



# ***THE STATUS OF THE SIERRA LEONE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK***

***5-9 September 2022***

***Second Training week of the ACQF Dev.  
Project***

***Morlai Mansaray***

***Abdul Rahman Sesay***

# CONTENT

- OVERVIEW OF SIERRA LEONE EDUCATION SYSTEM
- NQF STATUS (SLQF)
- CHALLENGES
- NEXT STEPS
- CONCLUSION

# OVERVIEW OF SIERRA LEONE EDUCATION SYSTEM



Currently the education system is based on a 6-3-3-4 system and organized into the following levels:

- Primary Education (six years)
- Junior Secondary School (three years)
- Senior Secondary School (three years)
- University (four years)

# OVERVIEW OF SIERRA LEONE EDUCATION SYSTEM

**First set of Schools and Colleges (Freetown) in Sub-Saharan Africa.**

- **Fourah Bay College (FBC) – 1827**
- **Grammar School for Boys – 1845**
- **Annie Walsh Memorial School for Girls – 1849**
- **Methodist Boys High School – 1874**
- **Methodist Girls High school – 1880**

**Second set of Institutions in the Provinces:**

- **Harford Secondary School for Girls – 1900**
- **Bo school (Boys) – 1906**
- **Bunumbu Teachers College – 1924**
- **Magburaka Secondary Schools for Boys – 1946**
- **Mathora Secondary School for Girls – 1959**
- **Port Loko Teachers College exclusively for women – 1968**

# OVERVIEW OF SIERRA LEONE EDUCATION SYSTEM

**Two Ministries:**

**MTHE**

**MBSSE**

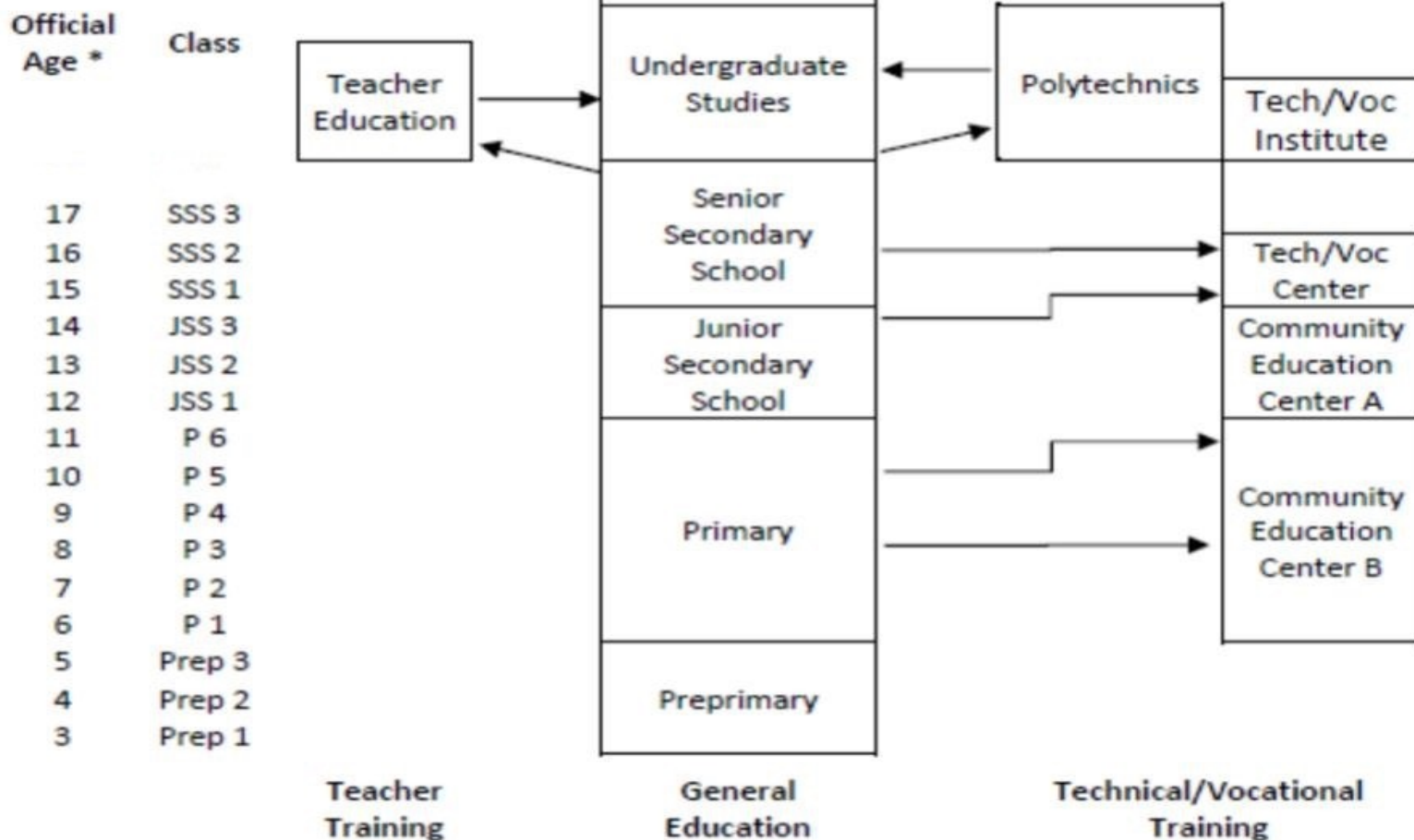
**TVET Policy - 2018**

**Free Quality School Education Policy – 2018**

**The Government of Sierra Leone established the following Agencies by an ACT of Parliament**

- **National Council for Technical, Vocational, and other Awards -2001**
- **Tertiary Education Commission -2001**
- **Teaching Services Commission – 2011**

# OVERVIEW OF SIERRA LEONE EDUCATION SYSTEM



## Introduction of CBET in the TVET sector

- . Orientation of stakeholders on CBET and NQFs
- . Introduction of an online assessment and certification system
- . Training of facilitators on the development of training packages
- . NCTVA is planning the piloting of CBET.

# STATUS ON THE SLQF

- MTHE/NCTVA/VET Toolbox – Proposal for a general NQF
- TEC/SPHEIR – Proposal for NQF for Higher Education
- harmonization workshop aimed to agree on number of levels, learning domains and level descriptors failed to meet its objective.
- MTHE to lead on the creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) for development and implementation of SLQF
- Draft ToR for TWG created in April 2022
- ACQF webinar series a valuable resource for Sierra Leone's efforts
- Review of the NCTVA & TEC Acts to bring onboard the NQF.



# STATUS ON THE SLQF

## Key differences on the two proposals

### MTHE/NCTVA/VET Toolbox – Proposal for a general NQF

- Nine (9) levels
- 4 Domain ( knowledge, skills, autonomy and responsibility)
- Governance system ( Centralized or Decentralized)

### TEC/SPHEIR – Proposal for Higher Education NQF

- Twelve (12) levels
- 3 Domain ( knowledge, skills and responsibility)
- Centralized.

# CHALLENGES

- Limited understanding and capacity at relevant MDAs
- Harmonization efforts is slow.
- Need for a regulatory body
- Need for legal, technical and financial support
- Qualifications Act
- International consultant missions
  - World Bank
  - ACQF Phase 2

# SUGGESTED STEPS BY THE VET TOOLBOX CONSULTANT

## ACTIVITY

1. Meetings between the two projects and agreement on the overall approach
2. Adaptation of level descriptors/consultation
3. Development of governance system
4. Development of operational processes and procedures for existing and new qualifications
5. Drafting of a qualifications Act/legal basis for the SLQF
6. Recruitment and capacity development activities for staff of governing body/

# SUGGESTED STEPS BY THE VET TOOLBOX CONSULTANT

## ACTIVITY

7. Development of guidelines for adjustment of existing qualifications
8. Development of guidelines for new qualification
9. Capacity development activities for institutions and qualification designers
10. Piloting of placement of qualifications
11. Adjustment of processes and procedures
12. Formal launch of the SLQF with clearly defined transition period

**THANK  
YOU**