NQF-in

Developing organisational and financial models for including non-formal sector qualifications in National Qualifications Frameworks





Country case – Poland

Including non-formal sector qualifications in the NQF

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Agenda:

- 1. Polish Qualifications Framework as a LLL policy tool
- 2. Act on the Integrated Qualifications System in Poland
- 3. Types of qualifications included in the IQS
- 4. Including market and regulated qualifications
- 5. Costs of including market qualifications
- 6. Dynamics of including qualifications in the IQS



Polish Qualifications Framework as a LLL policy tool:

- 1. Support lifelong learning,
- 2. Greater integration of the qualifications system,



Polish Qualifications Framework as a LLL policy tool:

- 3. Raise the level of human capital in Poland
- 4. Improve the ability to match supply and demand in the labour market



Polish Qualifications Framework as a LLL policy tool:



NQF is one of the most important lifelong learning policy tools in Poland



Act on the Integrated Qualifications System in Poland (Act of 22 December 2015 on the IQS)

The IQS Act establishes:

- 1. Polish Qualifications Framework
- 2. Integrated Qualifications Register



The IQS Act establishes:

- 3. Coordination of the IQS
- 4. Stakeholders' role in the IQS
- 5. Typology of qualifications and terminology
- 6. Principles of including qualifications
- 7. Principles of quality assurance



Types of qualifications included in the NQF

Full qualifications

Partial qualifications

School qualifications (general, VET, HE)

Regulated qualifications

Market qualifications



Examples of full qualifications

- Certificate of completing primary school (GE)
- Matura certificate (GE)
- Vocational diploma (VET)
- Diploma certifying the master's degree (HE)



Examples of partial qualifications

- 1. School qualifications:
 - VET certificates
 - Postgradute diplomas



Examples of partial qualifications

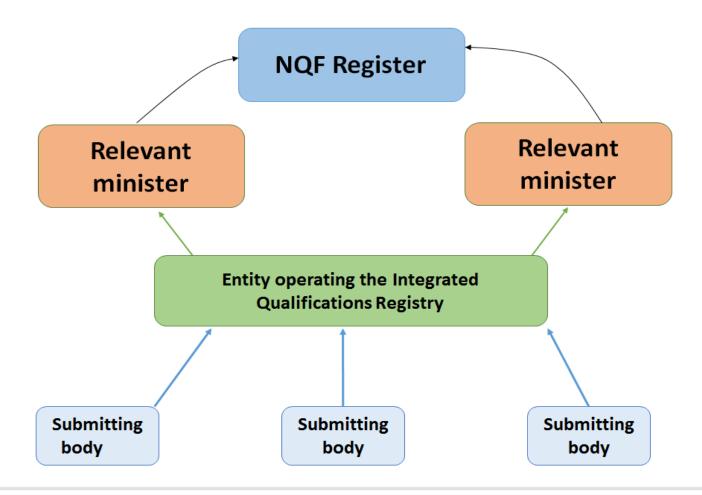
- 2. Regulated qualifications:
 - Diver's license
 - Tax advisor
 - Installation of electrical systems



Examples of partial qualifications

- 3. Market qualifications:
 - Real estate management
 - Computer skills certificate
 - Carpentry assembly in construction





Relevant minister takes the following steps:

Step 1. Conducts consultations with relevant stakeholders

Step 2. Obtains the opinions of specialists

Step 3. Assesses the application

Step 4. Appoints a group of experts to recommend the NQF level

Step 5. Announces the inclusion of the market qualification in the Integrated Qualifications System

Step 6. Sends this information to the entity operating the Integrated Qualifications Register

Step 7. Announces that institutions may now apply to become awarding bodies

Step 8. Begins the procedure of authorising entities to become awarding bodies

Including regulated qualifications in the NQF

The main difference between the procedure of including market qualifications and regulated qualifications

is that the ministry – no other body – initiates the inclusion of a regulated qualification in the NQF

Including qualifications in the NQF – the role of stakeholders

 Involved in assessing the need for a qualification to be included in the NQF

Involved in determining the NQF level –
special role of the Stakeholders Council

Public status of included market qualifications

Once a market qualification is entered in the Register, it becomes a public good

Several awarding bodies may award the same qualification

Aim: To protect the market of the Polish qualifications system from becoming excessively monopolized



Costs of including market qualifications in the NQF

For what?	Cost	Who pays?
Application to the relevant minister via the IQS Portal to include a market qualification	2 000 zł (~ 500 EUR)	Submitting body



Costs of including market qualifications in the NQF

For what?	Cost	Who pays?
Application to the	10 000 zł	Applicant
relevant minister	(~ 2500 EUR)	entity
via the IQS Portal to		
become an	5 000 zł*	
awarding body	(~ 1250 EUR)	

^{*} If this is the same entity that applied to have a qualification included in the IQS





Poland is in the first stage of the functioning of the IQS:

- Development of implementing regulations and organisational infrastructure
- Preparing governmental institutions involved in the IQS
- Preparing entities involved in the IQS





Qualifications awarded in the formal education system (general, VET, HE) were included in 2016

9233 full and 285 partial qualifications are listed in the IQR



Qualifications awarded outside the formal education system: (3rd quarter 2017)

1 qualification already included

23 qualifications submitted

48 qualifications prepared for submission (supported by IBE)



Within 5 years, all ministers are obliged to:

review the regulated qualifications within their sphere of competence

decide which of them should be included in the IQS



Thank you for your attention

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