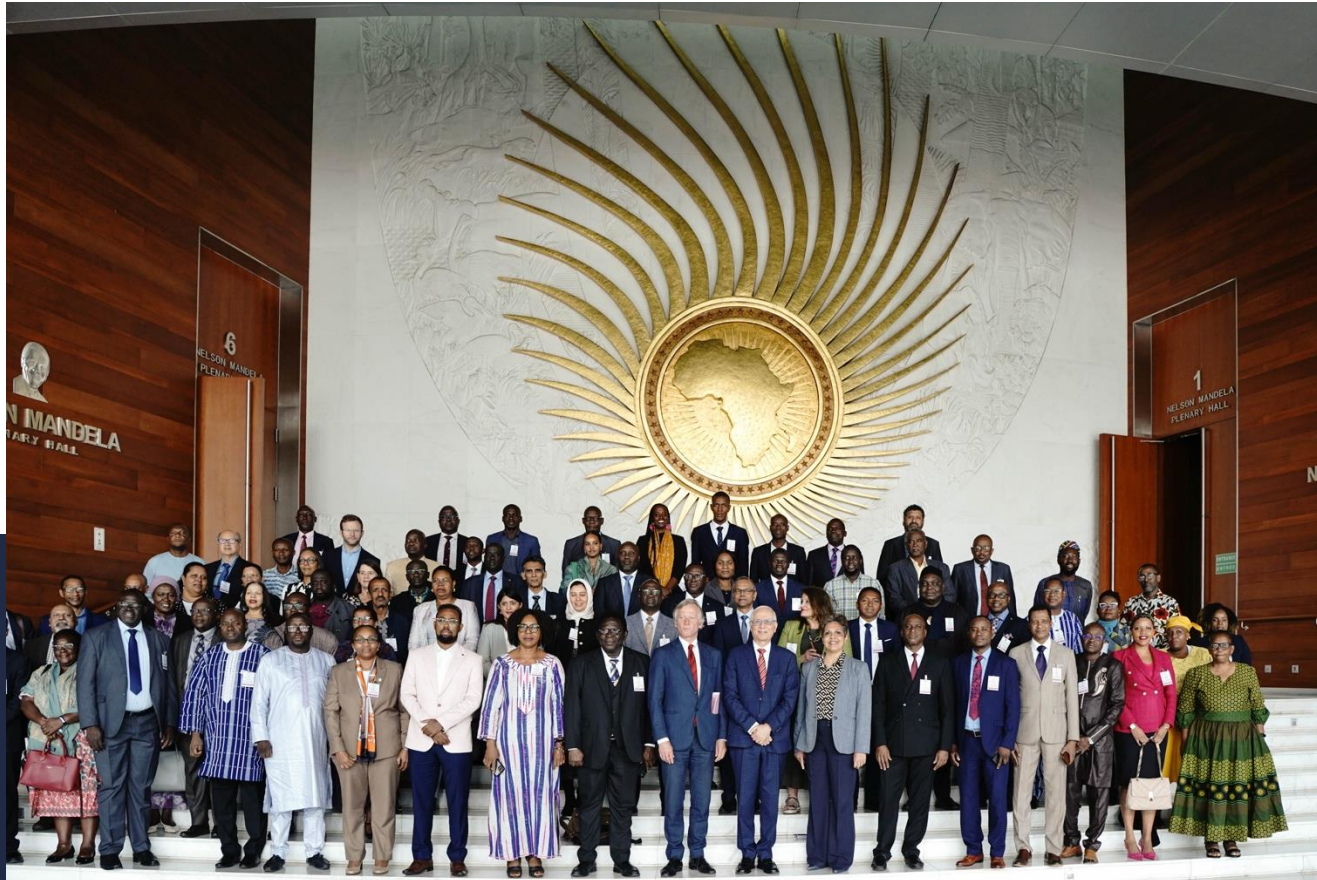


<https://acqf.africa/>

# Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP)

Welcome!

**Training programme for QCP  
Contact Persons  
Session 1**



26 November 2024

Speaker: Eduarda Castel-Branco

ACQF-II coordination

# Webinar 1: QCP Contact Person Onboarding #1

**Date:** Tuesday, 26 November 2024

**Time:** 11:30 – 13:30 UTC; 12:30 - 14:30 CET; 14:30 – 16:30 EAT; 15:30 – 17:30 Seychelles time



**The African Continental Qualifications Framework is born!**

ACQF Policy Document was validated at the Addis Conference, 11-13 July 2023 with the participation of 33 AU member states.

- ACQF is about action, people, lifelong learning and better lives.
- It is about connecting national and regional qualifications frameworks and create a common African area of trusted qualifications, and integration.
- It is about empowering workers in informal sector, agriculture and hard artisanal mining, women and youth
- It is about supporting development of skills for the successful green and digital transformation.
- It is about recognising people's knowledge, skills and competences from all contexts of learning, life and work
- It is about the Africa of Peace, Knowledge, Democracy, Inclusion and Prosperity. The Africa We Want.




Time (UTC)	Title	Description	Facilitator
11:30-11:50	Welcome, Introduction, and Overview of ACQF	Opening remarks, overview of ACQF, its role and anticipated benefits, session goals.	ACQF-II coordinator
11:50-11:20	Introduction to QCP Functionalities	Detailed exploration of QCP features, data structure, and practical use by national agencies.	Project Team
13:20-13:55	Data Governance and Working with Data	Guidance on data governance, focusing on managing, structuring, and maintaining qualifications data, with a secondary focus on security. Q&A on data handling challenges.	Project Team
13:55-14:25	Mapping and Standardising Qualifications Data	Discussion on techniques for data mapping and standardisation across regions, ensuring consistency for cross-border recognition. Interactive Q&A on specific challenges.	Project Team
14:25-14:30	Wrap-up and Next Steps	Summary of key points, addressing outstanding questions, and resources for further exploration.	ACQF-II coordinator

01

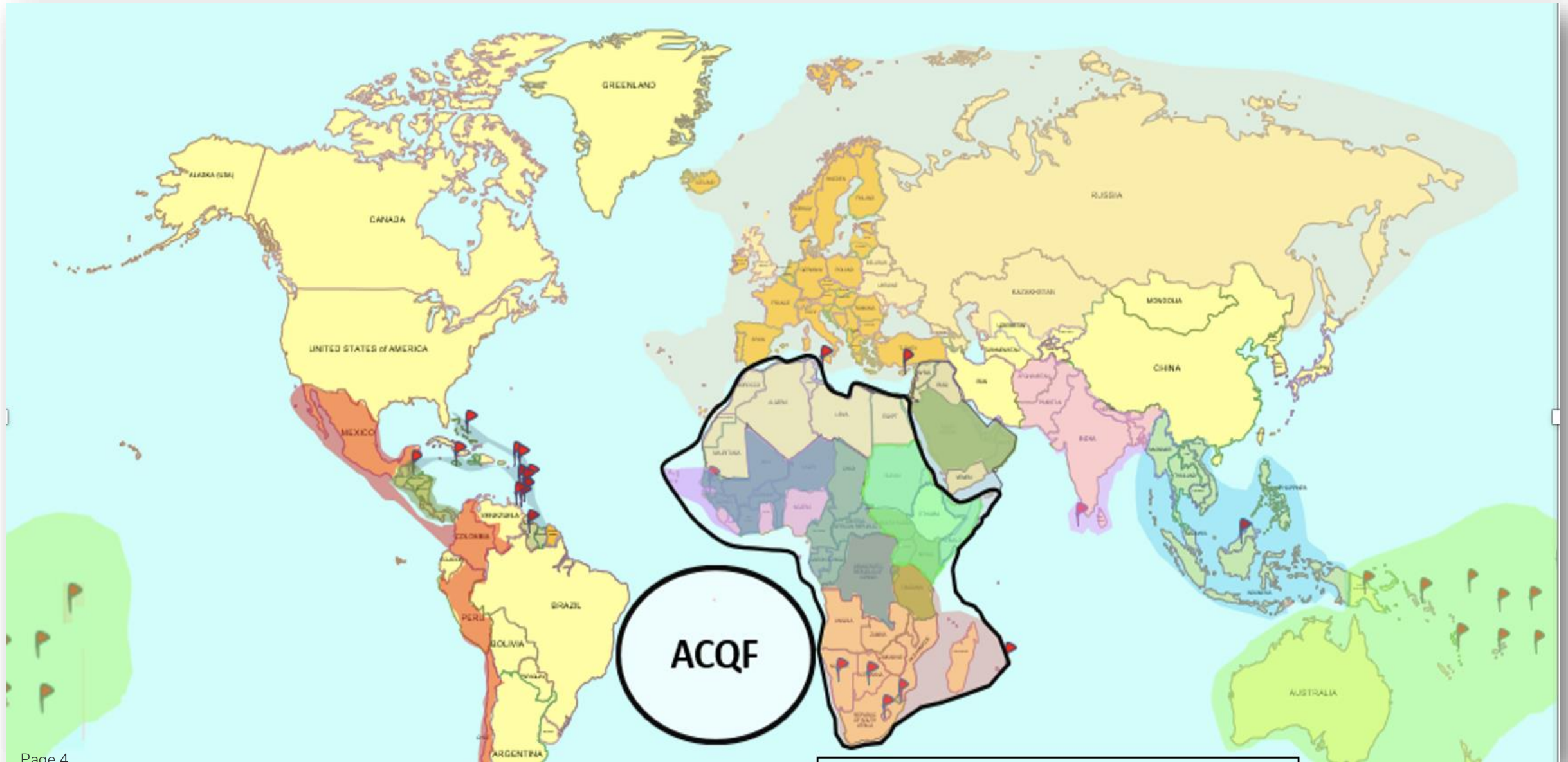
**Welcome to all participants**

**ACQF short overview**



# ACQF A very large Regional Qualifications Framework

- African Union Policy Initiative
- Based on AU policies (CESA-25, AU Free Movement Protocol, AfCFTA)



## **AU Political and legal basis**

- Agenda 2063 and its First Ten Year Implementation Plan
- CESA 16-25
- AfCFTA
- AU Free Movement Protocol





**African Continental Qualifications Framework  
(ACQF)**

## **ACQF Policy Document**

**Submitted for African Union Member State Validation  
Exercise**

Version: 17 November 2022



**Cadre continental africain des certifications  
(ACQF)**

## **Document de politique de l'ACQF**

**Pour validation par les états membres de l'Union Africaine**

Version du 17 novembre 2022

<https://acqf.africa/resources/policy-guidelines/acqf-policy-document-upon-validation-by-au-member-states-en-fr-pt>

And 10 Guidelines on technical themes and issues



**Quadro Continental Africano de Qualificações (ACQF)**

## **Documento Político do ACQF**

**Para validação pelos Estados-membros da União Africana**

Versão: 17 de novembro 2022



# Main areas of activity of the ACQF – Policy document

**1. Referencing** of national qualifications frameworks and systems to the ACQF, following agreed criteria and procedures.

**2. Support recognition of prior learning** – for example, the development of common guidelines and approaches, updated inventory of RPL systems on the continent, a wide information and support campaign

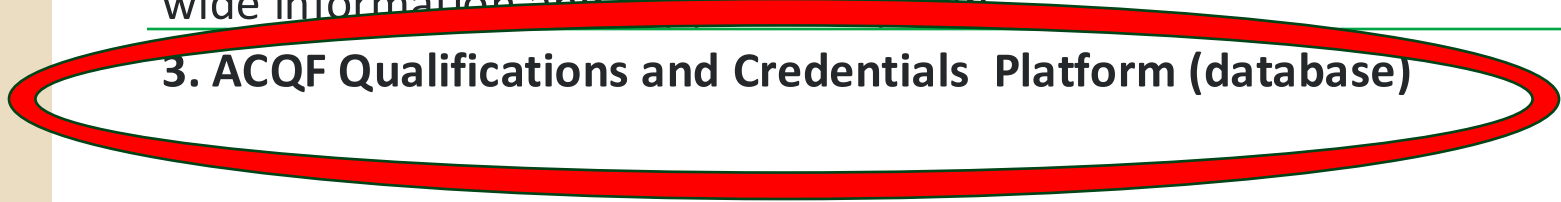
**3. ACQF Qualifications and Credentials Platform (database)**

**4. Qualifications:** Development of qualifications profiles adequate for common continental use (e.g.: related with economic integration / AfCFTA).

**5. Capacity development** in relevant areas. Online, onsite, hybrid.

**6. Advocacy, communication, networking and cooperation:** African stakeholders (education and training, employment, social partners) and other RQFs globally

**7. Analysis, monitoring and evaluation:** for continuous improvement.




**African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF)**

Inaugural workshop of the project ACQF-II (2023-2026)

11-13 July 2023 • Addis Ababa, Headquarters of the African Union

**ACQF**  
African Continental Qualifications Framework

Supporting and connecting Qualifications Frameworks  
Transparency and Mutual Trust in qualifications  
Facilitating lifelong learning and mobility



ACQF-II is:

1. Capacity development.
2. Support countries and regions: NQF development and implementation.
3. Governance. ACQF Qualifications Platform. RPL Campaign. Referencing NQF-ACQF. Common profiles of qualifications

[www.acqf.africa](http://www.acqf.africa)



# ACQF: underpinnings, purposes, principles

### PURPOSES OF ACQF

- 1 Enhance** → Enhance comparability, quality and transparency of qualifications of all types and levels, support people's lifelong learning outcomes.

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- 2 Facilitate** → Facilitate validation of learning, recognition of skills, diplomas and certificates and mobility of learners and workers

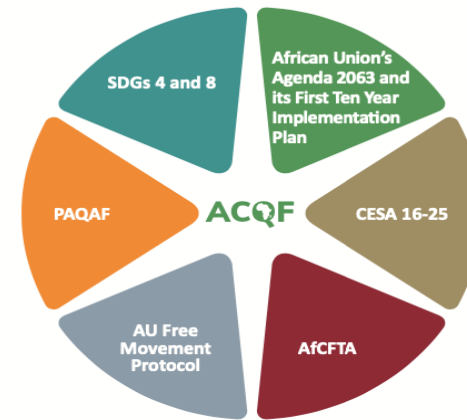
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- 3 Cooperate** → Work in cooperation and complementarity with national and regional qualifications frameworks and support African continental integration and creation of African common space of trusted qualifications.

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- 4 Promote** → Promote cooperation and referencing between qualifications frameworks (national, regional) in Africa and worldwide.

### UNDERPINNINGS



### PRINCIPLES





# Conceptual technical design

Meta-qualifications framework

**Comprehensive and inclusive scope:** all levels, modes of learning

**10 levels:** whole continuum of qualifications of education and training systems

**Level descriptors** expressed as learning outcomes

**Domains of learning:** Knowledge, Skills, Autonomy and Responsibility

Supported by Quality Assurance

## Learning outcomes orientation supports:

- ✓ Improve **transparency and comparability** of qualifications of different national systems
- ✓ **Transparency and credibility of RPL** and validation of outcomes from experience, access to quality RPL
- ✓ **Application of credit accumulation and transfer systems** in different academic and vocational pathways.
  - Access, learning progression, lifelong learning, flexibility,
  - In design of qualifications: facilitate transfer of components of qualifications

# QCP in the ACQF Policy Document

The poster features logos for ACQF, Global Gateway, European Union, African Union, and ETF at the top. It lists the forum in three languages: English, French, and Portuguese. Below the title, there are six topics with icons: 'Let's talk about the benefits, impact and lessons learned from NQFs in Africa', 'About the African Qualifications Network for sustainability of ACQF', 'About Lifelong Learning and Recognition of Prior Learning', 'About Referencing and comparing NQFs and ACQF', 'About Green Skills, microcredentials, digitalisation and other innovations', and 'About the Qualifications and Credentials Platform and Common Profiles of Qualifications'. A photo of a conference is shown with the text 'Kinshasa – R.D Congo, D.R. Congo'. At the bottom, it states '20 Countries' and '4 Regions', includes two QR codes, the dates '18 - 20 June 2024', and the location 'Hotel Memling'. A red banner at the very bottom says 'FORUM-ONLINE ALSO ACCESSIBLE'.

- **Chapter 3**
  - 3.6 QCP (database)
  - As a transparency instrument for users' information and guidance, the ACQF Qualifications Platform (database) will serve and support the national qualifications authorities and the awarding bodies, end-users (for example, learners, employers, career counsellors, teachers, and trainers) and in wider terms, the countries, regions, and the continent as a whole.
- **Annex 3: Recommendation on minimum elements in qualifications design and structure**
  - Elements for structuring the information on qualifications in digital QCP - Required and optional fields of data
  - This Annex 3 informed the design of the Data Model underpinning the QCP
- **ACQF Guideline 6 – on Registers of Qualifications**

# 02

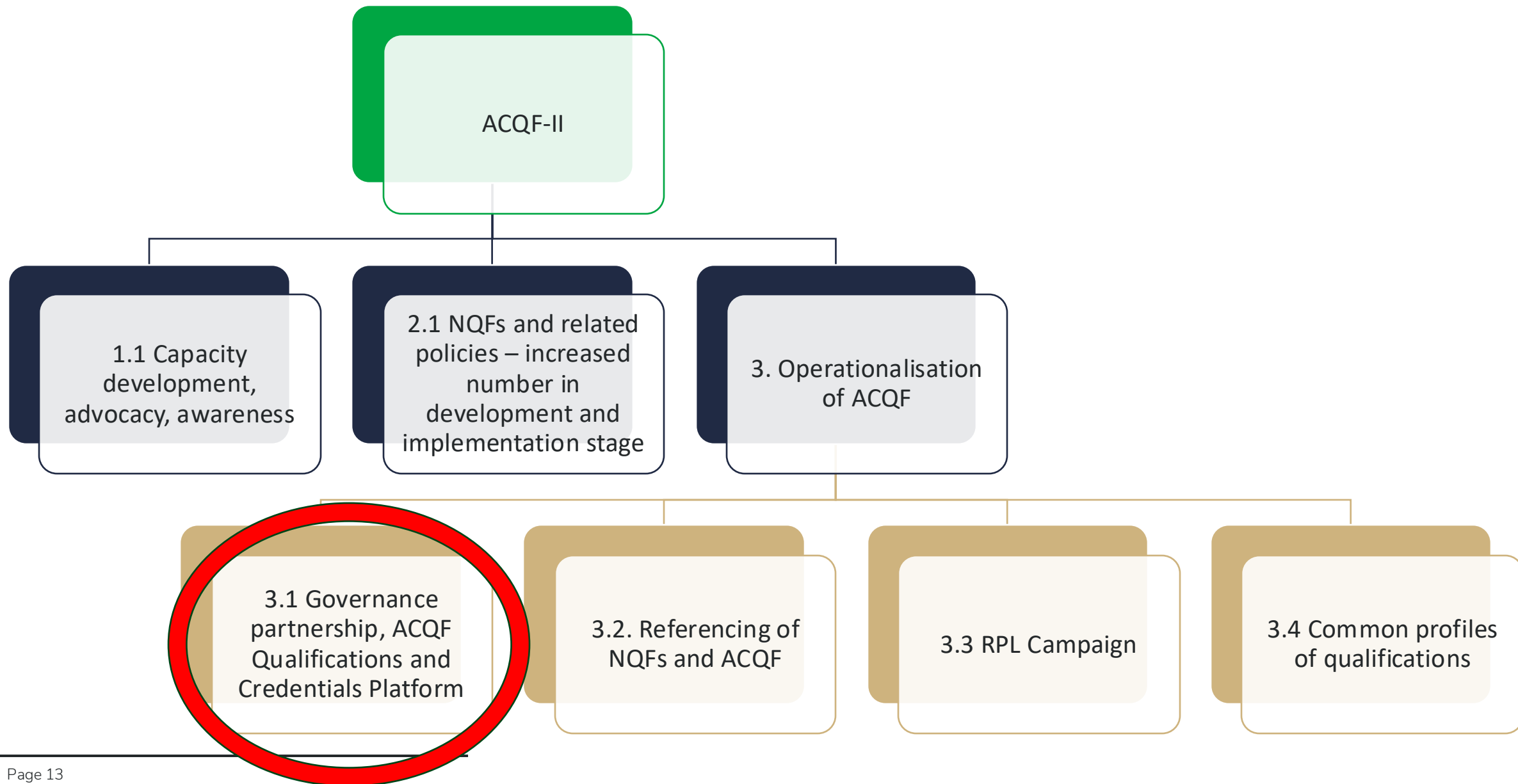
**QCP – important  
steps so far**





- **NQF: a systemic view or an eco-system**
- NQFs do not work in isolation
- NQF must adapt to change and meet new demands from the transformation of work, technology, learning, climate, demography
- NQFs and RQFs belong to all stakeholders

# New ACQF Project (2023-2026) ! Main outputs match the areas of the ACQF Policy Document



Global Gateway | European Union | African Union | ETF | INQ

**ACQF**  
 African Continental  
 Qualifications Framework

Bem-vindo  
**2º Fórum dos Quadros Nacionais  
 de Qualificações em África, Luanda**  
 Hotel Alvalade, Luanda – República de Angola  
 5-6 Setembro 2024

Welcome to the  
**2nd Forum of National Qualifications  
 Frameworks in Africa, Luanda**  
 Hotel Alvalade, Luanda – República de Angola  
 5-6 September 2024

SHAMA NATIONAL  
 QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

- General Education/Higher Education
- Technical & Vocational Education and Training
- Professional Education
- Micro-Credentials
- General/Higher Education Qualification Levels
- TVET Qualification Levels
- Learning Learning

New generation NQFs – innovations  
 Launch of Referencing to ACQF  
 Quality Assurance – focus on NQFs  
 RPL – never ending story  
 CATS – renewed attention, new experiences  
 Micro-credentials for LLL and employability  
 Green NQFs – Green ACQF  
 Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP) – forward!

**ACQF**  
 African Continental  
 Qualifications Framework  
[www.acqf.africa](http://www.acqf.africa)

**GOVERNO DE ANGOLA**  
**maptss.gov.ao**  
 MINISTÉRIO DA ADMINISTRAÇÃO PÚBLICA  
 TRABALHO E SEGURANÇA SOCIAL

# Some key actions conducted so far

- Technical work started in Feb 2024: specialised Consortium led by Cognizone
- QCP Software architecture and data model based on Stakeholders’ needs survey
- QCP Steering Group established: 2 meetings
- 6 Training sessions for ACQF stakeholders: 4 included in ACQF Forums 2024; 1 on Mock-Up of Curator Interface; 1 on Data Collection;
- Developed Curator Interface and Public Portal
- QCP Webspace on ACQF Website (training, information, transparency):  
<https://acqf.africa/qualifications-platform>
- Launch of the QCP – 20 Dec! **That’s great progress**



# QCP in ACQF Website



**ACQF**  
African Continental  
Qualifications Framework

Project ACQF-II: Supporting implementation of  
African Continental Qualifications Framework

**3rd ACQF Forum**  
**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for Practitioners**  
**Validation des Acquis de l'Expérience (VAE)**  
**Reconhecimento Validação e Certificação de Competências (RVCC)**

Hotel Fairview - Nairobi, Kenya  
 1-4 October 2024



[www.acqf.africa](http://www.acqf.africa)

Angola, Botswana, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, R.D. Congo, Eswatini,  
Ghana, Guiné-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal,  
Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe



**ACQF**  
African Continental  
Qualifications Framework

About Resources Capacity Development Skills data focus Qualifications Platform Events News

## Qualifications Platform (QCP)

The ACQF Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP) is a major component of the ACQF as a policy instrument for African qualifications. This comprehensive system of databases aligns with the objectives of the African Union and its member states, contributing to modernize and digitalise management of qualifications at national level, and share information at continental level. The QCP is being designed to process, classify, compare, and visualise information on various qualifications across education and training sectors. It will consist of interconnected databases, offering at minimum tools for analysis, classification, and visualisation. By December 2024 the first version of the QCP will be ready for demonstration

- [QCP Training: Modules and Presentations](#)
- [Leaflet on the Qualifications and Credentials Platform \(QCP\)](#)
- [Concept Note on the Steering Group of the QCP](#)
- [Qualifications and Credentials Platform: Architecture Report](#)
- [Qualifications and Credentials Platform: Baseline Analysis Report - Stakeholders' needs](#)

**QCP Training: Modules and Presentations**  
QCP Training is designed to support the implementation of the functions and goals of the Platform, at country and continental levels. Main target groups: Curators, QCP Contact Persons, Managers and relevant staff of NQF Authorities and Agencies



**Leaflet on the Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP)**  
This leaflet describes in brief the objectives, main functions, technical aspects and roadmap for development and operationalisation of the ACQF QCP.

**Concept Note on the Steering Group of the QCP**  
This Concept Note was agreed with the interested countries at the meeting of 16 April 2024. The Note proposes the functions and role of the Steering Group, membership and plan of meetings.

**Qualifications and Credentials Platform: Architecture Report**  
The ACQF Qualifications and Credentials Platform (ACQF QCP) is a pivotal initiative under the ACQF-II project designed to harmonise and streamline qualifications across Africa. This document details the architectural framework, user needs, data model, and implementation plan of the ACQF QCP, aiming to enhance transparency, comparability, and recognition of qualifications continent-wide, fostering educational and professional mobility.

**Qualifications and Credentials Platform: Baseline Analysis Report - Stakeholders' needs**  
Activity 2 of the component Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP) involves a Baseline analysis of state-of-play of qualifications databases and stakeholders' needs. A survey and webinars were conducted with representatives from priority and interested countries. The survey covers various aspects such as stakeholder needs, existing qualifications databases, challenges, desired features, and funding considerations.

# ACQF countries

Regions: SADC, ECCAS, EAC, IGAD, UEMOA

- **Priority countries:**

1. Angola
2. Botswana
3. D R Congo
4. Eswatini
5. Ghana
6. Guiné-Bissau
7. Kenya
8. Mozambique
9. Senegal
10. Seychelles
11. Sierra Leone
12. Somalia

- **Other partner countries:**

1. Cabo Verde
2. Cameroon
3. Lesotho
4. Malawi
5. Mauritius
6. South Africa
7. Tunisia
8. Zambia
9. Zimbabwe

# 24 capacity development workshops - 10 Forums continental scop

Global Gateway European Union African Union ETF

ACQF African Continental Qualifications Framework

www.acqf.africa

Welcome to the  
**4th Forum of National Qualifications Frameworks in Africa, Micro-credentials for better opportunities**

Seychelles 13-14 November 2024

2023

2024

- Johannesburg, May
- **Addis, July (validation ACQF Policy document)**
- Nairobi, October
- Accra, November
- Maputo, December

- Johannesburg, May
- Kinshasa, June
- Luanda, September
- Nairobi 2, October
- Seychelles, November



Micro-credentials: towards a common approach in Africa

Referencing to ACQF

Qualifications and Credentials Platform

Angola, Cabo Verde, RD Congo, Ghana, Guiné-Bissau, Eswatini, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe



Thank you!  
Merci!  
Obrigada!  
Asante sana!

[ecb@etf.europa.eu](mailto:ecb@etf.europa.eu)

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