

Implementation of ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework: Myanmar's Readiness

Dr Kyi Shwin

Rector, Banmaw University

24 FEB 2015

In my TALK....

1. AQRF...
2. MNQF...
3. Myanmar's Initiation to implement AQRF
4. What Myanmar needs now???

- The ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) is a regional common reference framework.
- The AQRF functions as a device to enable comparisons of qualifications across ASEAN Member States.
- The ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework addresses education and training sectors and the wider objective of promoting lifelong learning.

- AQRF development started in 2012 and Myanmar has been fully committed to the work.
- Myanmar hosted 4th TF AQRF meeting in Yangon in March 2014 where AQRF was finalized.
- Myanmar started developing its Myanmar National Qualifications Framework (MNQF) in December in 2013 with its zero draft in July 2014.
- Myanmar has agreed to implement AQRF in all three sectors of education and training.

AQRF reference levels and descriptors

- The *Specification of the AQRF* makes clear the AQRF levels and level descriptors.
- The Framework includes eight levels of complexity of learning outcomes.
- The level descriptors include the notion of competence which is the ability that extends beyond the possession of knowledge and skills.

AQRF

- ❑ Cognitive competence involving the use of theory and concepts, as well as informal tacit knowledge gained experientially
- ❑ Functional competence (skills or know-how), those things that a person should be able to do when they work in a given area
- ❑ Personal competence involving knowing how to conduct oneself in a specific situation
- ❑ Ethical competence involving the possession of certain personal and professional values.
- The level descriptors include two domains:
 - Knowledge and skills
 - Application and Responsibility.

Range of functions of the AQRF

- the recognition of qualifications
- the development of national qualifications frameworks that can facilitate lifelong learning
- the development of national approaches to validating learning gained outside formal education
- learner mobility
- worker mobility
- better understood qualifications systems
- higher quality qualifications systems.

The 5th TF-AQRF agreed to propose the following:

Supporting the AQRF functions	Agreed proposed approach
The scope of the education and training system that is included	All sectors
Making the Member State's approach to the AQRF functions explicit	Each Member State makes its own arrangements for making the national approach explicit. OR AQRF Board requires each Member State to make a report on how the functions are to be supported.

Quality Assurance

Quality assurance	Agreed proposed approach
Describing Member States quality assurance arrangements	One or more of the established quality assurance frameworks must be used as the basis of description.
Utilising alternative Quality assurance frameworks	AQRF Board to review other QAFs for applicability, as required.
ASEAN principles for Quality assurance	A set of common principles agreed and used by Member States – proposed AQAN common principles to be adopted/adapted

MNQF & AQRF in Myanmar context

- 1st Draft of MNQF
 - Objectives
 - Levels
 - Level Descriptors

Objectives of MNQF

- 1) Establish a national framework describing the levels of educational qualifications, setting the standards and learning outcomes of Myanmar qualifications;
- 2) Making Myanmar qualifications transparent and comparable within and across national borders;
- 3) Raise the standard of Myanmar qualifications to ASEAN and eventually international standards;
- 4) Increase lifelong access to education qualifications by providing a clear pathway within Myanmar's qualification and recognizing prior learning;
- 5) Make qualifications more trusted by and relevant to industry needs; and
- 6) Raising the quality of human resources in the country.

Proposed Myanmar National Qualifications Framework

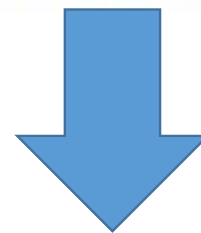
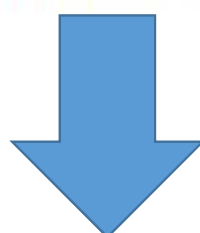
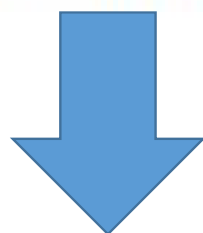


Level	Sectors			Lifelong Learning
	Basic Ed	TVET	Higher Education	
8			Doctoral Degree	Recognition of Prior Learning (Assessment and validation)
7			Masters Degree	
			Post Graduate Diploma	
6		Degree	Bachelors Degree	
5		Advanced Diploma	Associate Degree	
		Diploma	Diploma	
4		*V&T C/SC4		
3		V&T C/SC3		
2	High School	V&T C/SC2		
1	Middle School/Primary School	V&T C/SC1		

*Vocational & Technical Certificate/Skills Certificate



Level Descriptors of the Proposed Myanmar National Qualifications Framework



Level	Knowledge and Skills	Application	Responsibility & Accountability	Remarks
	Demonstration of	Contexts that are	Where there is	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most advanced and specialized level of knowledge in the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly specialized & complex Multi disciplinary in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level initiative, adaptability, autonomy & leadership to others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focused on research

Myanmar's Initiation to implement AQRF

- MNQF (Draft) will be revised based on the comments and critical notes from local scholars.
- A critical study will be made on MNQF by a group of international experts.
- National-level stakeholders' consultation forum will be made for MNQF.
- MNQF can be approved in 2015.

Myanmar's Initiation to implement AQRF

- Implementation of NQF Phase III with Malaysia in September 2015.
- Referencing Training will be given to candidates in Mar 2015 in NPT.
- National Accreditation and Quality Assurance Committee (NAQAC) will be set up.
- Myanmar will initiate its referencing works starting from 2017.

What Myanmar needs now???

- Capacity building programmes for NQF development and implementation.
- Capacity building programmes for AQRF implementation.
- Capacity building programmes for setting up quality assurance system.
 - (British Council for Egypt & DAAD for 3 East African countries)