



South Africa's National Qualifications Framework

**Unpacking the successful international
partnerships and opportunities in South
African public and private education and
training institutions and in workplaces**

Samuel BA Isaacs

October 2006

Overview of SAQA and the NQF

Location and mandate



SAQA ensures that our nation has:

1. A standards setting system
2. A quality assurance system
3. A comprehensive information system
4. Strategic research
5. Communication/advocacy and information services
6. Evaluation services

Ensuring quality qualifications

Overview of SAQA and the NQF



Why an NQF for South Africa?

- To promote the development of a nation that is committed to life-long learning
- To ensure quality education and training
- Intellectual capital for a competitive edge
- Rapid technological change



Ensuring quality qualifications

Overview of SAQA and the NQF



Architecture

NQF Level	Band	Qualification type
10	Higher Education and Training (HET)	Doctorates
9		Masters Degrees
8		Honours Degrees
7		Honours Degrees and Degrees
6		Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates
5		Diplomas and Certificates
4	Further Education and Training (FET)	Certificates
3		Certificates
2		Certificates
1	General Education and Training (GET)	Certificates

Universities, universities of technology, public/private

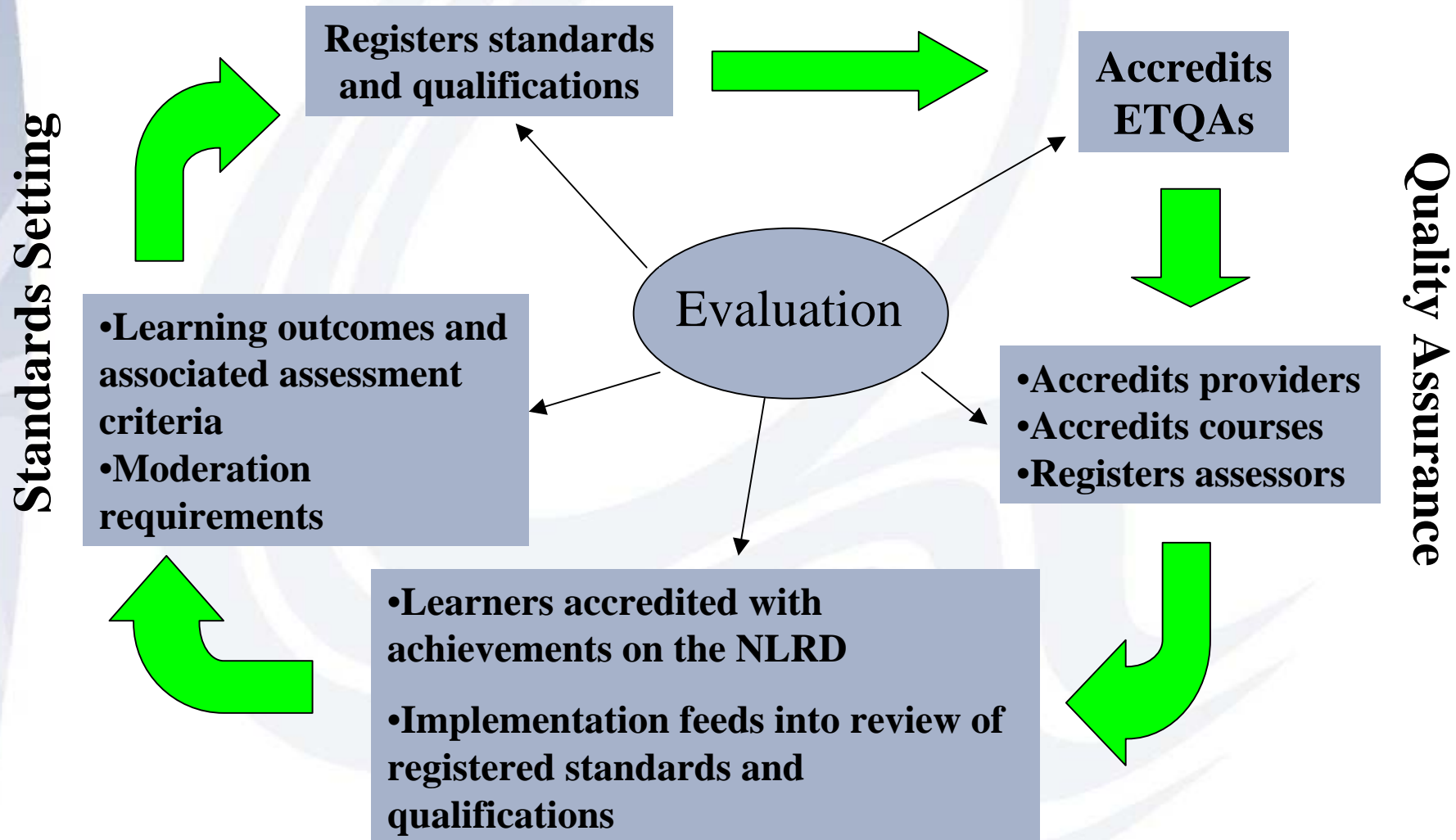
Schools, FET colleges, workplace-based, public/private

Schools, workplace-based, community centres

Overview of SAQA and the NQF



Quality cycle



ETQAs



31 ETQAs in total from three different sectors

1. Economic sector

23 SETAs of the Department of Labour - Skills Development Act

Statutory councils and professional bodies –various Acts – 6 in total

2. Education and Training sub-system sector

The Council on Higher Education (CHE)

The General and Further Education and Training quality assurance council – act (UMALUSI)

3. Social sector

Community and/or religious organization

ETQAs



- 1. AGRISETA**
Agriculture Sector Education and Training Authority
- 2. BANKSETA**
Banking Sector Education and Training Authority
- 3. CETA**
Construction Education and Training Authority
- 4. CHE**
Council on Higher Education
- 5. CHIETA**
Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority
- 6. CTFL**
Clothing, Textiles, Footwear and Leather Sector Education and Training Authority
- 7. ESETA**
Energy Sector Education and Training Authority
- 8. ETDP**
Education, Training and Development Practices

ETQAs



- 9. FASSET**
Financial and Accounting Services Sector Education and Training Authority
- 10. FIETA**
Forest Industries Education and Training Authority
- 11. FOODBEV**
Food and Beverages Manufacturing Industry Sector Education and Training Authority
- 12. HPCSA**
Health Professions Council of SA
- 13. HWSETA**
Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority
- 14. INSETA**
Insurance Sector Education and Training Authority
- 15. ISETT**
Information Systems, Electronics and Telecommunication Technologies Sector Education and Training Authority
- 16. LGSETA**
Local Government Sector Education and Training Authority

ETQAs



17. **MAPPP SETA**
Media, Advertising, Publishing, Printing and Packaging
Sector Education and Training Authority
18. **MERSETA**
Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector
Education and Training Authority
19. **MQA**
Mining Qualifications Authority
20. **PAB**
Professional Accreditation Body
21. **PSETA**
Public Service Sector Education and Training Authority
22. **SABPP**
SA Board for Personnel Practice

ETQAs



- 23. SAICA**
SA Institute of Chartered Accountants
- 24. SANC**
SA Nursing Council
- 25. SAPC**
South African Pharmacy Council
- 26. SASSETA**
Safety and Security Sector Education & Training Authority
- 27. SERVICES SETA**
Services Sector Education and Training Authority
- 28. TETA**
Transport Education and Training Authority
- 29. THETA**
Tourism Hospitality and Sport Education and Training Authority
- 30. UMALUSI**
Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training
- 31. W&R SETA**
Wholesale and Retail Sector Education and Training Authority

Partnership between SAQA and e/t/s didactic media

- One of the international partnerships SAQA has had in the education and training field was with e/t/s didactic media in 2004
- The partnership provided an opportunity to build capacity at SAQA using proven e-tutor training provided by e/t/s didactic media

Importance of e-learning for SAQA

- SAQA supports e-learning as a means to achieve a culture of lifelong learning and therefore wants to ensure quality e-tutor qualifications and practices in South Africa



Benefits of the partnership

- SAQA's involvement with e-learning through its project, *NQF Support Link*, meant that it had to have the necessary expertise in e-learning
- The *NQF Support Link* uses e-learning to accelerate NQF implementation, specifically with, and for education leaders for the benefit of learners
- With qualified e-tutors at SAQA, there is effective management and strategic use of the e-learning aspect of the project

Benefits of the partnership

- As a learning organisation, SAQA places great value on its own staff's learning
- e/t/s training has enabled SAQA to have in-house skills and knowledge to develop e-learning material and facilitate e-learning for internal capacity building

**CETA Study Germany:
Training Centres
Construction**

Ausbildungszentrum der Bauwirtschaft (Vocational Training Centre)



Joint funding

German

Construction

Industry

Lower Saxony

Department of

Education

CETA Study Germany: Training Centres Construction

Vocational Technical College Ferdinand- Braun_Schule Fulda

Joint Funding

State Province
of Hessian

City Council
of Fulda



CETA Study Germany: Training Centres Construction



Vocational Training Centre Simmerath/Eifel

Joint venture

**Aachen Chamber of
Skilled Crafts and
Trades**

**German Union for
Building Trades**





College of Cape Town

AACHEN PARTNERSHIP Art & Design / Jewellery Manufacture

- Director of Art & Design / Interior Decorating, Mr Riaan Cronjé and the Senior Lecturer of Jewellery Manufacture, Mrs Esmarié Du Plooy visited Aachen in June 2004.
- 6 day visit comprised of (visits to 3 Art and craft institutions) that offered similar courses as College of Cape Town
- Overlapping courses were: Interior Decorating, Fine Art, Furniture Making, Ceramics / Sculpture, Bricklaying and a bakery
- Discussions were on: (selection / recruitment of learners, educating and assessing skills and knowledge, the foundations of the NQF education and job placement after studies, lecturer exchange in one calendar year and learner exchange of one semester abroad)



PHOENIX CONTACT ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

- Visited College in 2004
- Participated in Explore New Automotion competition
- High tech equipment donated to the College
- Participated in finals in Blomberg
- Exposed to production and fabrication systems
- Phoenix contact to establish a “show room” at the College
- Further donation of “Phoenix Contact Room” equipment was made in 2006
- Relationship continues – to be strengthened



xplore

New-Automation Award 2005

In the automation competition the
College of Cape Town
successfully participated
with the project
Mine shaft winder
in the category
factory



Certificate of participation in the Xplore competition

Impact of SAQA's achievements



- NQF at the cutting edge, worldwide
- Wide participation in, and understanding of, education and training systemic change
- Greater co-operation among stakeholders and sectors in a coherent approach
- Improved quality and accountability

Impact of SAQA's achievements (continued)



- Underpinning the National HRD Strategy and supporting the DoE's Tirisano Programme and the DoL's Vhutsila Skills Development Strategy
- Assurance of a world class South African education and training system
- NLRD assisting to monitor the education and training system and inform decision-making

Proposed Objectives for NSDS 2005/2010

- Objective 1: Prioritising and communicating critical skills for growth, development and equity
- Objective 2: Promoting and accelerating quality training for all in the workplace

Proposed Objectives for NSDS 2005/2010

- Objective 3: Promoting employability and sustainable livelihoods through skills development
- Objective 4: Assisting new groups, including new entrants to participate in accredited work integrated learning and work-based programmes to acquire critical skills to enter the labour market and self-employment
- Objective 5: Improving the quality and relevance of provision

Government Priorities



- Emphasis on the second economy

“which economy constitutes the structural manifestation of poverty, underdevelopment and marginalisation in our country” (President Mbeki, SON 2004)

- Work vigorously to:

Consolidate the work that we have been doing targeting poverty

Increase the pace of delivery in areas that are weak so we do not regress

Package service delivery by collaborating with other government departments to improve efficiency



Government Priorities

- It is however clear that more work will have to be done to raise the skills levels of our people. Accordingly, the government has approved a new National Skills Development Strategy for the period 2005-2010. R21,9 billion over five years will be allocated to fund this Strategy, which will include improved cooperation between the SETAs on one hand, and the Further Training and Education colleges and the institutions of higher education on the other (President Mbeki – Parliament 2005).

Implications for Education and Training

- Continue working together with education and training communities in improving quality of education and training

Implications for Education and Training (continued)



- Identify key levers for education and training to respond to these challenges
- Focus will be on:
 - Dealing with poverty
 - Skills development
 - Quality education
 - Health and education
 - Institutional capacity development

**We are making the
NQF road by
walking and rolling
reflectively,
accountably and
boldly.**

