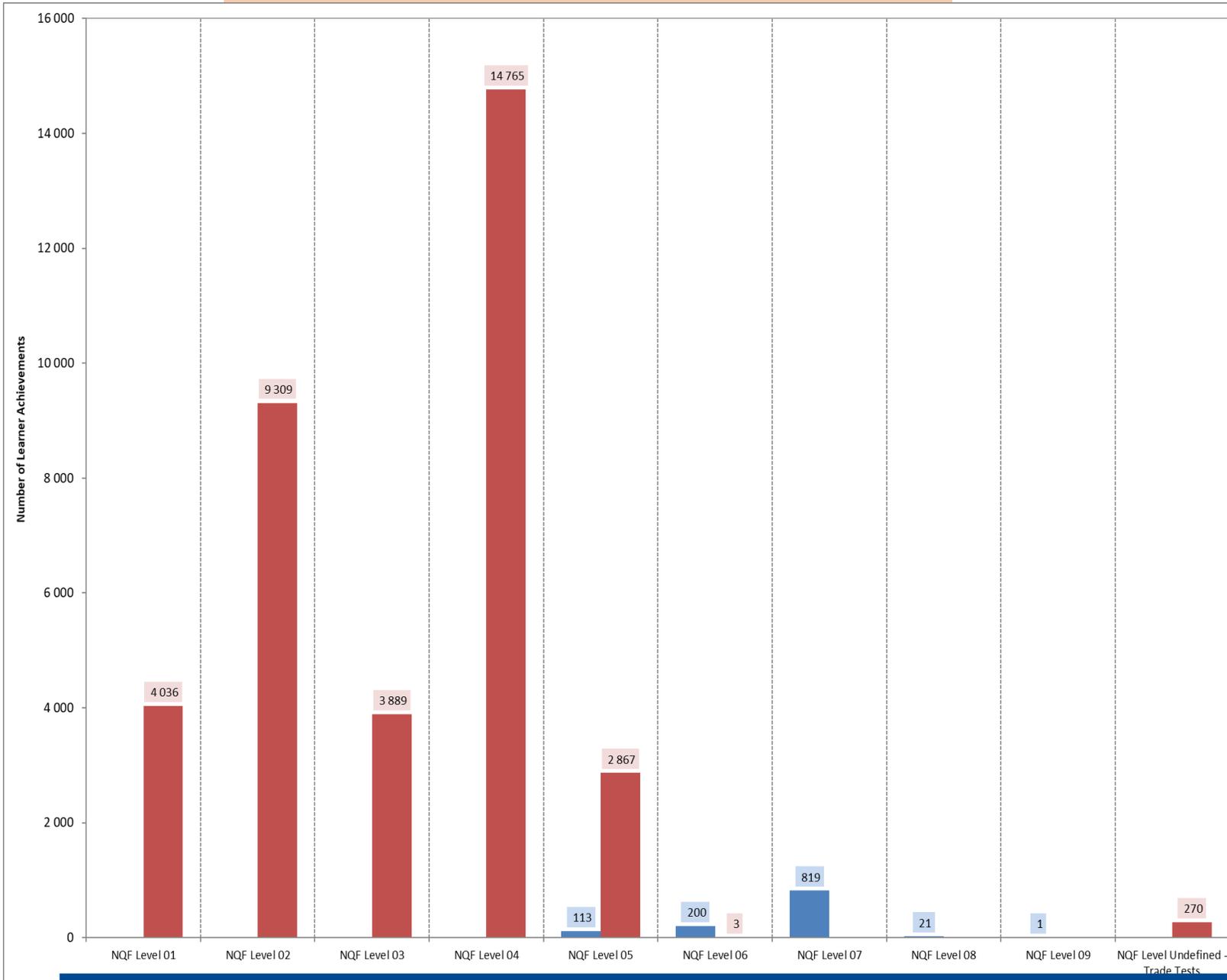


- Steady, consistent increase in achievements via RPL annually.
- Number of qualifications obtained via RPL is 241.
- 97% of achievements via RPL are in the OQSF context, 3% in HEQSF (*mainly in the private HEI sector*)

Disaggregated by:

- NQF Field
- Gender
- Population Group
- Age-group

Achievements via RPL



- 41% RPL achievements achieved at NQF L4, followed by NQF L2 (26%) and L3 (11%)
- Majority of achievement records were in the field of Services (41%) followed by Business, Commerce and Mgt. Studies (35%) and Manufacturing Engineering and Technology (18%)



**THANK
YOU**



Mr Japie Nel
Senior Manager
Registration and Recognition
South African Qualifications
Authority