



Experiences with the Albanian Qualifications Framework

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Thank you for your attention



EQF – International Purpose

Comparability

“The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) acts as a translation device to make national qualifications more readable across Europe”

↪ **Not yet relevant for Albania**



AQF – Domestic Purposes

- Integration of MOE and MOL under one common VET roof
- Opening paths
- Permeability between sub-systems
- Re-entry from the labour market
- Recognition of prior and non formal learning



AQF – Stage of Development (1)

- Law approved, but:
 - No sub-legal acts
 - No structures
 - No processes



AQF – Present Reality

- Not implemented, **but:**
 - ⇒ Present in discussions and quoted in other legal texts
 - ⇒ Rather reinforces divide between MOE and MOL
 - ⇒ Mistakes and equals qualification levels with educational levels (like ISCED)

Annex 1: Levels in Albanian Qualifications Framework

	Higher and General Education	Vocational Education	Vocational Training	
8	Doctorate (University Diploma for scientific degree)	Studying programs and qualifications for expert specialist (University diploma for long term qualifications or specialisation)	Short courses in specialisms based on occupational requirements – acquisition of new or updated knowledge, skills and/or wider competences. (Professional Certificate)	8
7	Master's degree (University Diploma)	Studying programs and qualifications for higher managers and higher specialists (Professional University Diploma)		7
6	Bachelor's degree (University Diploma)	Studying programs and qualifications for managers and specialists (Professional University Diploma)		6
5	Two year Post –Secondary studying programs (Professional Diploma)	Studying programs/Qualifications for junior managers and higher technicians (Professional Diploma/Certificate)		5
4	Professional Matura	Professional Matura	Bridge courses (Certificate) Short term/medium term specialisation courses based on occupational requirements – new or updated	4



AQF – Present Reality

- Common VET roof ? **No**
- Open paths ? **No**
- Permeability between sub-systems ? **No**
- Re-entry from the labour market ? **No**
- Recognition of prior and non formal learning ? **No**



Challenge in Albanian VET Reform

- Change the mindset and
- Shift the focus from educational attainment to qualifications, learning outcomes, labour market relevance, performance.....



Summary and Conclusion

- Comparability comes later
- First comes the change in mindset and then the AQF can follow
- AQF is a good approach to anchor results of VET reform processes
- AQF is not an adequate approach to trigger, stimulate and spearhead a VET reform process



Thank you for your attention