

Session 8

ACQF II WORKSHOP

MAKING NQFs OPERATIONAL IN A CHANGING WORLD

NAIROBI, KENYA

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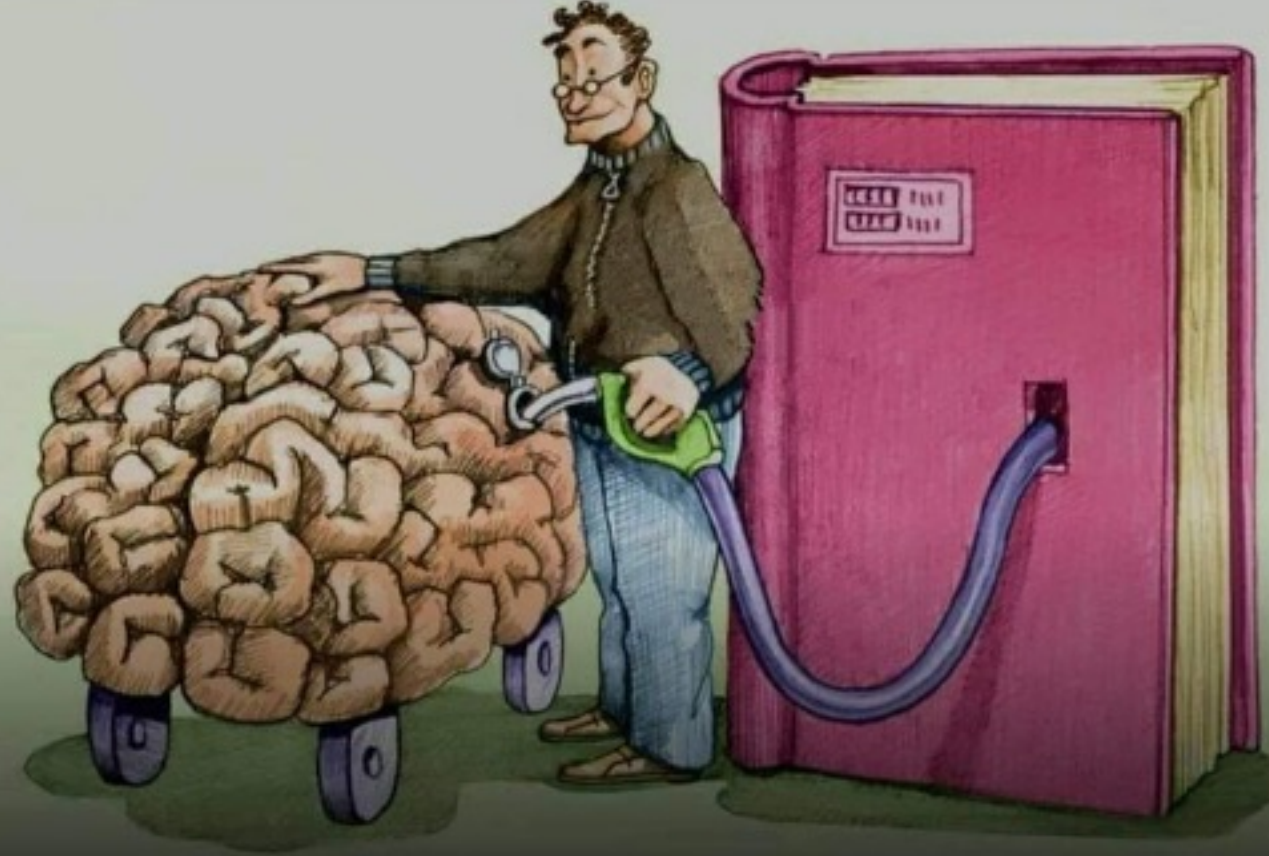
SESSION 8

**Quality Assurance of Qualifications and
Qualifications Frameworks: A Round of
African Experiences and Instruments**



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**INVESTING IN YOUR MIND IS
THE BEST INVESTMENT
YOU CAN MAKE IN
YOUR ENTIRE LIFE.**



Quality

Starts

With You





Leadership

Knowledge Management

Process Management

Workforce Engagement

Customer Management

QUALITY

WHAT IS AN ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION?

- It refers to certifications awarded upon successful completion of a course of study in higher education at various levels, including Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate.
- It is also a quality, ability or accomplishment that makes a person suitable for a particular position or task

WHAT IS AN ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION?

- A qualification is any award which represents an attainment, following robust assessment processes, of a coherent cluster of specified learning outcomes to prescribed standards of performance.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS

- A quality assured qualification is one that is awarded based on a set of processes and procedures to ensure that students are issued a fair grade based on their performance
- Regular Reviews of the qualification components to meet the contemporary context

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Checking global trends and adjusting national, regional and continental QFs is an extremely important part of quality assurance that ensures and assures us of seamless mobility of staff and students because of comparable qualifications
- Safe keeping of transcripts and certificates from natural and man-made disasters- forced migration (war), fire, floods, earthquakes

SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS THAT YOU CANNOT DO WITHOUT WHEN FORMULATING A QUALIFICATION!!!!!!!!!!!!

- **Agenda 2063 “THE AFRICA WE WANT”**
- **The Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA-16-25)**
- **The Dakar Declaration**
- **The SDGs**
- **Agenda 2030**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS OCCURS AT VARIOUS STAGES

- 1) Formulation and designing of a Qualifications Framework plus level descriptors**
- 2) Programme design**
- 3) Implementation (Teaching, Learning, Assessment)**
- 4) Awarding of a qualification - Certification and Safe keeping of the certificates & transcripts**

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Formulation and designing of a Qualifications Framework (QF) where the level descriptors clearly spell out the i) knowledge to be acquired ii) core, functional & essential skills, including soft skills.

The intended learning outcomes (ILO) and the required competencies are also spelt out here to match the nature of the job that the graduate will do.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS

South Africa's NQF Implementation Framework 2015-2020 has 6 Priority areas. Our focus is on

- **Priority 5:** Implementation of standards and quality assurance mechanisms within each of the three Sub-Frameworks
- **Priority 6:** Further development and improvement of the information apparatus of the NQF

REPEAL & AMENDMENTS

The South African (SA) National Qualification Framework (NQF) Act, No 67 of 2008 repealed the Qualifications Authority Act of 1995. It was amended by the **i)** Higher Education Laws Amendment Act 26 of 2010 **ii)** Higher Education and Training Laws Amendment Act 23 of 2012 and **iii)** National Qualifications Framework Amendment Act 12 of 2019

- **For example,** The NQF Act, No 67 of 2008 of SA has 10 learning achievement levels.
- The Level Descriptors which advance the objectives of the NQF, were developed by SAQA and published in the November 2011 government gazette, had input from SA's 3 Quality Councils **i)** Council on Higher Education, **ii)** General and Further Education and Training Quality Council (Umalusi) and **iii)** the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations)

TEAMWORK IN QUALITY ASSURING QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS (SA e.g.)



higher education
& training

Department
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



basic education

Department
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS **TEAMWORK 2nd EXAMPLE**

- The Philippine Report referenced against the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) is now aligned to the AQRF Referencing Criteria. It has been accepted and endorsed as an instrument of confidence and trust in the Philippine Education and Training System by the AQRF Committee to the ASEAN Ministers of Economy, Education and Labour.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS **THE NAMIBIA EXAMPLE**

- The Namibian Qualifications Authority (NQA), is a statutory body established by Act of Parliament, “Namibia Qualification Authority Act No. 29 of 1996 to take care of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). The NQF consists of 10 levels, each defined by a set of level descriptors.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS **TEAMWORK EXAMPLE**

- It was amended by Public Enterprises Governance Act, 2006
- It was also amended by the Vocational Education and Training Act, 2008

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS

- Commenced on 1 June 1998 by Commencement of the Namibia Qualifications Authority Act, 1996 and assignment of administration

(The version of this document is from 2 June 2008 and includes any amendments published up to 1 September 2023)

QUALITY ASSURANCE OF QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS **THE NIGERIA EXAMPLE**

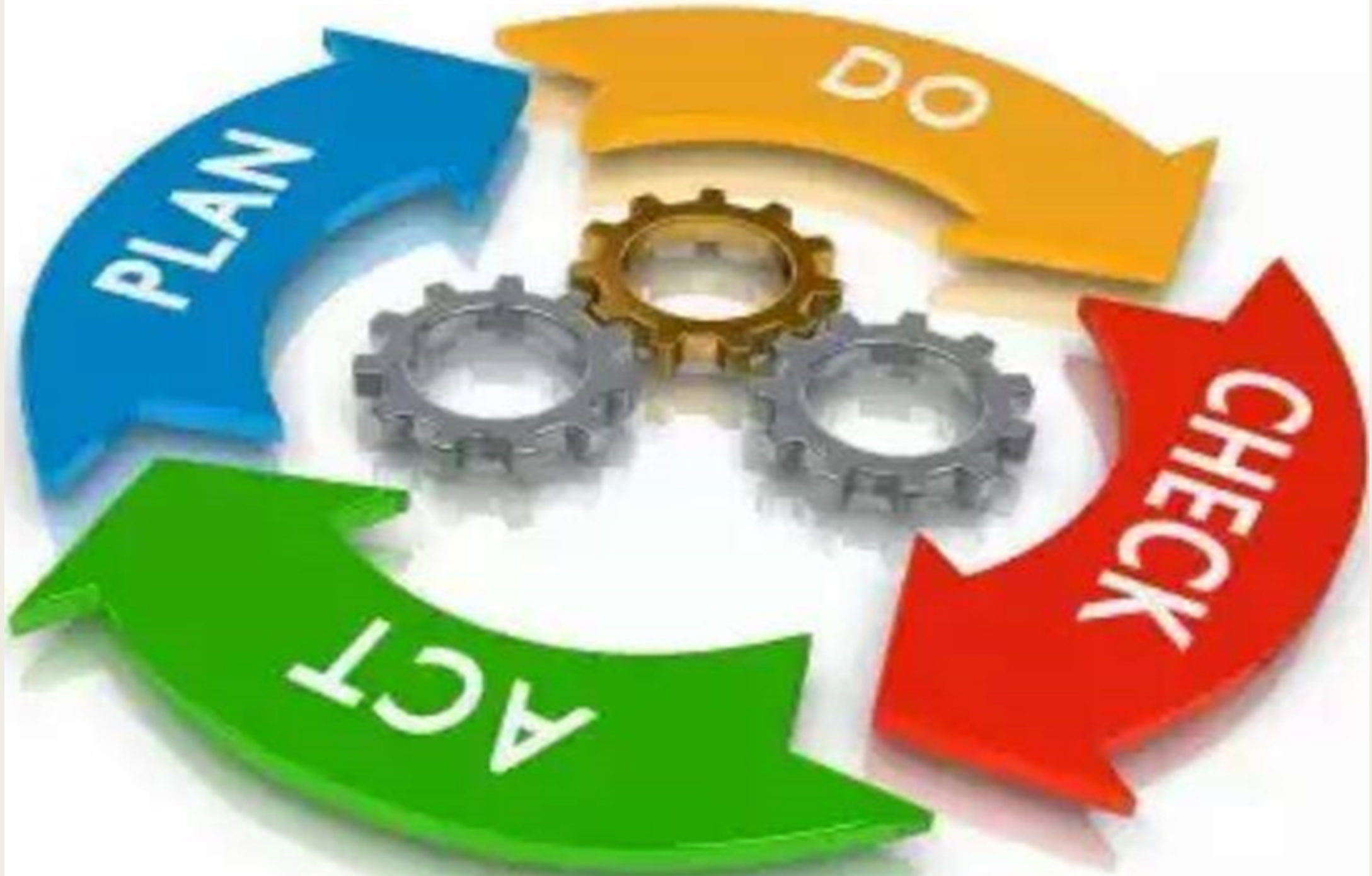
- Nigeria has The National Qualifications Framework Act 67 of 2008. The Nigeria Qualifications Framework (NQF) was last revised in June 2021. It was designed to develop, classify, & recognize skills, knowledge, understanding, & competencies acquired by individuals, regardless of where and how the training or skill was acquired. It provides a clear statement of what the learner must know or be able to do, regardless of whether the learning took place in a classroom, on-the-job, or less formally. The framework also indicates the comparability of different qualifications & how one can progress from one level to another.

CHALLENGES OF QUALITY ASSURING QFs

However, quality and quality assurance of the qualifications and qualifications frameworks are mostly comprised by

i) splitting of the Qualifications Authorities and the Quality Assurance Bodies which causes

ii) duplication of roles in some cases which result in iii) conflicts to the detriment of all beneficiaries iv) grey areas v) failure to revise all documents at once vi) political interference, etc





CRITICAL SKILLS NEEDED FOR

WHAT ARE 21ST CENTURY SKILLS? THESE 4 C'S:

C

COMMUNICATION

Sharing thoughts,
questions, ideas &
solutions

C

COLLABORATION

Working together to
reach a goal. Putting
talent, expertise,
and smarts to work

C

CRITICAL
THINKING

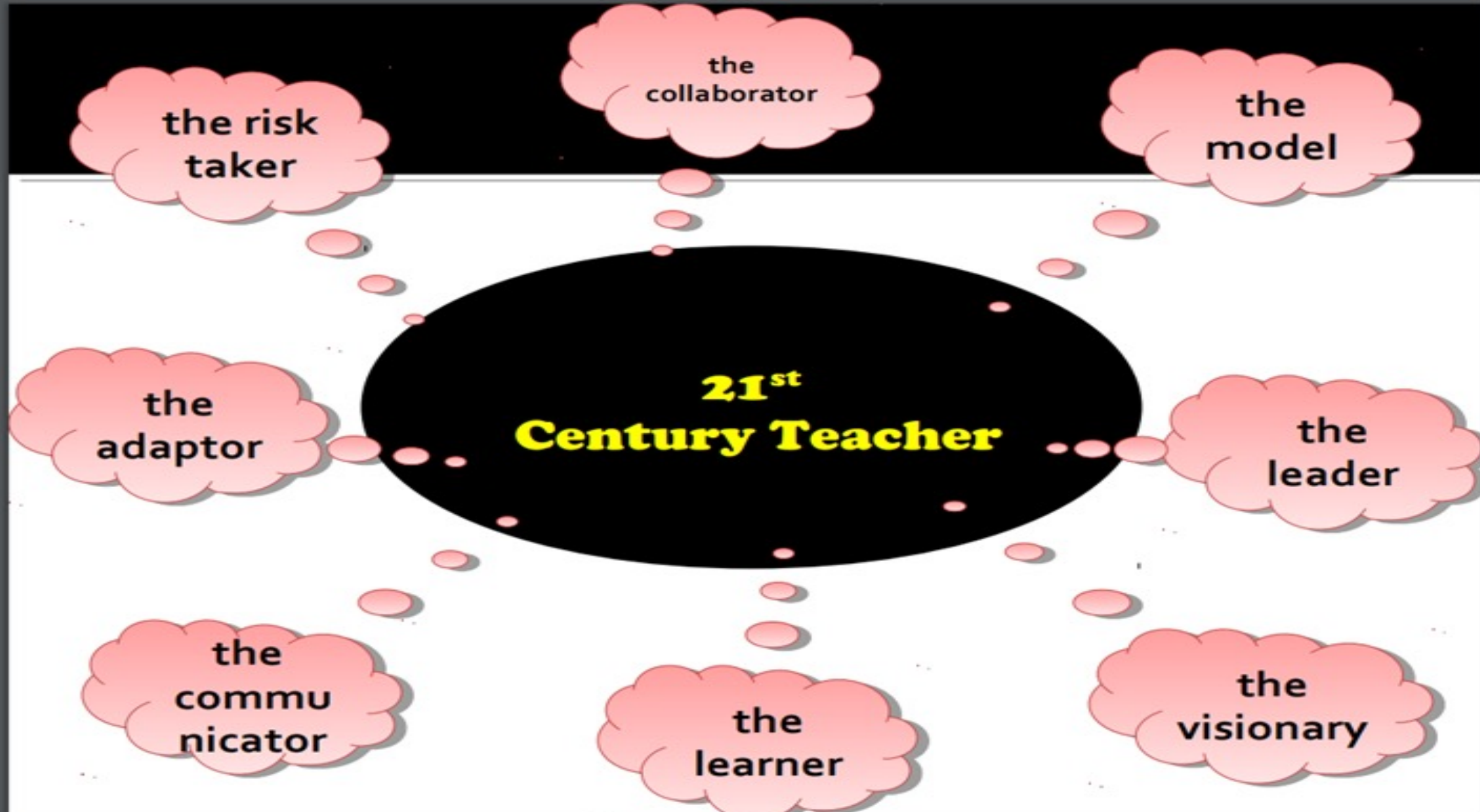
Looking at problems in
a new way and linking
learning across
subjects & disciplines

C

CREATIVITY

Trying new approaches
to get things done equals
innovation & invention

CRITICAL CHARACTERISTICS EFFECTIVE QA OF QFs



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Thank you