

The Malta Qualifications Framework referenced to the European Qualifications Framework: An Overview

26th June 2014

The MQF referenced to the EQF

- The European Context
- The MQF
 - Learning Outcomes
 - Key Competences
 - Credit Systems
- Awards
- School Leaving Certificate & Profile
- Further Developments
- Dissemination Initiatives



The European Context

- EQF Recommendation (2008)
 - Over-arching meta-framework
 - Readability
 - Mobility
 - Lifelong Learning
- QF/EHEA (Bergen 2005)
- The EU 2020 targets – education & employment
 - Enhancing VET



Referencing the NQF to the EQF

- Referencing Report as a *Snapshot*
- Set up **NQF in 2005**: LN 347/2005
- IE, **MT**, UK, FR (by 2010 deadline)
- **Next deadline**: EQF level on qualifications



8	DOCTORAL DEGREE		8
7	MASTER'S DEGREE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE		7
6	BACHELOR'S DEGREE		6
5	UNDERGRADUATE DIPLOMA UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE	VET HIGHER DIPLOMA	5
4	MATRICULATION LEVEL ADVANCED LEVEL INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	VET DIPLOMA	4
3	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 3 SEC grade 1-5	VET LEVEL 3	3
2	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 2 SEC grade 6-7	VET LEVEL 2	2
1	GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL 1 SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE	VET LEVEL 1	1



Why is it important?

- A tool rather than an end – in the context of other tools

Progression

Parity of Esteem

Permeability

Including all forms of learning (VINFL)

Shift towards Learning Outcomes

Facilitates Access

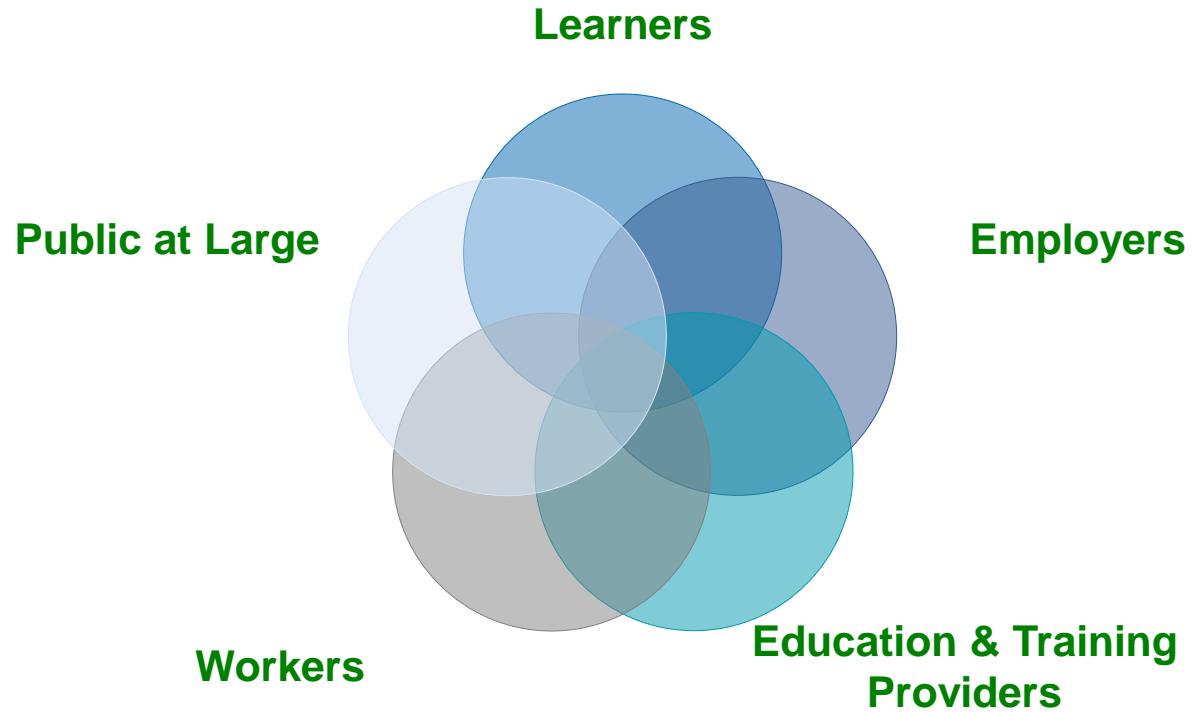
Transferability

Mutual Trust

Transparency



Who Benefits?



Learning Outcomes

Knowledge



What a person **knows** and **understands** (theory)

Skills



What a person is **able to do** (practice)

1. Applying Knowledge & Understanding
2. Communication Skills
3. Judgemental Skills
4. Learning Skills

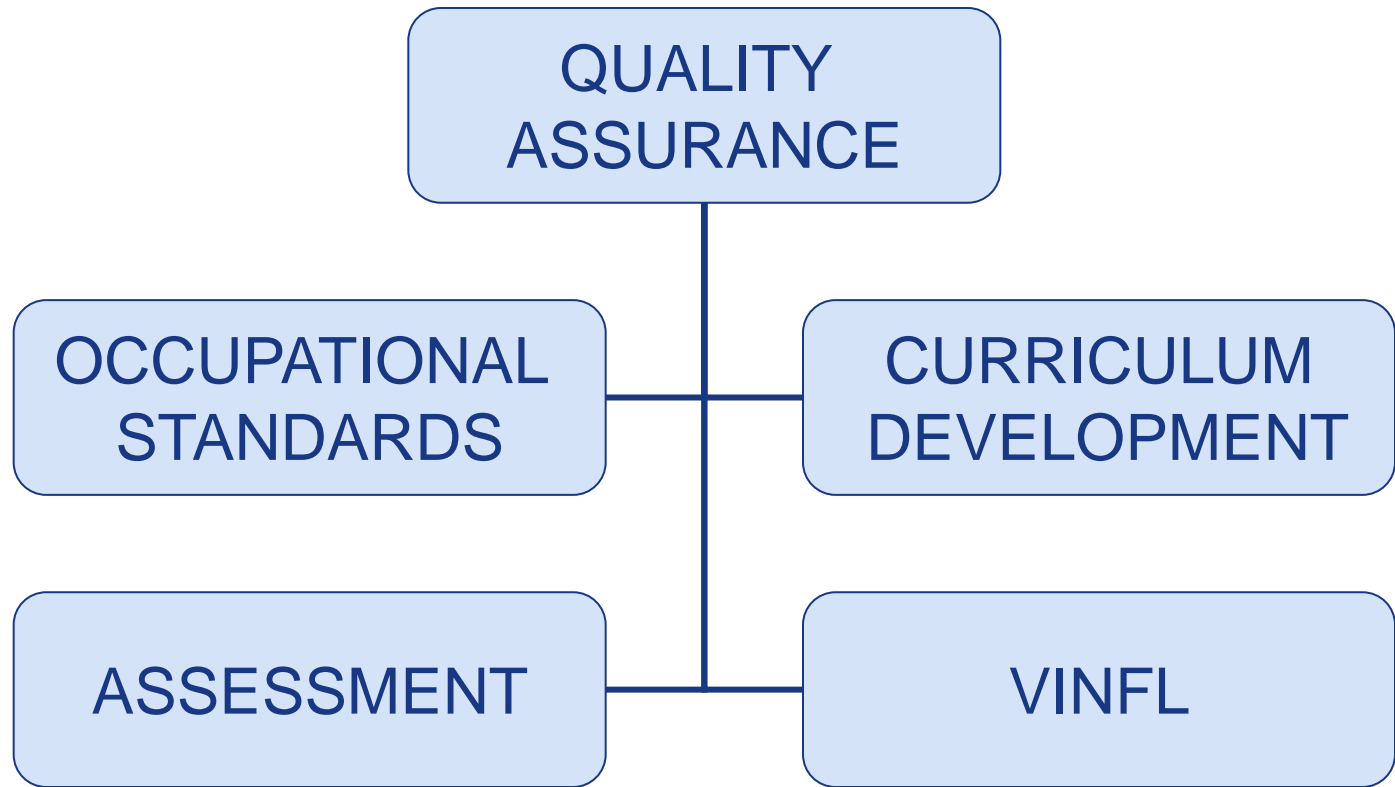
Competences



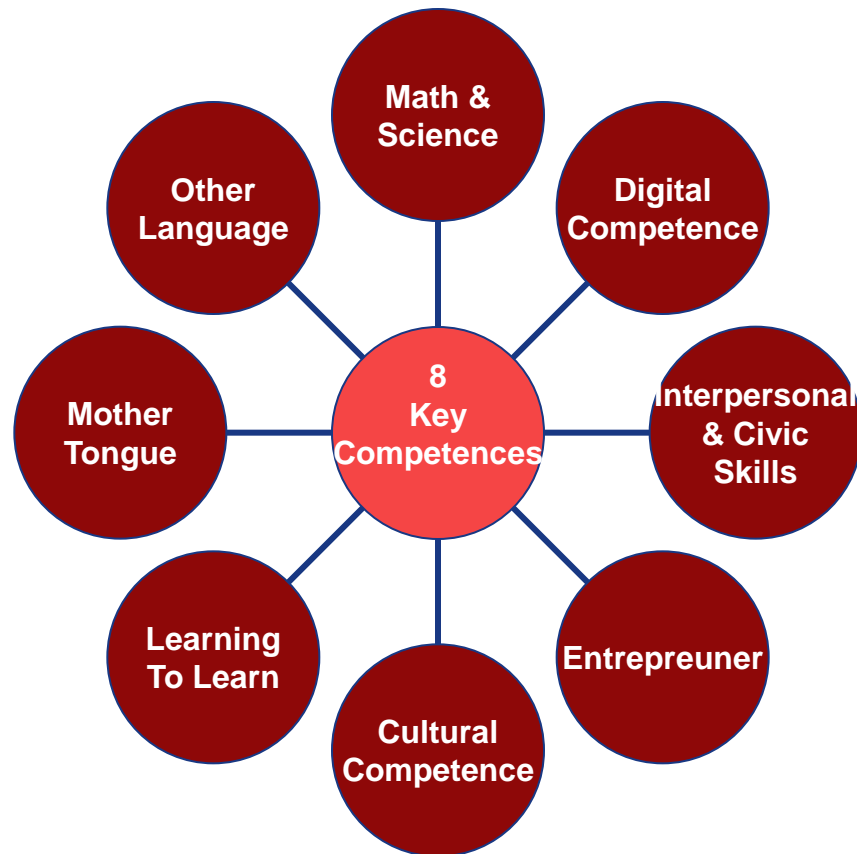
What a person is responsible for (**autonomy & responsibility**)



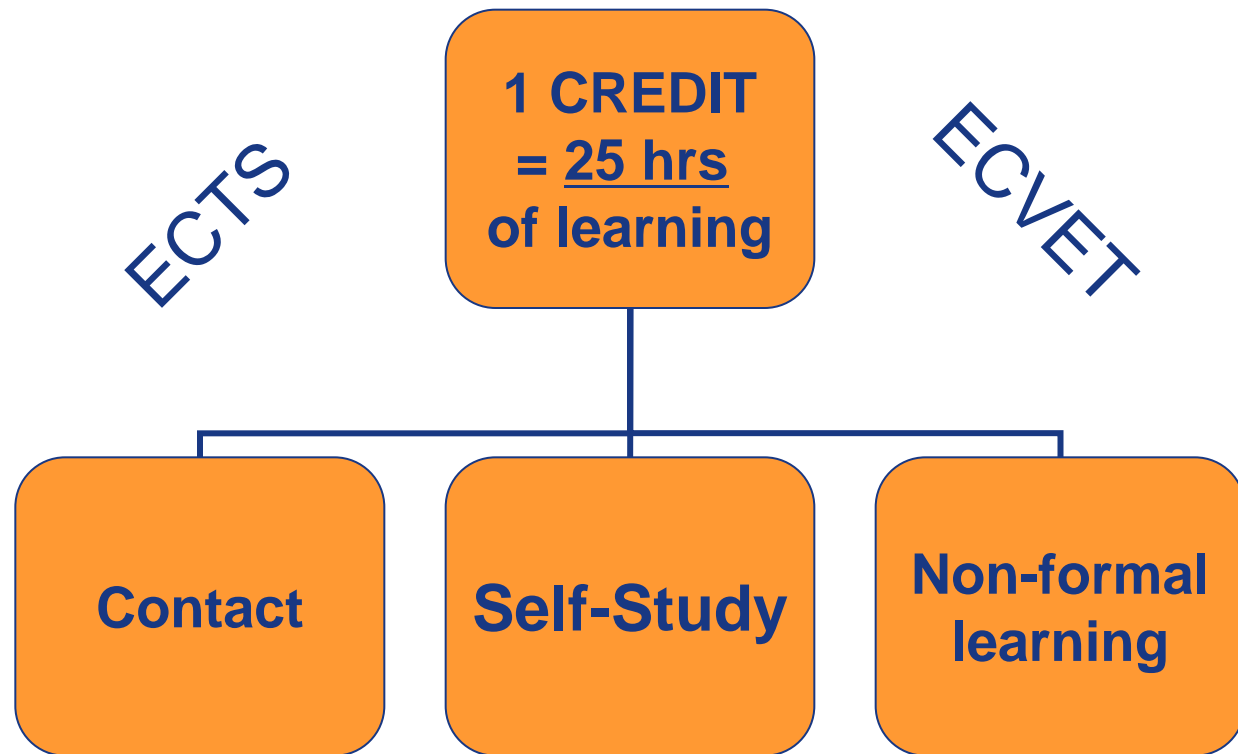
Why learning outcomes?



Including Key Competences



One Credit System



Level Rating Procedures

Formal Qualifications

Locally-Designed

Standards:
Level of difficulty;
Workload in credits;
Learning outcomes;
Quality Assurance;
Method of assessment;
Comparative assessment;
Consultation with the Designated
Authority/Board

Foreign Awarding Body

Recognition:
Level of difficulty at the country of origin;
The level compared to the EQF

Classification of Awards

By:

- **Sector**: Mainstream (Academic/VET) or Prior Learning?
- **Definition**: Distinction between one awards and another through description
- **Credits**: Official acceptance and recording of work undertaken
- **Level of Difficulty**: Level of doing or understanding
- **Workload**: Working time expected or assigned



A Proposal for an Awards System

Academic Higher Education Awards

Higher VET Awards

School Awards

VET Awards

CPD Awards

Customised Awards

Work-Based Awards

Legacy Awards (GE/HE)

Legacy (VET Awards)

MQF Levels 5-8

MQF Levels 5-8

MQF Levels 1-4

MQF Levels 1-4

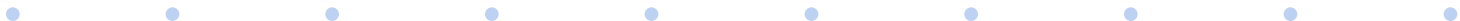
MQF Levels 5-7

MQF Levels 1-6

MQF Levels 1-5

MQF Levels 1-8

MQF Levels 1-5



Conceptual developments through Awards

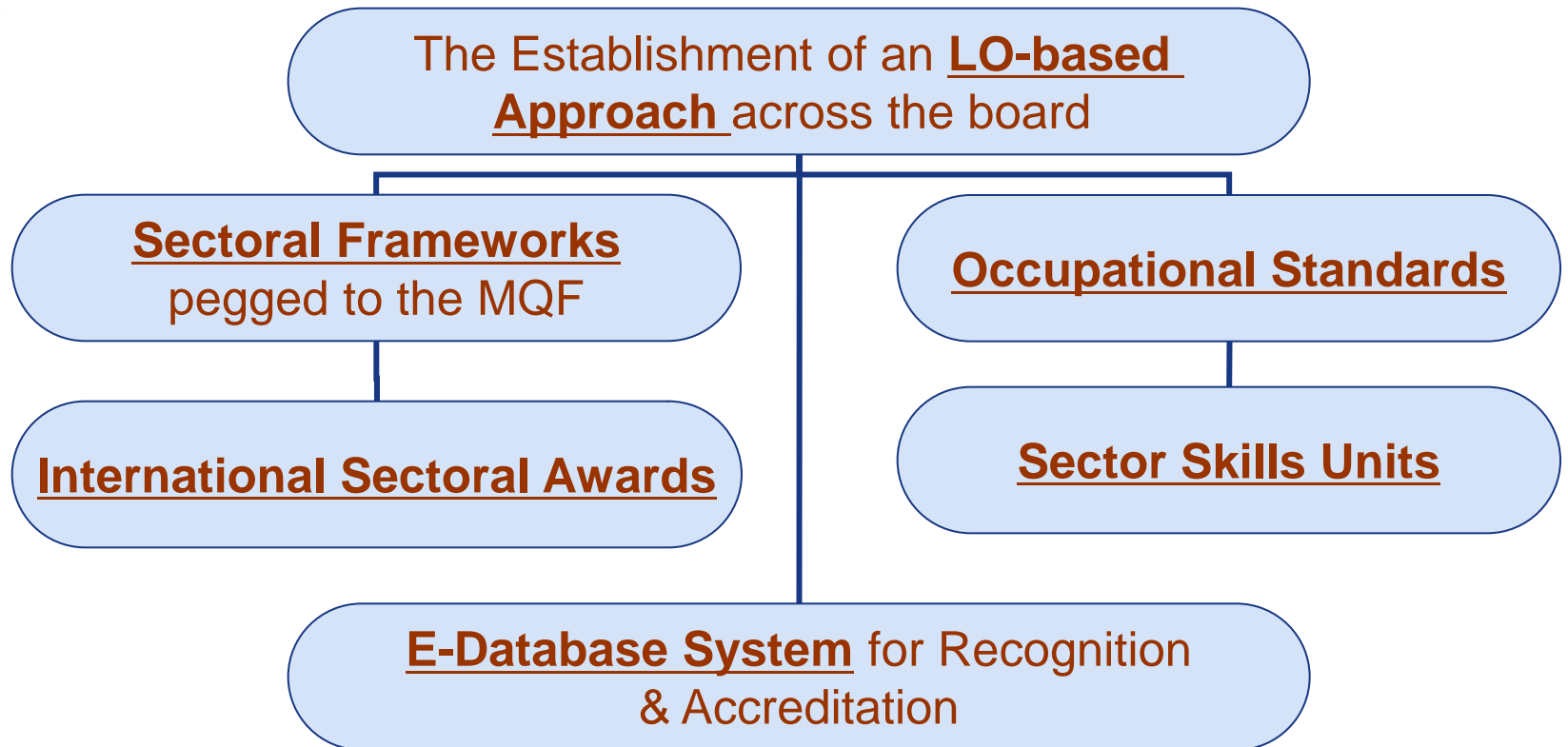
- Establishing the achievement of **full level qualifications**
- Awards: **Minimum 4 credits** (100 hrs of total learning)
- Recognition of **blocks of learning**
 - Giving value to different experiences
 - Relating Awards
 - Identifying and addressing gaps of learning achieved
- **Sectoral Awards** through Sectoral Frameworks
- **Application Procedure** and **Appeals**

International Sectoral Awards (Stateless)

- **Different** forms, types and levels
- Developed/Recognised **by Industry**:
 - Relevance of EQF put to the test
- **Valuing** all learning
- **Quality Assurance**
- A **Centralised** Approach?
- Referencing Groups of Countries: **a pilot phase**
 - **Standards** & **Procedures**



Further Developments



More competences for NCFHE

- Validation of Informal and Non-Formal Learning
- Sector Skills Units
- Accreditation of Institutions and Programmes
- Quality Assurance

- Maintaining and Elaborating the MQF



Ongoing Consultation

**National
Conferences**

Sector Councils

**Ongoing Discussion
Of Developments**

**Dissemination
Initiatives/Material**

**Project-Based/
Piloting Projects**

**Participation in EU/
International Fora**

**One-to-One
Meetings**

**Consultation/
Steering Committee**

**Peer-Learning
Activities**

**Policy Consultation
Documents**

**Meetings with
Focused Groups**

**Regional
Seminars**

**Online Fora/
Provision of Info**



Thank You!

