

Qualifications Frameworks: A contribution to the Development of the European Labour Market – Munich 2012

The Current Status of the Malta Qualifications Framework and the Referencing Efforts.

MALTA



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Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education and Employment

The Process

- 2005 Publication of Legal Notice establishing eight level descriptors for a national qualifications framework
- 2005 setting up of the Malta Qualifications Council
- 2006 setting up of a National Commission for Higher Education and the Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education
- 2007 Launching of the Malta Qualifications Framework (MQF)
- September 2009 Referencing of MQF to the EQF and the QF-EHEA
- December 2010 and 2012 **Revised versions** of the Referencing Report.

The Process

- 2012 amendments to the Education Act will merge the Malta Qualifications Council and the National Commission for Higher Education.

The amendment is expected to include 3 Legal Notices which will legislate:

The Process

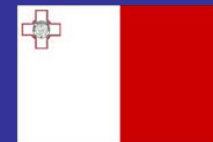
- (a) the validation of informal and non-formal learning (at all levels of education)
- (b) The Malta Qualifications Framework (descriptors/self-certification)
- (c) Accreditation, Licensing and Quality Assurance of all public and private Further and Higher Education Institutions and Programmes

New Agency

- To provide strategic policies for further and higher education
- To promote and maintain the MQF
- To accredit, quality assure and license all further and higher education institutions and programmes
- To level-rate qualifications
- To assist training providers in establishing self-certification processes
- To recognise international programmes
- To quality assure 'outreach' and on-line programmes
- To establish, publish and promote the use of Occupational (Competence) Standards
- Review from time-to-time national reform programmes
- To assist training providers: design of qualifications, assessment and certification
- To promote Lifelong Learning

Malta Qualifications Framework

comprehensive and validating all learning



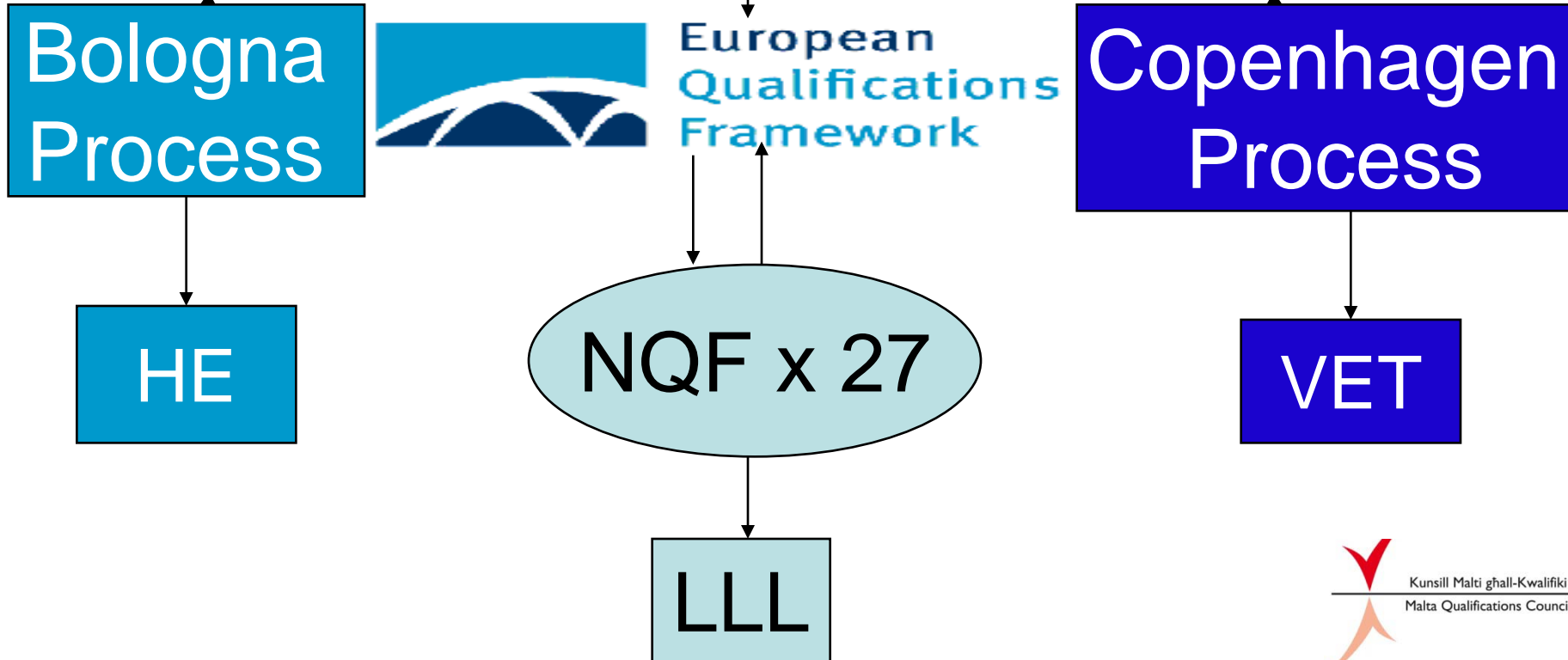
8	DOCTORAL DEGREE		8
7	MASTER'S DEGREE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE		7
6	BACHELOR'S DEGREE		6
5	UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMA UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE HIGHER EDUCATION CERTIFICATE	FOUNDATION DEGREE VET HIGHER DIPLOMA	5
4	MATRICULATION LEVEL ADVANCED LEVEL INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	VET DIPLOMA	4(d)
3	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 3 SEC grade 1-5	VET LEVEL 3	3(c)
2	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 2 SEC grade 6-7 Secondary School Certificate and Profile L2	VET LEVEL 2	2(b)
1	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 1 Secondary School Certificate and Profile L1	VET LEVEL 1	1(c)



European Education Reform



Lisbon Strategy/EU 2020



4 Key indicators

QUALITY

home-grown / international programmes

TRANSPARENCY

Re-writing of qualifications

TRANSFERABILITY

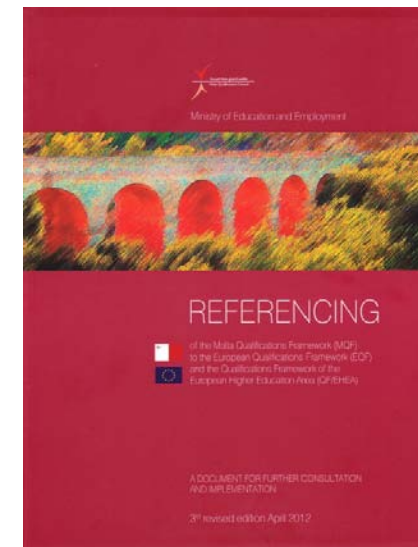
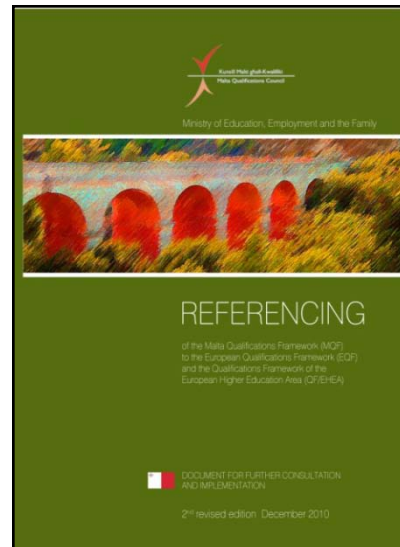
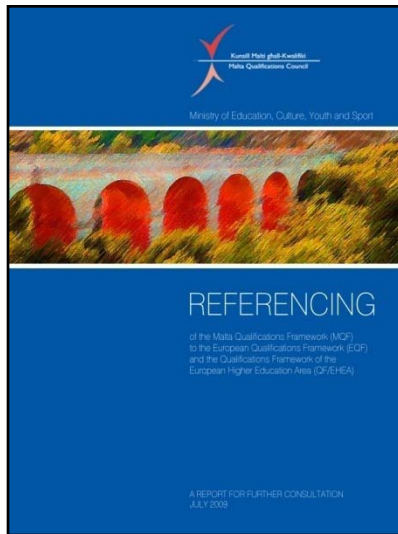
Vertical and horizontal

PROGRESSION

No dead-ends



Malta Referencing Reports



Referencing Reports 2009, 2010 and 2012



The impact

1. Formulation of new policies in the design and application of qualifications in the context of general education, labour market needs and challenges, economic growth and social cohesion.
 - Malta Qualifications Framework (June 2007)
 - Quality Assurance Policy (June 2007)
 - A VET system within NQF (June 2007)
 - Descriptors of Key Competences in the MQF (2007)
 - Validating Informal and Non-formal education (June 2008)
 - *Referencing Report* (September 2009 updated 2010, 2012)
 - An Awards system for Malta's NQF (October 2010)
 - Level descriptors for the Performing Arts (2012)

The impact

2. Adopting/adapting/communicating European tools in and challenges for skills, competences and learning

EQF

EQARF

ESG

ECTS

ECVET

COPENHAGEN PROCESS

BOLOGNA PROCESS

EUROPASS

CERTIFICATE SUPPLEMENT

DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

REFERENCING REPORT

The impact

3. Assessing vocational education and training qualifications and higher education in the context of holistic education and labour market needs

**Accreditation + Quality Assurance + Licensing
of all further and higher education programmes and
institutions**

The impact

4. Raising the profile and visibility of vocational education and training

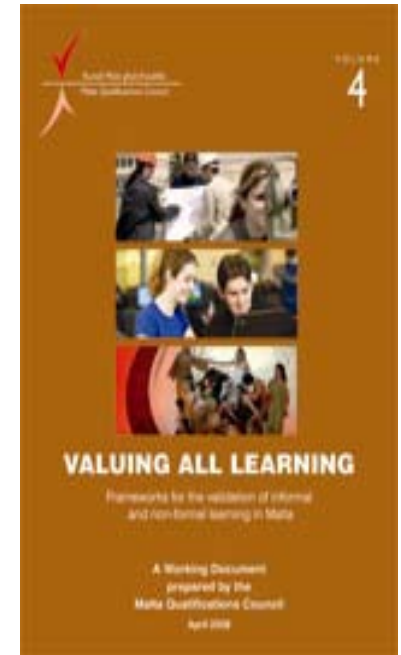
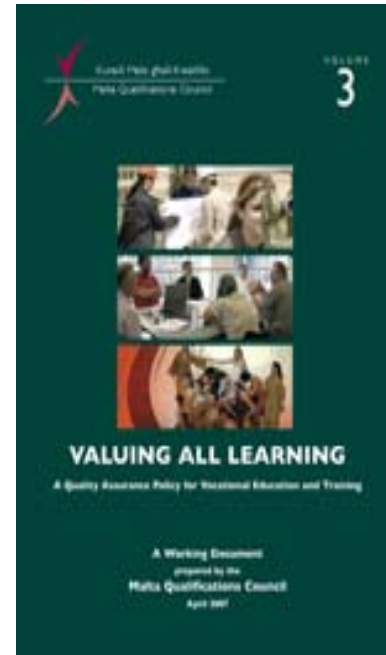
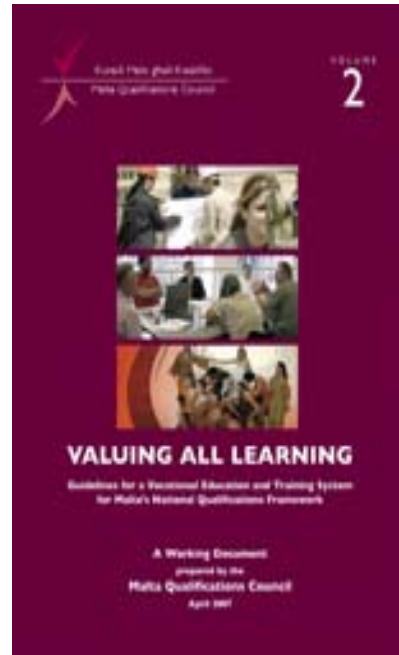
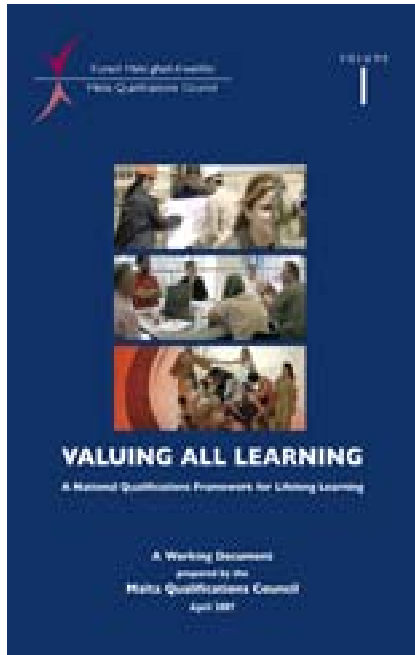
HOW?

ESF projects 2010-2013


- VQPACK → Making VET visible in Compulsory Education
- SKILLS + → Writing Occupational Standards in 9 sector areas
- EAF → Employment Aid Programme
- TAF → Training Aid Framework

Our main Vocational College (MCAST) has two other ESF programmes to re-write VET qualifications using the LO approach and to increase the QA at all levels.

Policy Documents



Secondary Education School Certificate and Profile Levels 1 and 2


Ministeru tal-Edukazzjoni, Kultura, Żgħażaġh u Sport
Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

Direttorat għal Kwalità u Standards fl-Edukazzjoni
Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education

Kulleġġ (Skola) _____
College (School)

Isem l-Istudent:
Student Name: _____

Karta tal-Identità:
Student I.D.: _____

Data tal-Bidu:
Start Date: _____


Data tat-Twelid:
Date of Birth: _____

Ċertifikat:
Certificate: _____

Dan jiċċertifika li
This is to certify that

temm b'suċċess l-Edukazzjoni Sekondarja b'kisbiet ġenerali meqjusa bhala
has successfully completed Secondary Education with an overall achievement defined as

Distinction


Il-Kunsill Malti għall-Kwalifiki jqis dan il-Ċertifikat bhala tal-Ewwel Livell tal-Qafas Malti tal-Kwalifiki u tal-Qafas Ewropew tal-Kwalifiki għat-Taġlim Tul il-Hajja.
The Malta Qualifications Council deems this Certificate to be at Level 1 of the Malta Qualifications Framework and of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning.

Prinċipal tal-Kulleġġ
College Principal

Direttur Ġenerali
Director General

Kap tal-Iskola
Head of School

Direttorat għal Kwalità u Standards fl-Edukazzjoni
Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education

MQC Level 1 Qualification

A record of the student's performance throughout the five years of secondary education based on:

- Attendance
- Formal Education
- Personal Qualities
- Non-Formal Education
- Informal Education

The Referencing Report

Structure 3rd revised version 2012

- Introduction
- The Methodological Framework
- Criteria for the Referencing Process. **An Overview of the state-of-play 2012**

Part 1 – the European Platform

Part 2 – the MQF for LLL

Part 3 – Referencing MQF to EQF & QF-EHEA

Part 4 – the Role of Stakeholders

Part 5 – Implementing the Referencing Process

Conclusion

Bibliography

National International Reviews

Annexes

EQF: the link to other frameworks

EQF Level	MQF Level	QF-EHEA Level	SCQF Level	QCF Level	INFQ Level	TQF Level	NZ NQF Level	SA NQF Level
8	8	3rd cycle	12	8	10	10	10	8
7	7	2nd cycle	11	7	9	9 8	9 8	7
6	6	1st cycle	10 9	6	8 7	7	7	6
5	5	short cycle	8 7	5 4	6	6	6 5	5
4	4		6	3	5	5	4	4
3	3		5	2	4	4	3	3
2	2		4	1	3	3 2	2	2
1	1		3	E3	2 1	1	1	1
			2					
			1					

MQF's 10 overarching principles

- 1. 8-levels: parity of esteem between VET and general education**
- 2. Credit system**
- 3. Learning Outcomes**
- 4. Assessment/Self certification**
- 5. Key Competences**
- 6. Secondary School Certificate and Profile**

- 7. VINFL in MQF Level 2 and 3**
- 8. Qualifications in MQF Level 4 and 5 lead to HE**
- 9. ONE Higher Education Area**
- 10. Protocols with the QA Agency establish accreditation, recognition, licensing.**

MQF Level Descriptors

- **Identify the level of difficulty;**
- **Demonstrate gradual progression;**
- **All forms of learning;**
- **More detailed than the EQF Level Descriptors; and**
- **Clear link with the level descriptors of the EQF and the QF/EHEA**

Transparent Level Rating Procedures

Formal Qualifications

Locally-designed	Provided by a foreign awarding body
<p>Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- level of difficulty;- workload in credits;- learning outcomes;- Quality Assurance;- method of assessment;- comparative assessment;- consultation with the Designated Authority/Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- recognition- level of difficulty at the country of origin;- the level compared to the EQF <p>-</p>

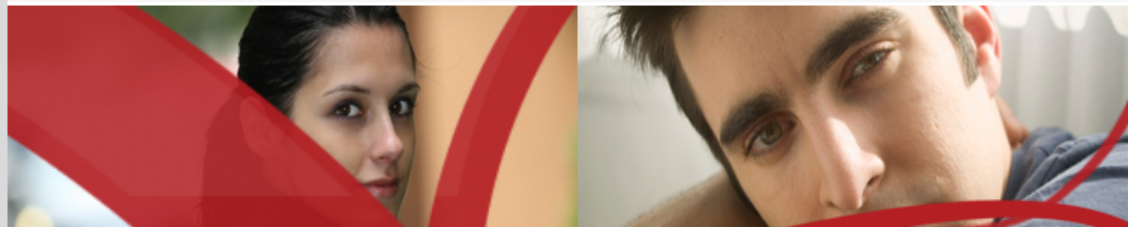
The Role of Stakeholders

New Responsibilities:

- Consultation;
- Project participation;
- Validation of Informal and Non-Formal Learning;
- Sector Skills Councils;
- Design of Qualifications; and
- Assessment of Learning Outcomes



Search:



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Events Registration

Glossary of Terms



Malta Qualifications Framework



Standards & Qualifications



Accreditation & Validation



Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC)



Office of the Mutual

Latest News & Events

National Colloquium on the Validation of Non-Formal and Informal learning

04.05.2009

The Malta Qualifications Council organized a national colloquium on the validation of non-formal and informal learning on ...

[READ MORE](#)

MQC hosts VQTS II National Workshop

03.02.2009

The Malta Qualifications Council hosted the VQTS II (Vocational Qualification Transfer System)

Challenges (1)

1. **More Consultation** + Information Meetings (NCP for EQF)
2. The writing of **Learning Outcomes** (*Bologna Seminars*)
3. **Level Rating** of Local and Foreign, old and new qualifications on the basis of:
 - Learning Outcomes
 - Credit system/Self Certification
 - Quality Label - Protocol

Challenges (2)

4. Writing of Occupational Standards and setting up of Sector Skills Units (in progress)
5. Enactment (2012) of legal framework for the Validation of Informal and Non-Formal Learning and implementation
6. Enactment (2012) of Legal Notice on Accreditation, QA and Licensing of all F&HE Institutes and Programmes
7. Enactment (2012) of Legal Notice on the Malta Qualifications Framework.
8. Malta Register for Regulated Qualifications (in progress)



**Thank you
for your attention.**

**www.mqc.gov.mt
info.nche.gov.mt**