



Polish Qualifications Framework and Integrated Qualifications System

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Polish Qualifications Framework (PQR)

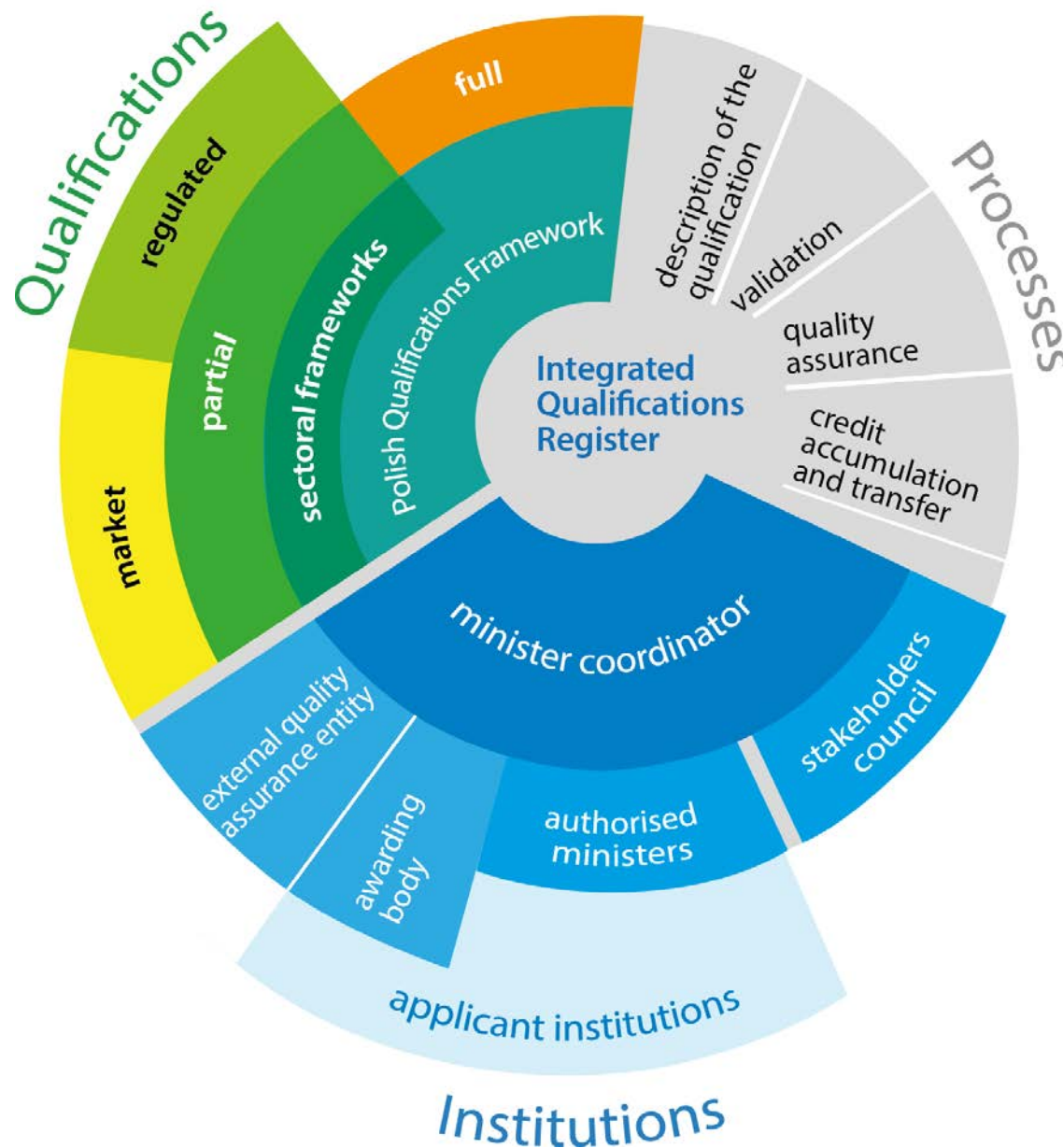
- Eight-levels' structure
- Each level referenced to the European Qualifications Framework level
- One generic set of descriptors and specific subsets for VET, HE, general education
- Supplementary sectoral frameworks
- Description of requirements concerning knowledge, skills and competences for each qualifications' level



Integrated Qualifications System



MINISTERSTWO
EDUKACJI
NARODOWEJ



Towards IQS

The Act on IQS:

22.12.2015 – adopted by Sejm

15.01.2016 – went into force

EQF → PQF

feasibility
assessment
(2008-2010)

PQF → IQS

- debate
- strategy
- referencing
(2010-2013)

IQS

- testing
- legislation
- implementation
(2013-2016)

challenges

- incoherent legal status of qualifications
- low perceived reliability of certificates
- low comparability of qualifications
- dubious quality of training offers
- **lifelong learning not yet a reality and no working tools to promote it**

benefits

- ability to more easily (conveniently) attain qualifications
- reliable validation of learning outcomes attained through non-formal and informal learning
- enhanced professional mobility
- improved transparency of training offers
- increased reliability of qualifications and awarding institutions
- easier recognition of certificates and diplomas in the country and abroad
- easier recruiting and further training of employees

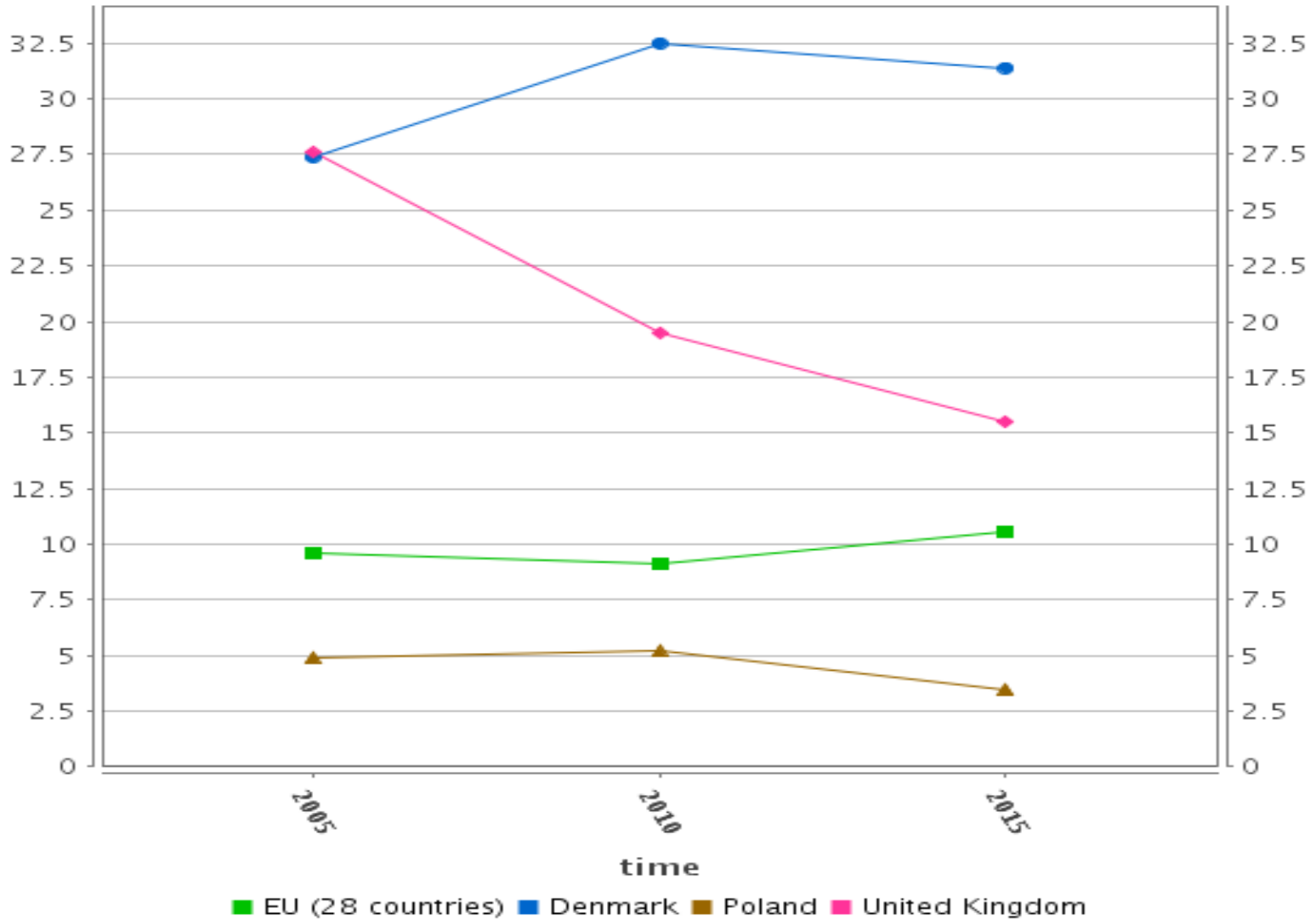
Key challenge – participation in adult learning



Lifelong learning

%

Total



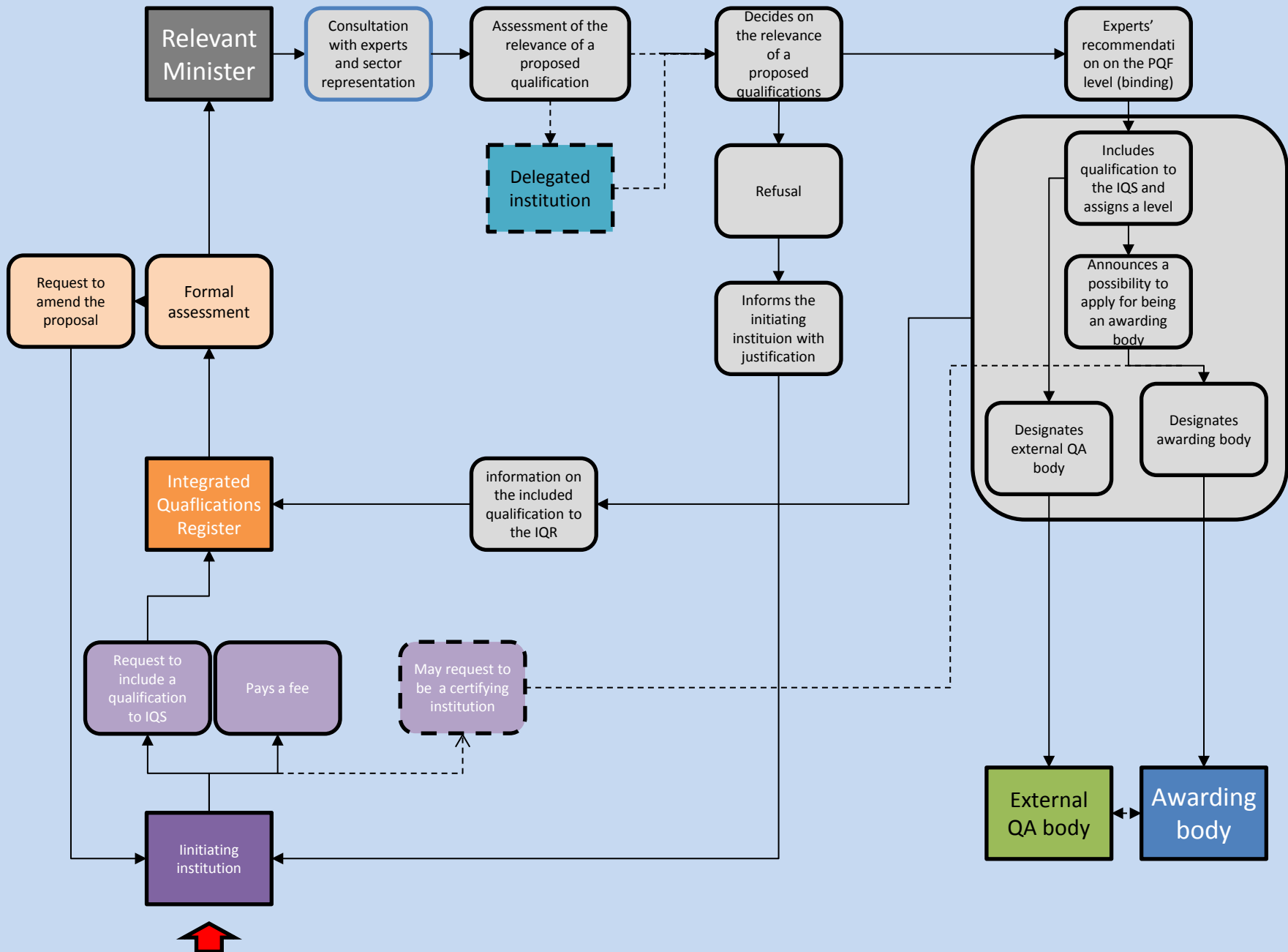
- **by 15.07.2016**
- ✓ Launching the **Integrated Qualifications Register**
- ✓ Launching the **Council of Stakeholders**
- ✓ Including the information on most full formal qualifications into IQR
- ✓ Enabling the IQR to receive first motions for registering non-formal qualifications

- **in 2017**

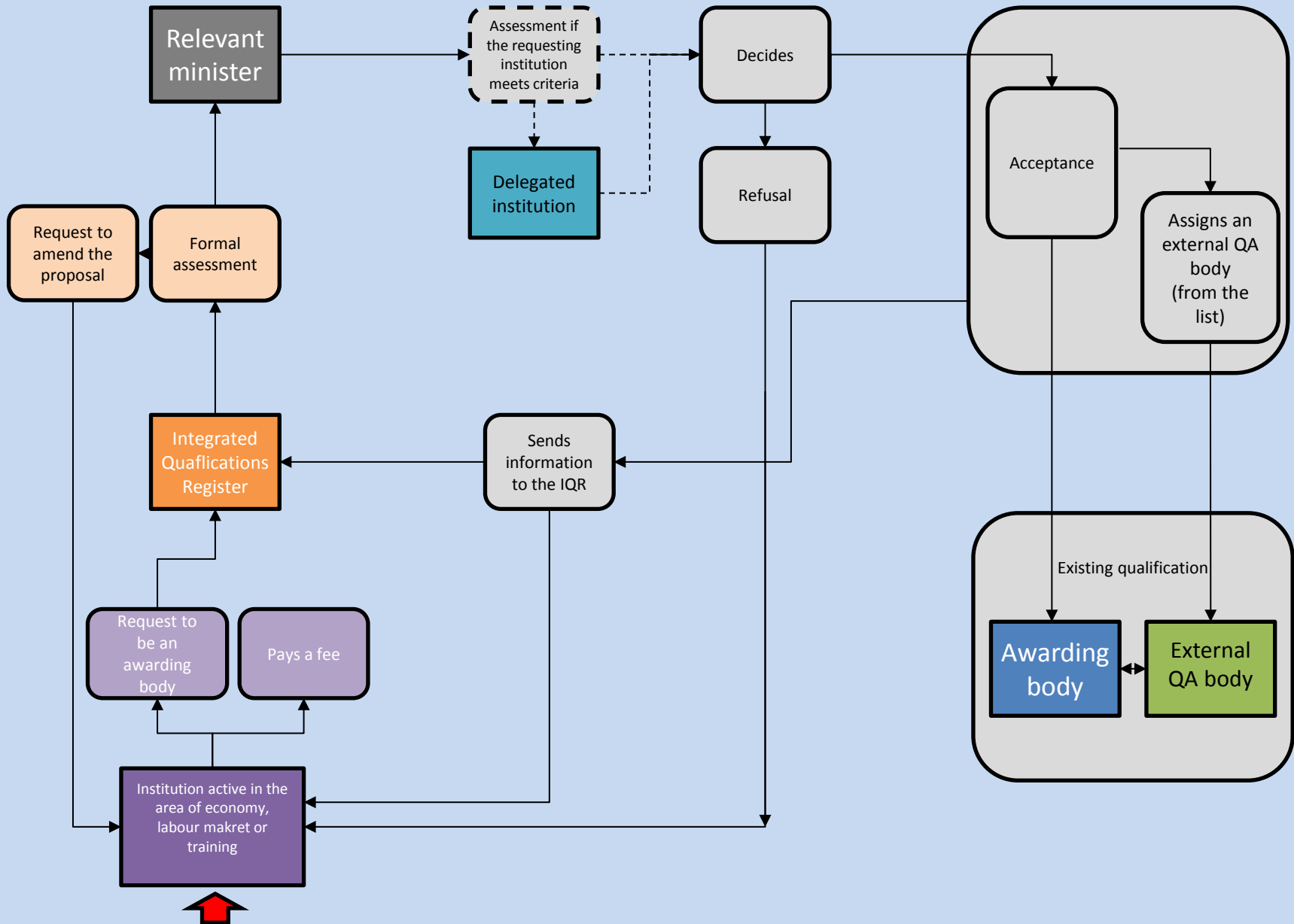
- ✓ First sectoral frameworks included (sports, tourism)
- ✓ First market qualification adopted (assembling carpentry in construction)
- ✓ 14 quality assurance institutions accepted
- ✓ Over 30 motions for including market qualifications submitted

- Incorporated to IQS by a minister responsible for a given area of qualifications, upon the motion from an entity operating at the market and providing education, training or labour market services.
- Awarded by institutions providing certificates (the institutions entitled by a minister responsible for a particular qualification. Entitlement in the procedure of the minister's decision).
 - ✓ **reliable** → the system of quality assurance
 - ✓ **transparent** → based on a uniformed standard for describing a qualification, required according to the Law on IQS
 - ✓ **valuable** → generated in cooperation of ministers and social partners
 - ✓ **easily accessible** → Integrated Qualifications Register

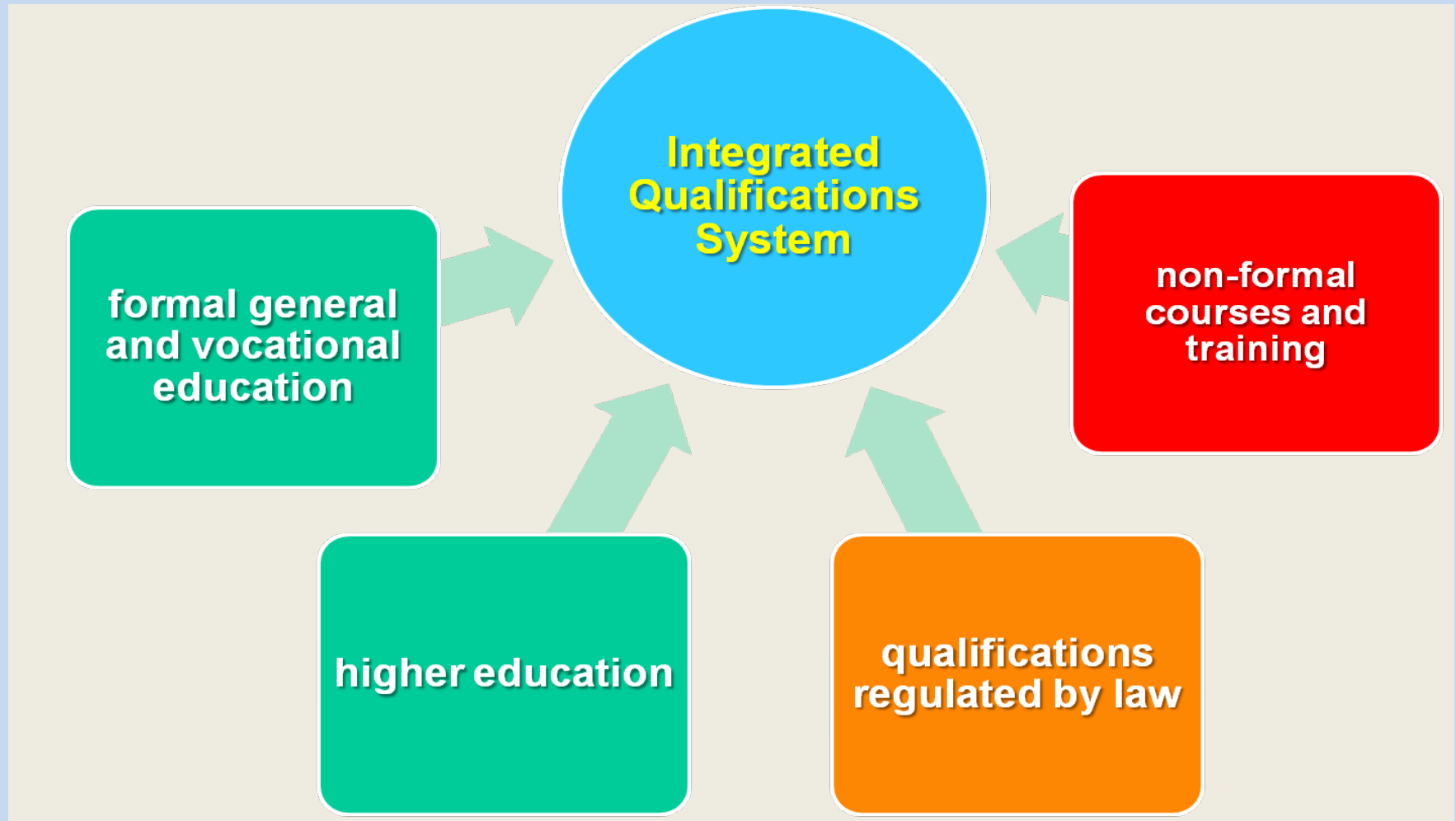
Including non-statutory qualifications in the IQS



Designating awarding bodies



IQS and its subsystems – value of integration





challenges

- different views/interests within sectors
- proceeding motions for new qualifications takes longer than expected
- resources devoted to IQS by public administration are scarce
- level 5 in HE remains to be seen
- **a 'critical mass' of market qualifications not yet reached**
- **IQS not yet part of common knowledge**

benefits

- IQS fosters public debate on VET and qualifications within sectors
- experience in designing IQS and describing market qualifications valuable for VET reform
- increasing acceptance and engagement of policy makers and sectoral partners
- IQS acknowledged as important factor in reforming HE
- **IQS is a crucial tool of lifelong learning policy in Poland**