

Recognition of Qualification Frameworks

OumaN@africa-union.org

African Union Commission

HRST Department
Youth Division



Outline

- Basic Concepts
- Situation in MS & RECS
- Continental Framework



Recognition

- Appreciation of qualification as legitimate
- Acceptance of whole or part of credits connected to a qualification
- Acceptance of the equivalents of a qualification to another qualification in a different education system
- Recognition of prior learning/life-long learning outcomes?



Purpose of Recognition

- To support Comparability, Harmonization, Skills Portability/Labour mobility
- Improve employability and employment
- Enhance life-long learning
- Enhance integration across RECs



Qualification

- Basic taught education
- Specialist Knowledge
- Skills
- Something acquired by training or experience

Qualification may be acquired through formal, informal and non-formal pathways



Qualification Recognition

Achieved through three mechanisms;

- **Unilateral Recognition Mechanism** – Adhoc, measuring knowledge, skills and competencies against occupational standards identified by the National Qualification Framework (NQF)
- **Mutual Recognition Agreements**- Bilateral instruments formally agreed between sending and receiving countries
- **Regional Integration Agreements** – Multilateral instruments; encourage development of mutually acceptable standards across RECs



Harmonization

- The Mutual recognition of contents and quality of educational programmes, degrees, and certificates in different Member States, RECs with appreciation of their equivalents in other Nations/RECs
- Leads to leads to Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA)

What is AUC doing?

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Skills Recognition for Better Labour Mobility.

Project under the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP), with the support of; ILO, IOM, ECA, to support RECs in their strategies for economic development through the mobility of workers and portability of their qualifications.

- A lot has already been done in Higher Education – Arusha Convention (Regional Convention on recognition of studies, certificates, diplomas, degrees and other academic qualifications in African States - 1982)



Cont.

- ECOWAS Convention on the Recognition and Equivalence of Degrees, Certificates and other Qualifications in Member States (2003)
- SADC Qualifications Framework
- EAC – Recognition arrangements negotiated by professional bodies & not governments?
- COMESA?
- IGAD? * Generally, not much information available on what obtains across RECs & MS in

Skills Development



Skills Recognition for Better Labour Mobility - Process

- Due to limited information, Study Commissioned on what situation obtains in Member States and RECs in Qualification Frameworks, their recognition and harmonization, & global best practices. (Particularly in Skills development - TVET)
- Learn and share the best practices
- Assist Member States and RECs in National Qualification Frameworks (NQF) and Regional Qualification Frameworks (RQF) and possibly Continental Frameworks



INPUTS

INDUSTRY NEEDS

NEED FOR GLOBAL
RECOGNITION OF
COMPETENCIES

CURRENT
QUALIFICATION
ISSUES AT ALL LEVELS

RESEARCH ON NQF

NQF OF OTHER
COUNTRIES

NQF

OUTPUTS

QUALIFICATION
LEVELS

DESCRIPTORS

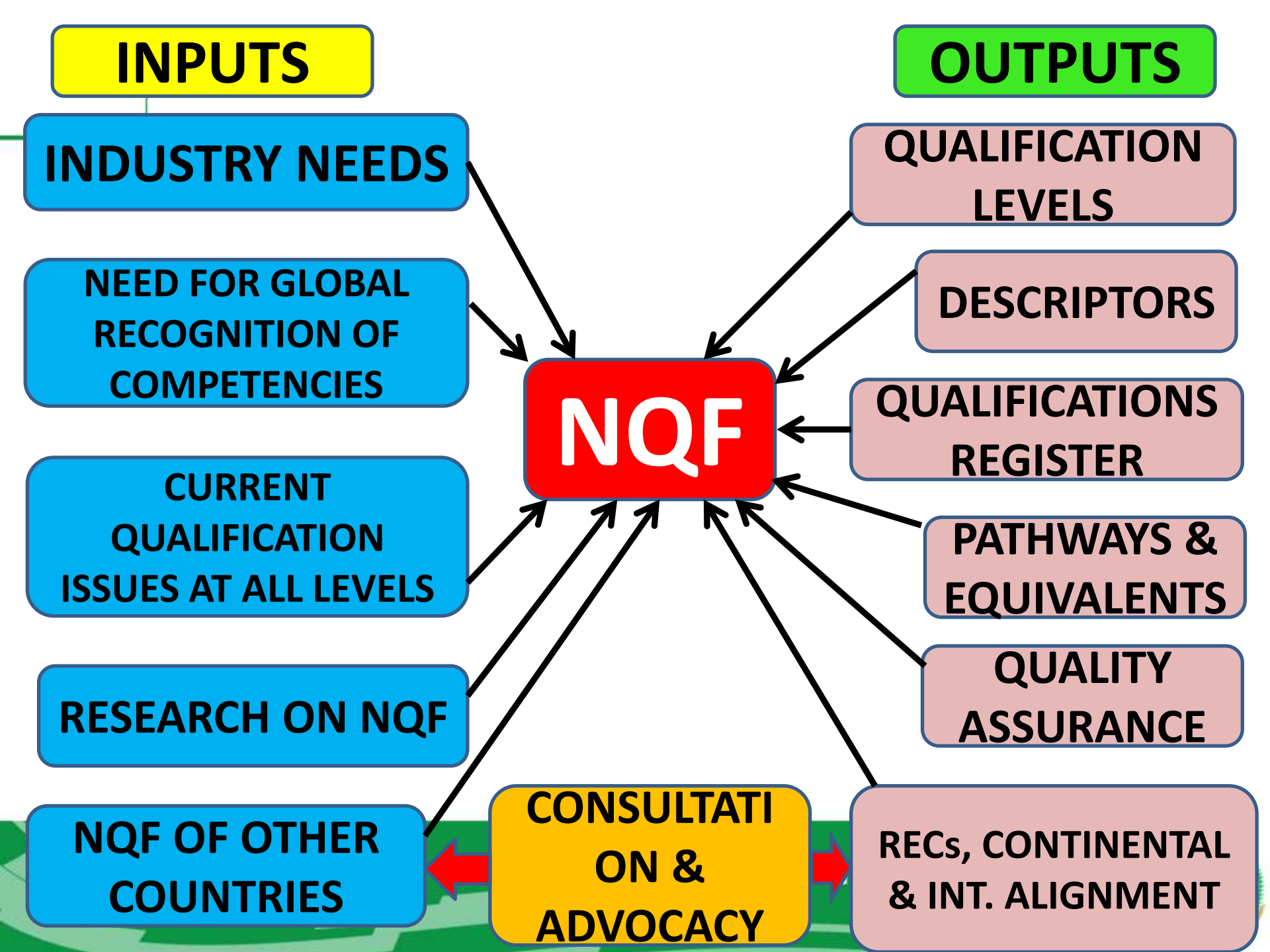
QUALIFICATIONS
REGISTER

PATHWAYS &
EQUIVALENTS

QUALITY
ASSURANCE

RECs, CONTINENTAL
& INT. ALIGNMENT

CONSULTATI
ON &
ADVOCACY



QUALITY ASSURANCE

**RECOGNITION OF
QUALIFICATIONS**

ACCESS

EMPLOYABILITY

HARMONIZATION

**LABOUR
MOBILITY**

INTEGRATION



Way Forward

- Is mode 4 a migration issue? Do we need to have more officials sit at the table?
- Need for synergy between CFTA and the Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP) players.
- We must facilitate the recognition and transparency of all qualifications, including those gained outside formal education.

This will make it easier for individuals to explain their skills; increase mobility in the labour market and across countries. We should also talk to employer and workers' organisations





THE END



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