



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Peer learning conference

Do national qualifications frameworks make a difference? Measuring and evaluating NQF impact

Cedefop, Thessaloniki 9 and 10 November 2017

NQF developments in Europe have been rapid. Before 2005, qualifications frameworks were in place in three European countries – France, Ireland and the UK. By 2017, NQFs have been introduced by all 39 countries ⁽¹⁾ taking part in the implementation of the EQF.

Given the increasing number of these frameworks becoming operational, a key question is whether they make a difference in policies and practices, and to the learners and citizens they are supposed to benefit.

The aim of this event is to exchange experiences regarding the way we measure and evaluate NQF impact, and on this basis, stimulate open and critical reflection on the current and future role of NQFs. NQF impact will be addressed both from a policy-maker and a research perspective.

The event will bring together policy-makers, stakeholders and researchers for a dialogue on the meaning of evidence-based policy-making in this area.

Agenda

Thursday, 9 November 2017	
9.00-9.30	Registration
9.30-10.00	Welcome <i>Plenary – Europa room</i> <i>Chair: Loukas Zahilas, Head of DSI, Cedefop</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Calleja, Director, Cedefop• Koen Nomden, European Commission, DG Employment
10.00-11.00	Do NQFs matter? Evidence to date <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Irish experience: John O'Connor, QQI• European experiences: Slava Pevec Grm, Cedefop
11.00-11.30	Tea/coffee break

⁽¹⁾ The EQF covers the 28 EU Member States as well as Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, FYROM, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey.

11.30-13.00	<p style="text-align: right;">Plenary – Europa room <i>Chair: Jens Bjørnåvold, Cedefop</i></p> <p>Key note speeches Assessing the impact of NQFs – What are the challenges and opportunities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing the impact of the South African QF – Challenges and opportunities: Joe Samuels, South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) NQF as a topic for academic research – Strengths and weaknesses: Jörg Markowitch, 3s <p>Discussion</p>		
13.00-14.00	Lunch		
<p style="text-align: right;">Europa, Montessori, Rousseau rooms</p> <p>Working group sessions</p> <p>Each working group session will be divided into three parts:</p> <p>(a) presentation of two country cases to the WG; (b) discussions in smaller groups of four to five participants; (c) identification of key messages (five to seven points) for the plenary session based on input from smaller groups.</p>			
14.00-15.30	<p style="text-align: center;">Europa</p> <p><i>Chair: Koen Nomden, EC</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Carita Blomqist, Finnish National Agency for Education, Finland</i></p> <p>WG 1: Policy-maker perspective</p> <p>Presentation of two country approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sabine Schüller, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany Kulli All, Ministry of Education and Research, Estonia <p>Discussion: NQFs for what; for whom; and under which circumstances?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Montessori</p> <p><i>Chair: Anastasia Poulidou, Cedefop</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Carina Lindén, Ministry of Education and Research, Sweden</i></p> <p>WG 2: Policy-maker perspective</p> <p>Presentation of two country approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maciej Lasota, Ministry of National Education, Poland Karin van der Sanden, CINOP, Netherlands <p>Discussion: NQFs for what; for whom; and under which circumstances?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rousseau</p> <p><i>Chair: Slava Pevec Grm, Cedefop</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur: Michael Graham, ETF</i></p> <p>WG 3: Policy-maker perspective</p> <p>Presentation of two country approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie Cavanagh, SCQF, UK-Scotland Teresa Duarte, National Agency for Qualification and Vocational Education and Training, Portugal <p>Discussion: NQFs for what; for whom; and under which circumstances?</p>

15.30-16.00	Tea/coffee break		
16.00-17.30	<p>WG 1: Research perspective</p> <p>What kind of theoretical approaches and evidence are currently available to provide insights into the impact of NQFs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Reglin, f-bb, Germany • Vidmantas Tutlys, Vytautas Magnus University, Institute of Education Science, Lithuania <p>Discussion: What kind of evidence will we need in the next few years?</p>	<p>WG 2: Research perspective</p> <p>What kind of theoretical approaches and evidence are currently available to provide insights into the impact of NQFs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ewa Chmielecka Educational Research Institute, Poland • Bert-Jan Buiskool, Ockham IPS, Netherlands <p>Discussion: What kind of evidence will we need in the next few years?</p>	<p>WG 3: Research perspective</p> <p>What kind of theoretical approaches and evidence are currently available to provide insights into the impact of NQFs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenneth King, University of Edinburgh, UK-Scotland • Alda Leonor Rocha, Education Institute of the University of Lisbon, Portugal <p>Discussion: What kind of evidence will we need in the next few years?</p>
17.30-18.00	Meeting of Chairs and rapporteurs of the working groups		
20.00-22.00	Dinner		

Friday, 10 November 2017	
9:30-11.00	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Plenary – Europa room</i> <i>Chair: Jens Bjørnåvold, Cedefop</i></p> <p>Key findings and conclusions from working groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations from the working groups <p>Discussion</p>
11.00-11:30	Tea/coffee break

11.30-12.30	<p style="text-align: right;">Plenary – Europa room <i>Chair: Loukas Zahilas, Cedefop, Head of DSI, Cedefop</i></p> <p>What is required for NQFs to succeed and what role should impact assessment play?</p> <p>Brigitte-Veronique Bouquet, CNCP, France</p> <p>Emanuela Bonacci, INAPP, Italy</p> <p>Thomas Mayr, UEAPME</p> <p>Mirjam de Jong, ETF</p> <p>Madhu Sing, UNESCO, UIL</p>
12.30-12.45	<p>Final observations and the way forward</p> <p>Jens Bjørnåvold, <i>Cedefop</i></p>
12.45-13.00	<p>Conclusions</p> <p>Koen Nomden, European Commission Mara Brugia, Deputy Director, Cedefop</p>

End of peer learning conference