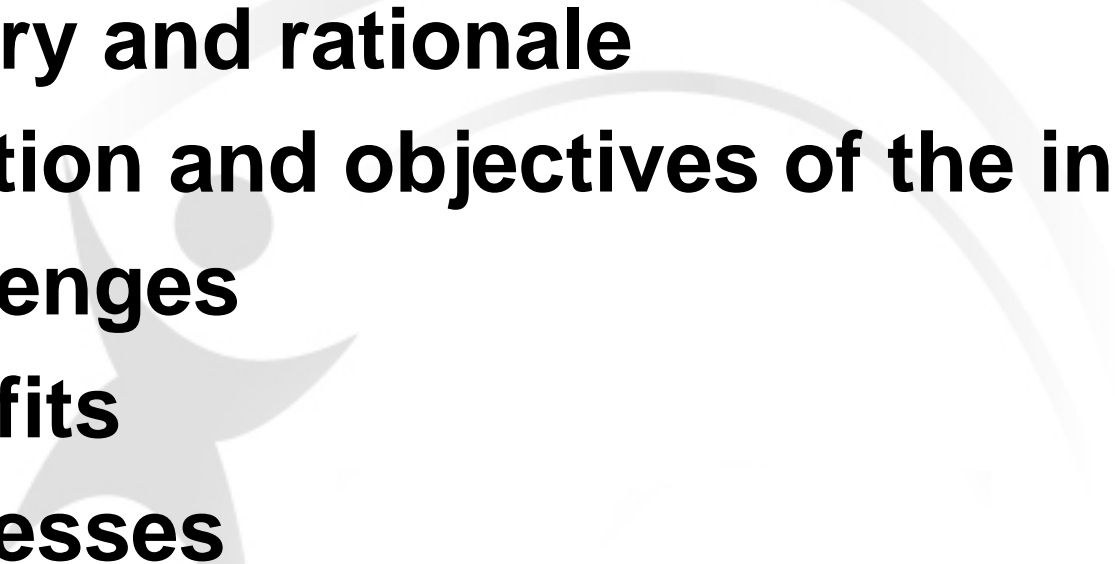


NQF Support Link – A Public-Private Partnership

Ntsiki Gumbe
Information Services Manager: SAQA
and
Barbara Dale-Jones
General Manager: eDegree

22 August 2008

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NQF objectives

- Create an integrated national framework for learning achievements
- Facilitate **access** to, and **mobility** and **progression** within, education, training and career paths
- Enhance the **quality** of education and training
- Accelerate the **redress** of past unfair discrimination in education, training and employment opportunities and thereby,
- Contribute to the full **personal development** of each learner and the social and economic development of the nation at large

NQF changes

The NQF introduced radical changes in the national provision of education and training at all levels and in all sectors:

- curricula design
- instructional practices
- new forms of assessment
- new systems of accreditation and recognition of learning

History

- NQF Support Link - major product of the education and training portfolio of the cooperation agreement between the Governments of Canada and S.A.
- Both Governments wanted to make a significant contribution to the nature and quality of learning and teaching in the FET Colleges and other targeted organisations.

Goal of the NQF Support Link

Provide the governing, executive and programme leadership of the FET colleges and of targeted organisations with a deep understanding of the NQF and the competencies to effectively implement the NQF so as to meet the needs of learners in a focused, nimble and timely manner

Intention of the NQF Support Link

Strengthen the leadership of the FET Colleges and other targeted organisations in making the best use of the opportunities created by the NQF and the National Skills Development Strategy

Funded phases

- Phase 1 (2002 – 2004) - carried out by a consortium led by Universalialia and the National Business Institute (NBI)
 - Content development (6 modules)
 - Pilot implementation in selected FET Colleges
- Phase 2 (2004 – 2006) - carried out by eDegree
 - Launch by Minister of Education in June 2005
 - Marketing and implementing the six learning programmes produced in phase 1
 - Revision of content to make it more generic
 - Pilot of revised content (FET Colleges and others)
 - NQF Gateway (<http://www.nqf.org.za>)

Project sustainability

- Phase 3 (July 2007 -)
 - Implementation of the Business model
 - Open tender and appointment of eDegree
 - Public-private partnership agreement
 - New products
 - Further development of the NQF Gateway

Challenges for SAQA

- Outsourcing
- Market expectation regarding SAQA's role
- Sustainability and growth
- Shift to a broader clientele

Challenges for eDegree

- Bureaucratic processes vs. commercial imperatives
- Use of proprietary formats vs. open access
- Managing the development of materials in 3 modes
- Blended instruction and small chunks of learning
- Recruiting training providers
- Self-paced learning vs. workshops
- POE submissions

Benefits

The NQF Support Link has the potential to benefit learners and to stimulate and support systemic change in keeping with human resource development and the skills development objectives and priorities set by the government of South Africa

Benefits

Enables individuals to deepen their knowledge of the NQF in an integrated and practical way and to apply that knowledge for the benefit of learners and of system transformation in keeping with the HRD and skills development objectives and priorities set by Government

Benefits

□ Institution

- Understand and implement the NQF
- Align FET strategic direction with NQF principles and objectives
- Aligning FET courseware with NQF principles
- Positively position the institution within the market it serves

Benefits

□ Individual

- Easy access - product offered on-line, CD and workshops
- Awarding of credits
- Choice and flexibility
- Comprehensive resource on the NQF

NQF Support Link modules

- Module 1 – Implementing the NQF
- Module 2 – NQF and governance
- Module 3 – NQF and learning programmes
- Module 4 – NQF and assessment
- Module 5 – NQF and learnerships
- Module 6 – NQF and the NLRD
- Module 7 – NQF and RPL
- Implementation toolkits

Successes

- Technical & educational quality of learning programmes highly rated
- Scalability
- New products as per market demand
- Market penetration
- Roll-out
 - SETAs
 - EPWP
 - Walter Sisulu University
 - Government departments

Conclusion

- NQF Support Link delivered a substantial set of products to support and facilitate the implementation of the NQF
- NQF Support Link is best positioned to inform learners about the new NQF – continue to create systemic change in education and training in this country

THANK YOU



Ntsiki Gumbe

012 431-5009

ntsiki@saqa.org.za

Barbara Dale-Jones

011 628-8100

barbaradj@edegree.co.za