

African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF)
ACQF Capacity Development Programme (2020-2021)
Learning and developing a common understanding of qualifications frameworks

7th Peer Learning Webinar (FINAL)
Multi-lingual webinar: EN-FR-PT

Thursday, 29 October 2020, at 12.00-14.50 Universal time

Cases: South African NQF; Sierra Leone NQF; Europass Digital Credentials



Schedule

| Time | Countries |
|-------------------|---|
| 14.00-16.50 (CET) | Burundi, Egypt, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa; Zimbabwe; |
| 11.00-13.50 | Cabo Verde |
| 12.00-14.50 (GMT) | Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinée-Bissau, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone |
| 13.00-15.50 | Angola, Cameroon, Gabon, Guinée Equatoriale, Morocco, Nigeria, République Democratique du Congo, Republique du Congo, Tunisia; Portugal |
| 15.00-17.50 | East Africa; Bahrain |
| 16.00-18.50 | Mauritius, Seychelles |

Registration of participants :

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/ACQF29October2020>

Join Zoom meeting :

<https://zoom.us/j/98169298797?pwd=MkgxOWpLQm9qbkdnbmJsUXVtV3lDZz09>

Meeting ID: 981 6929 8797

Passcode: 119982

Webpage of the webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-7th-peer-learning-webinar>

Agenda – 7th Webinar (29 October 2020)

Chair: AUC. Facilitation: ACQF project team

| Time (CET) | Session | Speaker |
|--|---|--|
| 14.00-14.20 Session 1 | Opening. Introduction and objectives of webinar Overview of the peer learning journey. Video. Presentation | AUC, Mr Chigozie Emmanuel Okonkwo ACQF project team (Euarda Castel-Branco, ETF) |
| 14.20-14.50 Session 2 | South Africa: Two decades of NQF. Evolution, consolidation. Main features of the NQF. SAQA's mandate | Dr Julie Reddy Acting CEO |

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|--|---|---|
| | and responsibilities. Registration of qualifications and part-qualifications. Regional cooperation, alignment with SADCQF. Response to COVID-19 crisis. Way forward. | Ms Coleen Jaftha SAQA - South African Qualifications Authority |
| 14.50-15.10 Session 3 | Sierra Leone: A new NQF in development. Main objectives and challenges to be addressed by the NQF. Involved institutions. Concept and way forward. | Mr. Mohammed Djallot |
| 15.10-15.25 | Replies to questions | |
| 15.25-15.50 Session 4 | Europass Digital Credentials: The concept, added-value, infrastructure. Quality assurance, data security, accessibility. International cooperation. | Mr Dennis Van-Gessel European Commission. Directorate General Employment Social Affairs and Inclusion. Unit Skills and Qualifications. |
| 15.50-16.35 Session 5 | Debate: making sense of the learnings from seven peer-sharing webinars 1. Lessons learned: Value-added of NQFs and conditions for their contribution to change – for systems and people. 2. The way forward for integration and mobility in Africa: NQFs, RQFs, ACQF – working together. | Participants AUC |
| 16.35-16.50 Session 6 | Synthesis. Final conclusions. Closure | AUC, Mr Chigozie Emmanuel Okonkwo ACQF project team (Eduarda Castel-Branco, ETF) |

1. Introduction

Rationale and objectives of the ACQF Capacity Development Programme (ACQF CDP)

The ACQF development project organises a capacity development programme on core themes of qualifications frameworks and systems. The purpose is to boost engagement of African Union member states and stakeholders and develop knowledge and a common understanding of key concepts, objectives, types and operational instruments of national and regional qualifications frameworks (NQFs and RQFs). An ACQF Experts Network will pool together the trained participants and contribute to sustainability of the future ACQF in action.

The programme for 2020-2021 will be delivered in two phases:

Phase 1: July, September, October 2020 – The series up to seven well-structured webinars entirely devoted to peer learning follows on and brings to a higher level the earlier peer learning sessions delivered during the inaugural ACQF workshop (September 2019) and webinars (May 2020). Phase 1 lays the foundation for the advanced training programme of Phase 2 (2021), by developing knowledge and a common language on key themes and questions of qualifications frameworks, as listed below. Peers from African countries and other continents engage with each other to create bridges for mutual understanding of portability and transparency of skills and qualifications – the fundamental role of qualifications frameworks. Through the diversity of experiences and views, peers explore similarities and clarify differences – the essential role of peer learning.

Phase 2: In 2021-2022, the advanced programme will develop in-depth knowledge and engage in practical application. The programme will combine training sessions and e-learning. The ACQF e-learning platform will include the needed resources to support further development and application.

Main participants: institutions from African Union member states involved in the ACQF development activities, experts, practitioners and international guest experts.

Main themes planned for the peer learning webinars in phase 1 (July to October 2020)

1. National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) and National Qualifications Systems (NQSs): Main concepts through case studies; context, objectives, rationale and types of qualifications frameworks; new dimensions and developments related with digitalisation, lifelong and life-wide learning; and added value of NQFs for education and training systems and individuals.
2. Regional Qualifications Frameworks (RQF): Objectives, interplay and governance, referencing / alignment, triggers and success factors, main benefits.
3. Developing and implementing an NQF: Common dimensions, different paths.
4. Learning outcomes: Common language of education and the labour market; uses, types, some common guidelines. Role of learning outcomes in NQFs.
5. Levels and level descriptors: Meaning, uses, links with design of qualifications and curriculum.
6. Managing and making the information on qualifications and NQFs more transparent: Registers, databases, catalogues; interconnected qualifications databases. Digitalisation.
7. Quality assurance: Indispensable foundation of NQFs.
8. Governance of qualifications frameworks: Types and models. Participation, regulation, roles and responsibilities.
9. Review and monitoring of qualifications frameworks.

Participants will make sense of the learning path and overall achievement through a debate.

2. Findings and learning materials from the previous webinars

The previous peer learning webinars took place on 2/07, 16/07, 10/09, 24/09, 8/10 and 22/10/2020. Shared and discussed the following experiences:

- **African experiences:** NQFs Kenya, Mozambique, Mauritius, Lesotho, Angola, Ghana, Egypt and Zimbabwe, Zambia, Cape Verde, SADCQF, EAC Qualifications Framework.
- **International experiences:** NQFs – Slovenia, Ireland, France, Portugal, Bahrain; European Qualifications Frameworks, ASEAN QRF, Arab Qualifications Framework.

Presentations, infographics and reports are available in the Webpages of the previous webinars:

- 1st Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-peer-learning-webinar>
- 2nd Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-2nd-peer-learning-webinar>
- 3rd Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-3rd-peer-learning-webinar>
- 4th Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-4th-peer-learning-webinar>
- 5th Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-5th-peer-learning-webinar>
- 6th Webinar: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/events/african-continental-qualifications-framework-6th-peer-learning-webinar>
- Video recordings of the webinars at YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?reload=9&list=PLEKEwOFeOWc6W5fbX6M8NrO6oA0yH3Ww>

