ACQF

https://acqf.africa/

ACQF
African Continental
Qualifications Framework

Qualifications and Credentials Platform (QCP)

Welcome!

Training programme for QCP Contact Persons

Session 1

26 November 2024

Speaker: Eduarda Castel-Branco
ACQF-II coordination

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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

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

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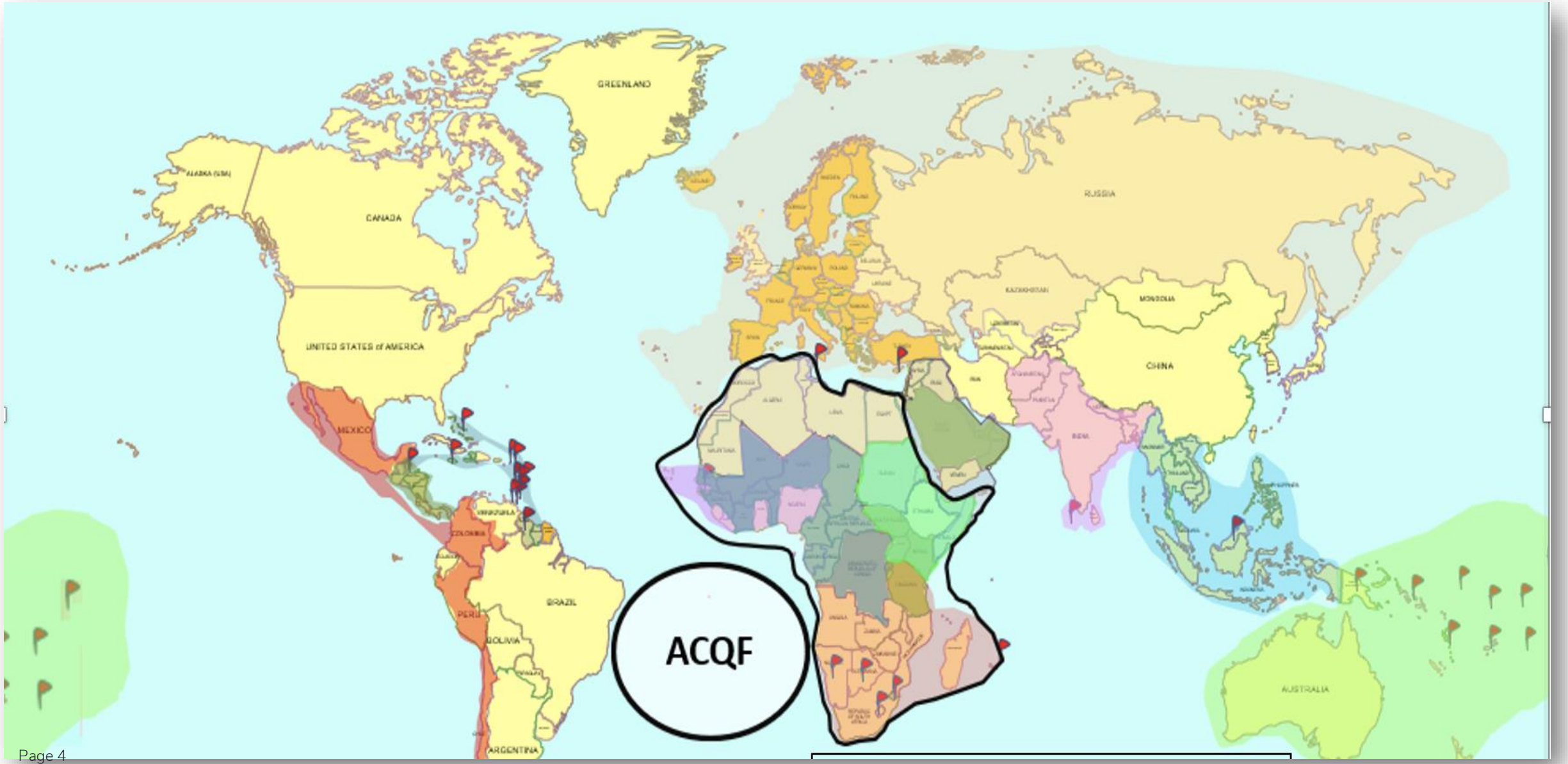
Welcome to all participants

ACQF short overview

A very large Regional Qualifications Framework

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



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AU Political and legal basis

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

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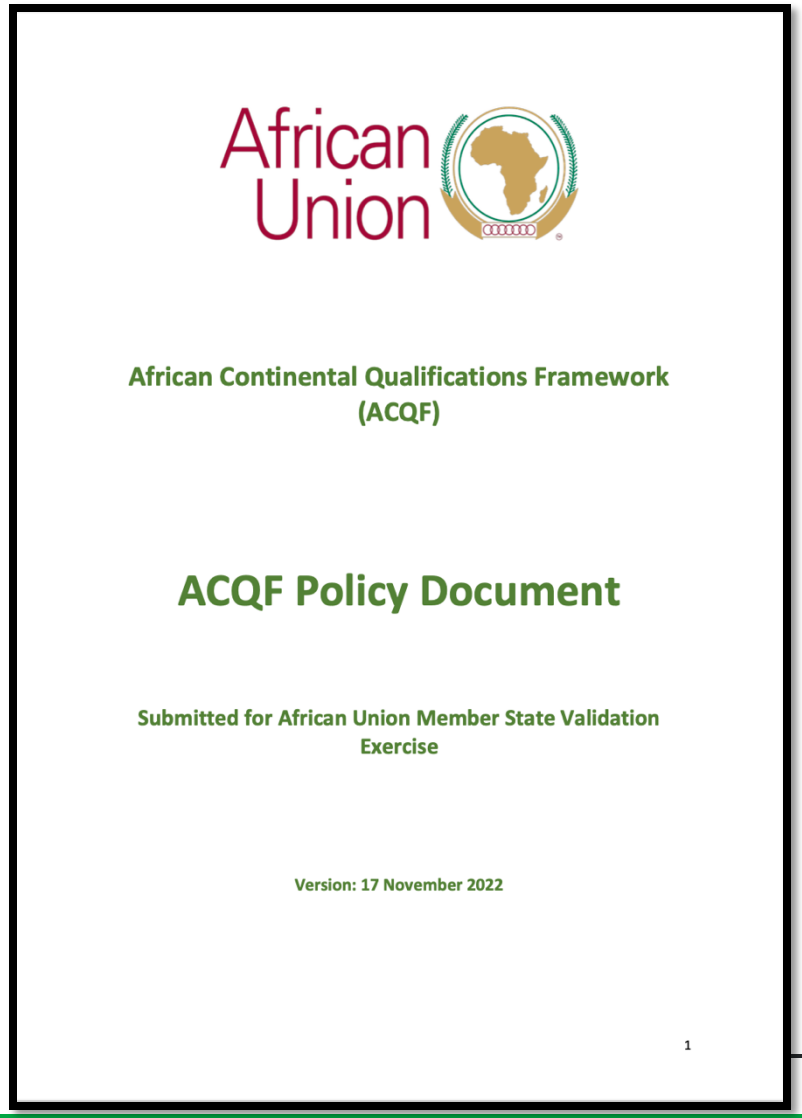
And 10 Guidelines on technical themes and issues


African Union

African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF)

ACQF Policy Document

Submitted for African Union Member State Validation Exercise

Version: 17 November 2022

1

African Union

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

1

African Union

Quadro Continental Africano de Qualificações (ACQF)

Documento Político do ACQF

Para validação pelos Estados-membros da União Africana

Versão: 17 de novembro 2022

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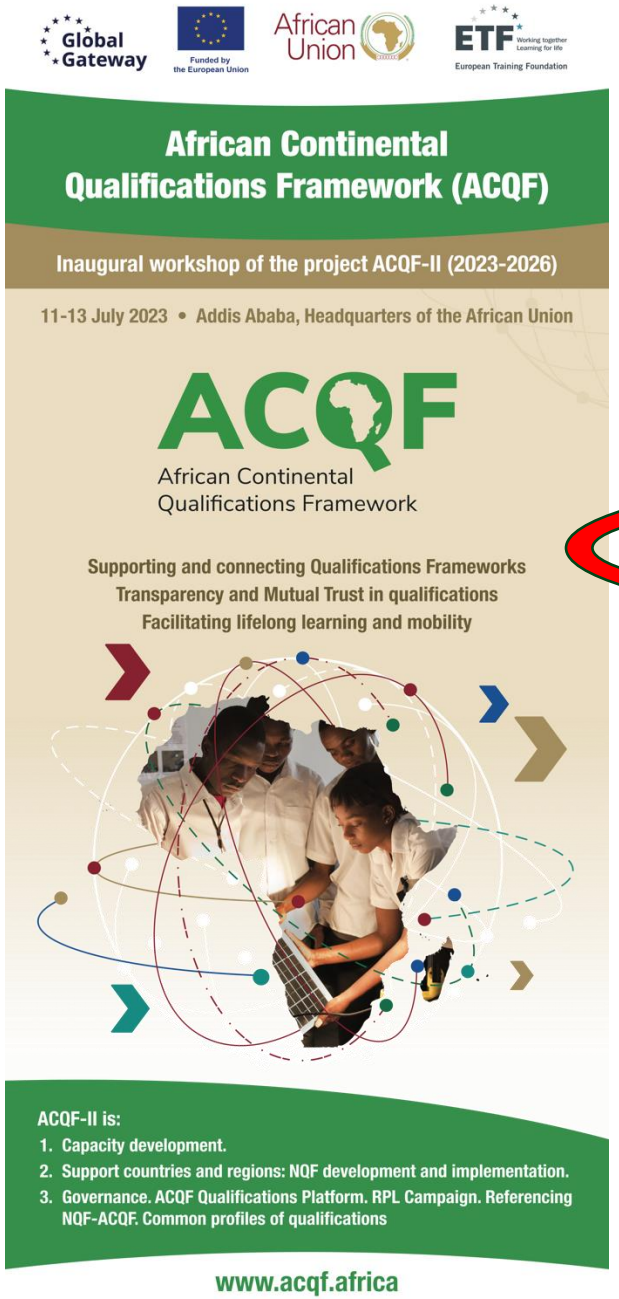
https://acqf.africa/resources/policy-guidelines/acqf-policy-document-upon-validation-by-au-member-states-en-fr-pt



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.

ACQF: underpinnings, purposes, principles

AFRICAN CONTINENTAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK.

PURPOSES OF ACQF

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

2 Facilitate — Facilitate validation of learning, recognition of skills, diplomas and certificates and mobility of learners and workers

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.

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

UNDERPINNINGS

PRINCIPLES

Inclusiveness: all levels and types of qualifications, all modes of lifelong learning

Innovation: future-proof, new demands - emerging skills, green skills, transversal skills

Openness: to participation of all stakeholders, good practice, lessons learned (African, global)

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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

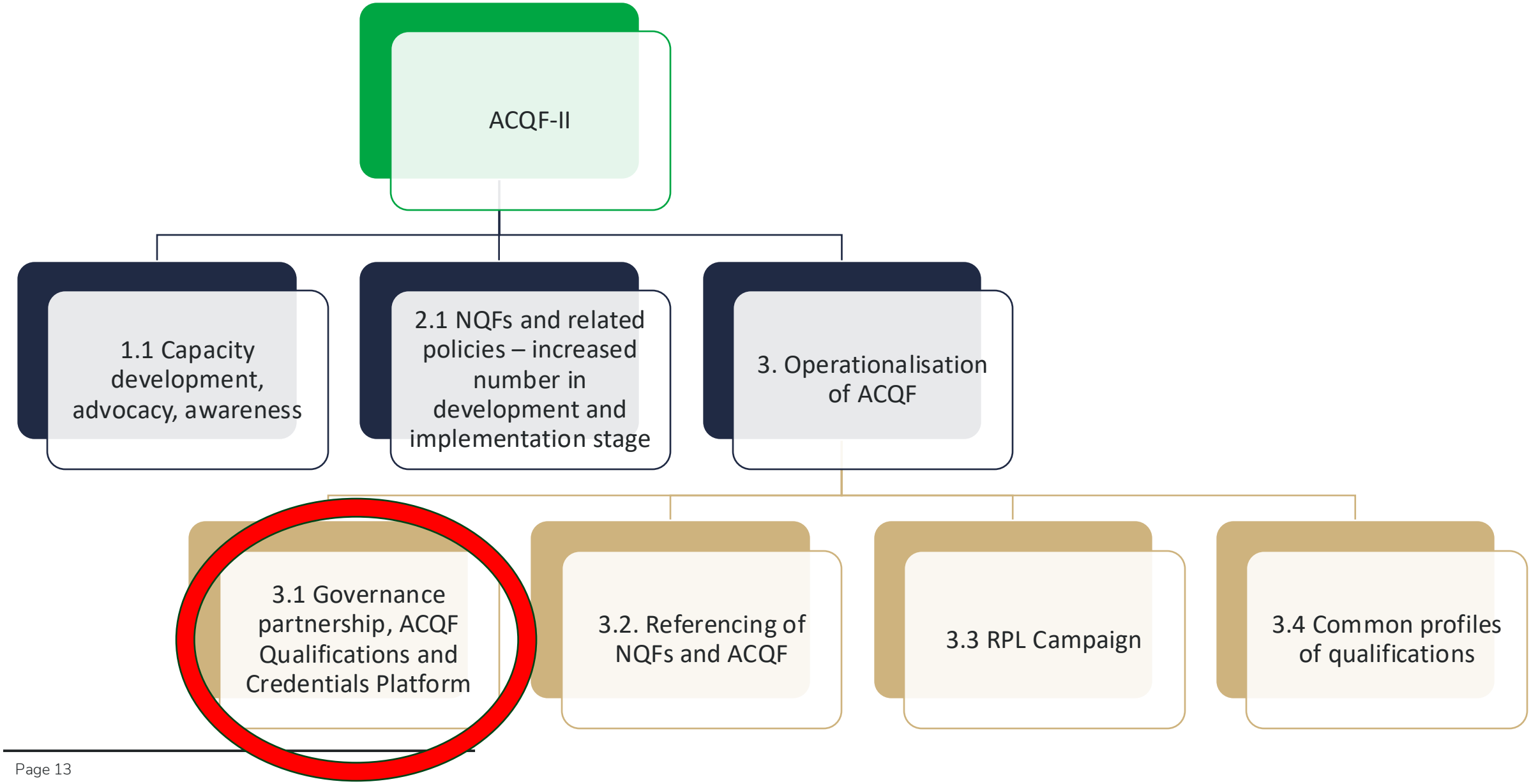
- **Chapter 3**
  - 3.6 QCP (database)
  - As a transparency instrument for users' information and guidance, the ACQF Qualifications Platform (database) will serve and support the national qualifications authorities and the awarding bodies, end-users (for example, learners, employers, career counsellors, 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



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**

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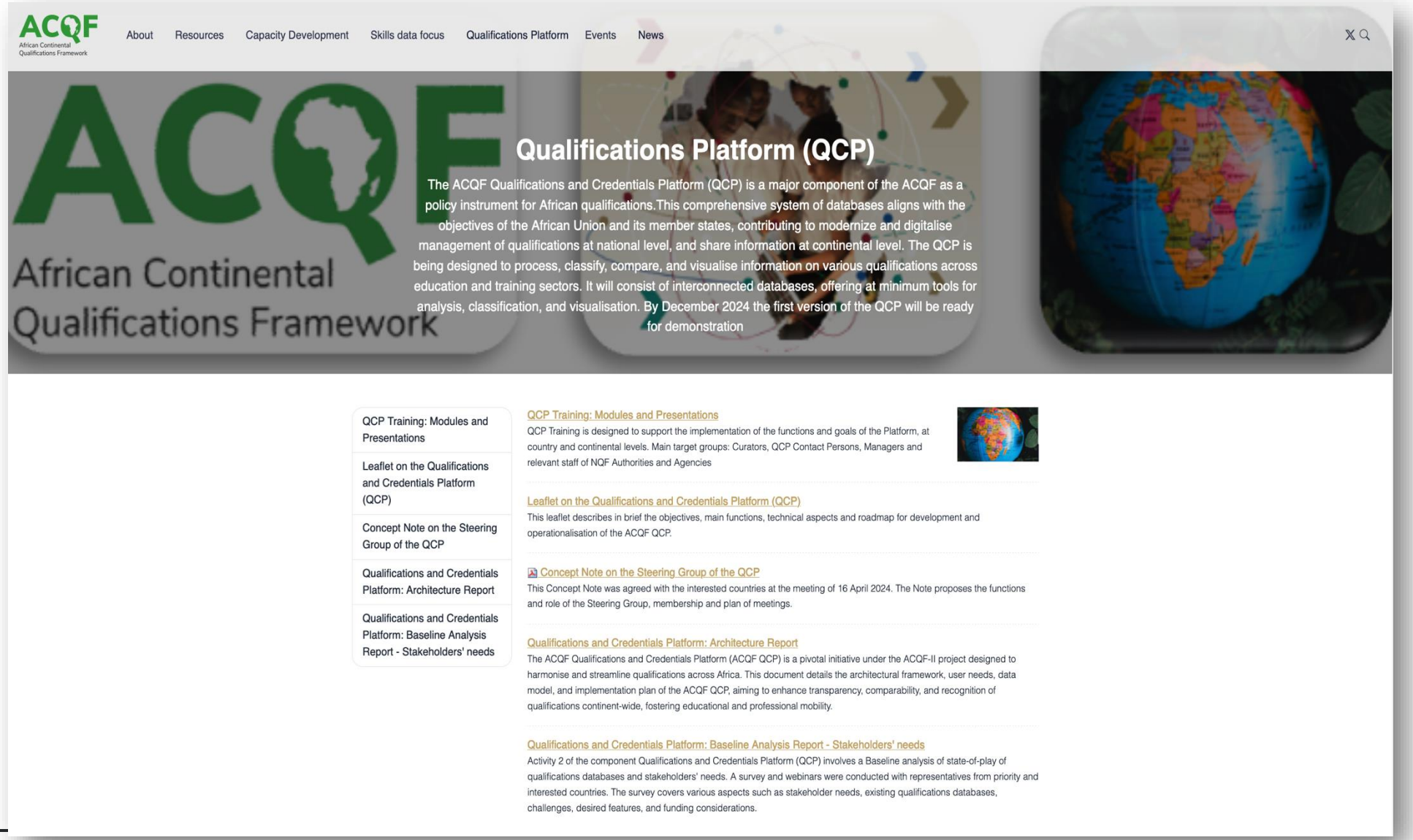
QCP in ACQF Website



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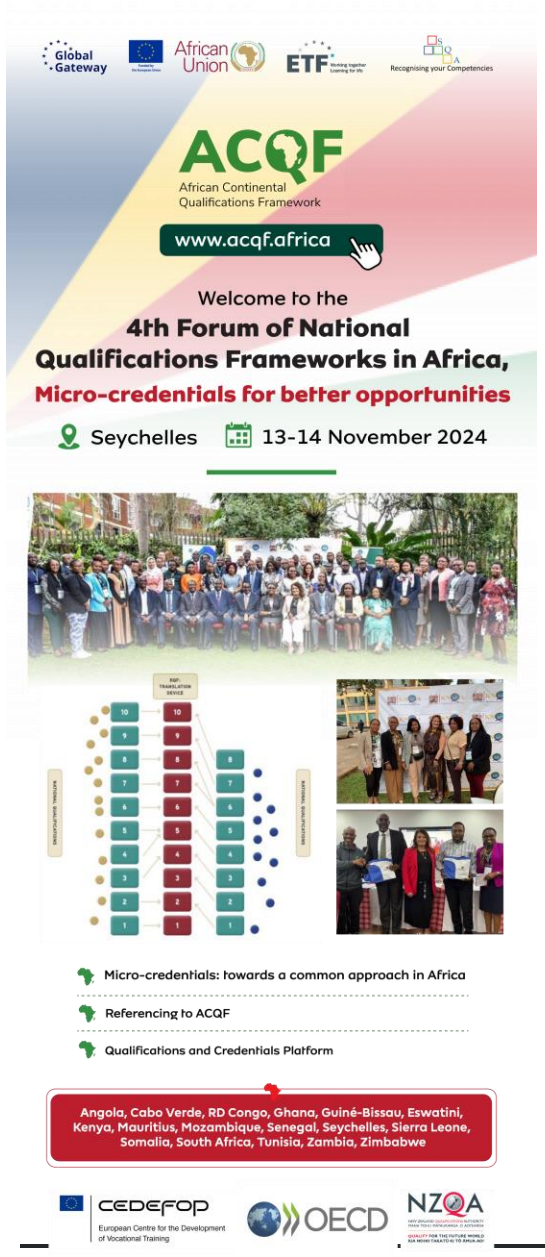
ACQF countries

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



2023

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

2024

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

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Thank you!
Merci!
Obrigada!
Asante sana!

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