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# How does a National Quality Assurance Framework support a National Qualification System on Lifelong Learning?

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22 May, Tashkent

# National Qualification System **definition:**



NQS is a network of interconnected institutions that work together **in the area of education and training**. NQS Includes the following types of key actors:

- Public and private networks of training providers
- Ministries involved in education and training
- Public and private agencies/institutions
- Employers' organisations, such as SSCs



## NQS functions:

- To ensure the quality, relevance and recognition of qualification
- Standardisation and Quality Assurance of Qualifications
- Enhancing mobility and progression of learners
- Promoting RPL
- Interface between the society and the LLL system, which is access to learning for all.



# What are the **instruments** for NQS functions?



**Definition of a qualification:** an officially **recognized competence** as a result of assessment and validation by an awarding body.

Awarding bodies + network of training providers

A Qualification Authority is regulating awarding bodies

**Which competences and which assessment for a qualification?**

The qualifications are standardized in a National Qualification Framework

The qualifications are in the database of accredited Qualifications

Quality Assurance system (Quality criteria and Indicators)



# National Quality Assurance Framework



## Definition of Quality:

degree to which a set of characteristics of an entity **fulfills the needs and expectations** of stakeholders

## 2 areas in QA: DEVELOPMENT of QUALIFICATIONS DELIVERY of QUALIFICATIONS

1

**Regulator** and **Awarding Bodies** are in charge of developing and regulating qualification standards.

2

**Training Providers** and **Assessment Centres** are in charge of implementing accredited qualification through training programmes.

# Based on this logic, NQAF programme has **3 teams** working on Quality Assurance in the NQS.

## Team 1

is working on the **Development and Regulation of Qualification Standards**.

Method: comparison of Uzbekistan qualification system with other countries: Albania, Estonia, France (peer review).

How are their qualification standards regulated in different countries?

- Ministries?
- Dedicated qualification authority and a separate quality assurance agency (Estonia)?
- Unified Regulatory Body? (France)?
- Have they awarding bodies?



## Team 2

# On the Implementation of Quality Assurance in Training Providers

## PEER REVIEWS WITH VET PROVIDERS



Method: Raising awareness for training providers on quality criteria leading to accreditation.

Quality assurance is not an optional feature. **It is the main feature of a Training Provider** aiming to improve the training service in Lifelong Learning.

Tools:

- Peer Review with Training Providers (which is a kind of comparison between Training Providers learning from each others).
- Concept of Self-evaluation
- Concept of Quality Implementation Plan



## Team 3

# On Sectoral Skills Councils & Qualification Assessment Centres

**Method**: Building capacity of SSC to be Representatives of the Industry in the NQS.

### How is this done?

- Developing NOS,
- Managing NOS database,
- Sectoral qualification standards,
- SSCs as awarding bodies developing qualifications
- Assessment Centres implement qualifications





# The backbone of the National Qualification System is the **National Qualification Framework**



**NQF** is an **instrument** for the **classification of qualifications** according to a set of criteria connected to the levels of learning outcomes. It aims to integrate national qualification subsystems and improve the transparency, access, progression and quality of qualifications in relation to the Labour Market and Civil Society.

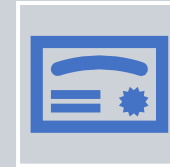
**The NQF is the backbone of the NQS because it requires Quality Assurance.**



# WHY is National Qualification Framework the **backbone** of the National Qualification System?



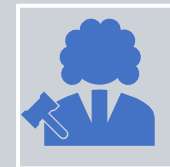
If there is a NQF, there is a **Register** of accredited qualifications.



If there are accredited qualifications, there are **Awarding Bodies** who build those qualifications.



Awarding bodies are bodies authorised to **build, assess** and **validate** qualifications as competences.



If there are accredited awarding bodies, there is a **REGULATOR**.

# A Regulator is acting as **the guardian** of the NQS

Ensuring its credibility and value

Maintaining public trust in the qualifications obtained

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## A REGULATOR IS ACTING AS THE GU ARDIAN OF THE NQS



- Setting and maintaining standards
- Quality assurance of qualification
- Regulation of awarding bodies
- NQF development and maintenance
- Ensuring comparability and recognition of qualification
- Protecting the Interest of learners
- Working body in policy development and implementation

# What is need for Awarding Body in the National Qualification System:

- To meet the **necessary requirement** and demonstrate their ability to maintain the integrity and quality of qualifications.
- To develop qualifications **standards**.
- To **award qualifications** in the formal education and training system.
- To **validate competences** acquired outside the formal education and training, e.g. adult education, sectoral education, occupational education.



**Recognition of Prior Learning**

# Awarding Bodies in Uzbekistan



## Ministry of Higher Education, Sciences & Innovation



## Potential Awarding Bodies:

- Ministry of Labour and Poverty Reduction
- SSCs
- KOICA



# A wide range of organisations can become Awarding Bodies

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As long as they can meet the necessary requirements and demonstrate their ability to maintain the quality and integrity of Qualifications.

Awarding Bodies can be:



- HE Institutions
- VET institutions
- Professional bodies
- Private companies.
- Training providers.



# NQS in Uzbekistan PR 345 30/09/2024

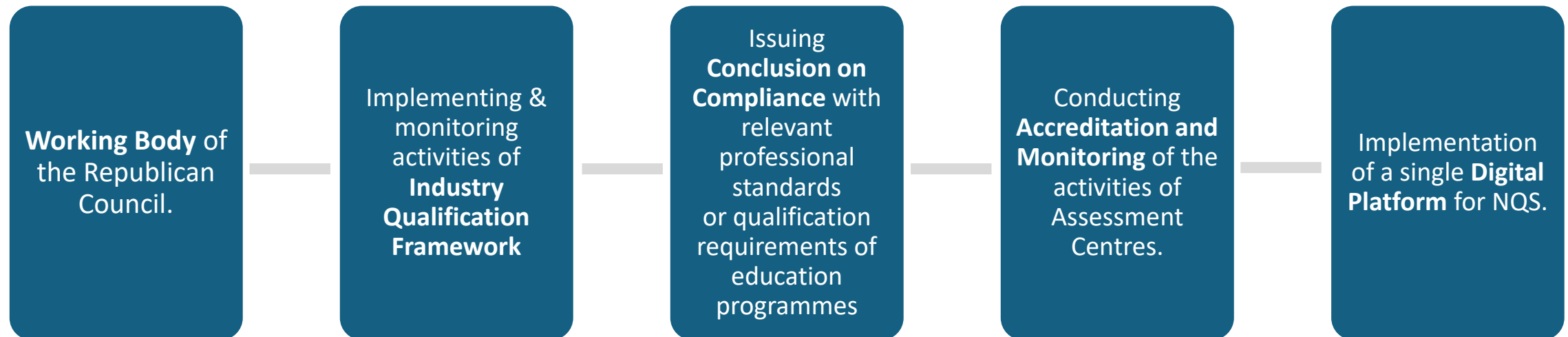
The Resolution stipulates the main directions of reforming the NQS:

- Improving the regulations, institutional and methodological **foundations of NQS**
- Development and advancement of a National **Classifier** of Occupations, professions and jobs based on international standards
- Development and implementation of qualification **frameworks**
- Ensuring international **Recognition of Qualifications** and the integration of qualification levels with the qualification level of leading foreign countries.
- Implementation of **Recognition of Prior Learning**
- Development and implementation of tools for **Skills Anticipation**
- Development of **Strategic Plan** for the full implementation of the NQS





# The **Main Areas** of Activities of the National Qualification System Development Institute



# The Institute is foreseen as the **regulator** of the National Qualification System

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- The Resolution foresees a professional qualification system and provide an interface between the Labour Market and the national education system
- Concept for the development of NQS by December 2025 to be promoted.

# A Concept of National Qualification System should answer the following questions:

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- What are the definitions of basic concepts for NQS?
- What is the purpose of NQS?
- What are the functions of NQS?
- What are the Institutions of NQS?
- What are the purpose and functions of the NQF?
- What are the purpose of qualifications standards In the NQF?
- What is the organisation of NQS?
- How is the quality of qualifications assured In the NQS?
- What is the role of the regulator in NQS?
- What is the role of AB in the NQS?
- Who are the stakeholders of the NQS?



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# THANK YOU!

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