

The learning outcomes based qualifications framework as a reform tool in Slovakia

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SKKR development

2009 – 2011

- Government Resolution - commitment to the adoption of EQF
- inter-ministerial working group for the implementation of SKKR
- National Coordination Point for EQF (NCP EQF)
- the first version of SKKR (8 levels)

Background - SKKR

2012 – 2015

- SKKR a part of the **National Reform Programme**
- Development of the **National Qualifications Register (2013 – 15)**
 - Analyses
 - Methodology for development of the NQF
 - revised SKKR (2014)
 - Methodology for linking qualifications to SKKR levels
 - Involvement of stakeholders (employers, experts, institutions, Sector Councils) on SKKR

Background - SKKR

2017

- Referencing report of the SKKR to EQF
 - Adoption of the Government SR

Background – Reforms/changes in education system

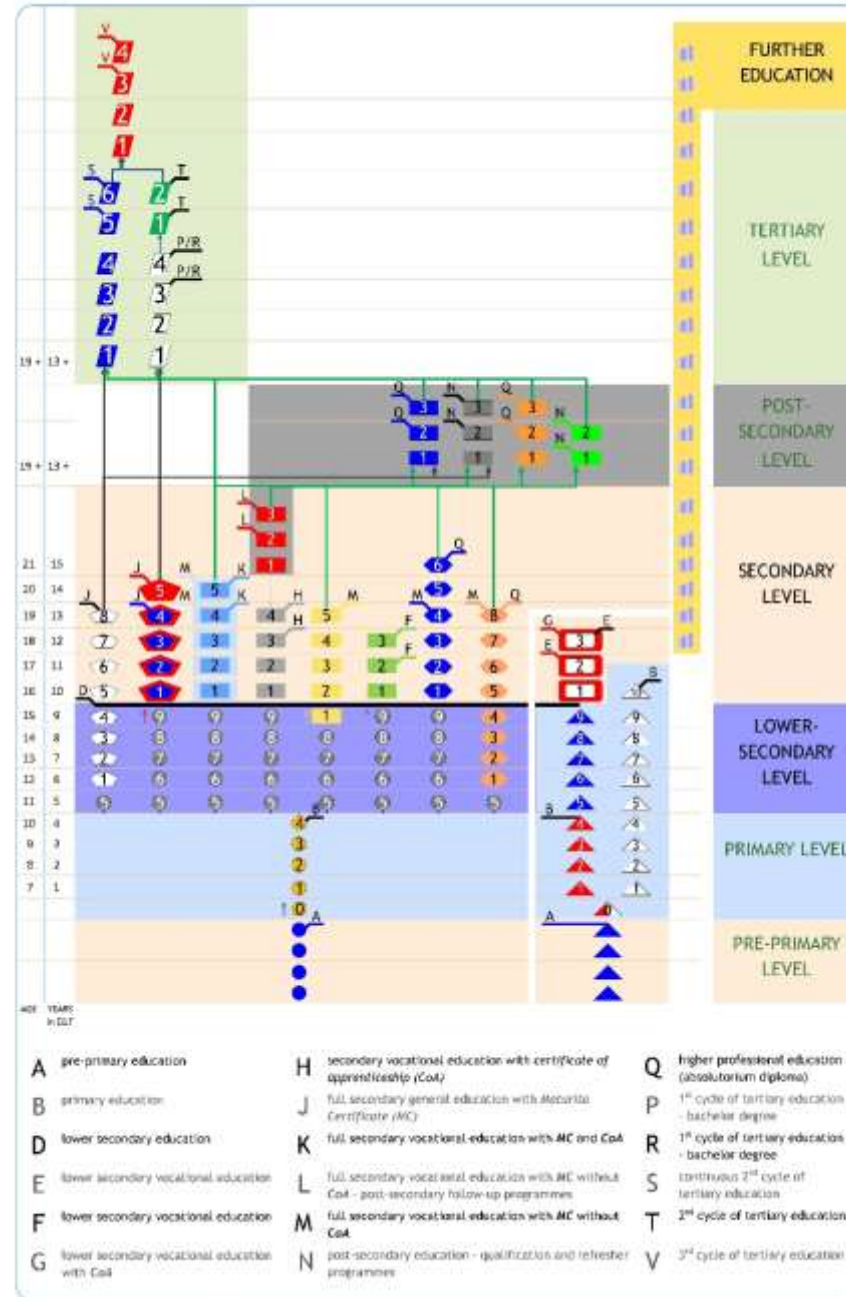
- 2008 - **curricular reform** - School Act (245/2008):
 - shift to the learning outcomes approach - performance standards - quality assurance - two-level model of curricula
- 2013-15 – **National Qualifications Register:**
 - qualifications standards
 - Sector Councils / employers involvement
- 2015 - **elements of dual VET:**
 - involvement of employers and professional organisations in VET (content, QA, financing) – (Act 61/2015 on VET)
- **HE - LO approach:**
 - Criteria for accreditation of study programmes of HE
 - Decree of the education ministry on the credit system (614/2002)

Use of learning outcomes

- Qualifications standards (NQR) – definition of LO from the EQF Recommendation (2009)
- SKKR – **NO distinction** between qualifications from formal education (academic, initial vocational) and non-formal education and informal learning, comparing of learning outcomes

Education system in Slovakia

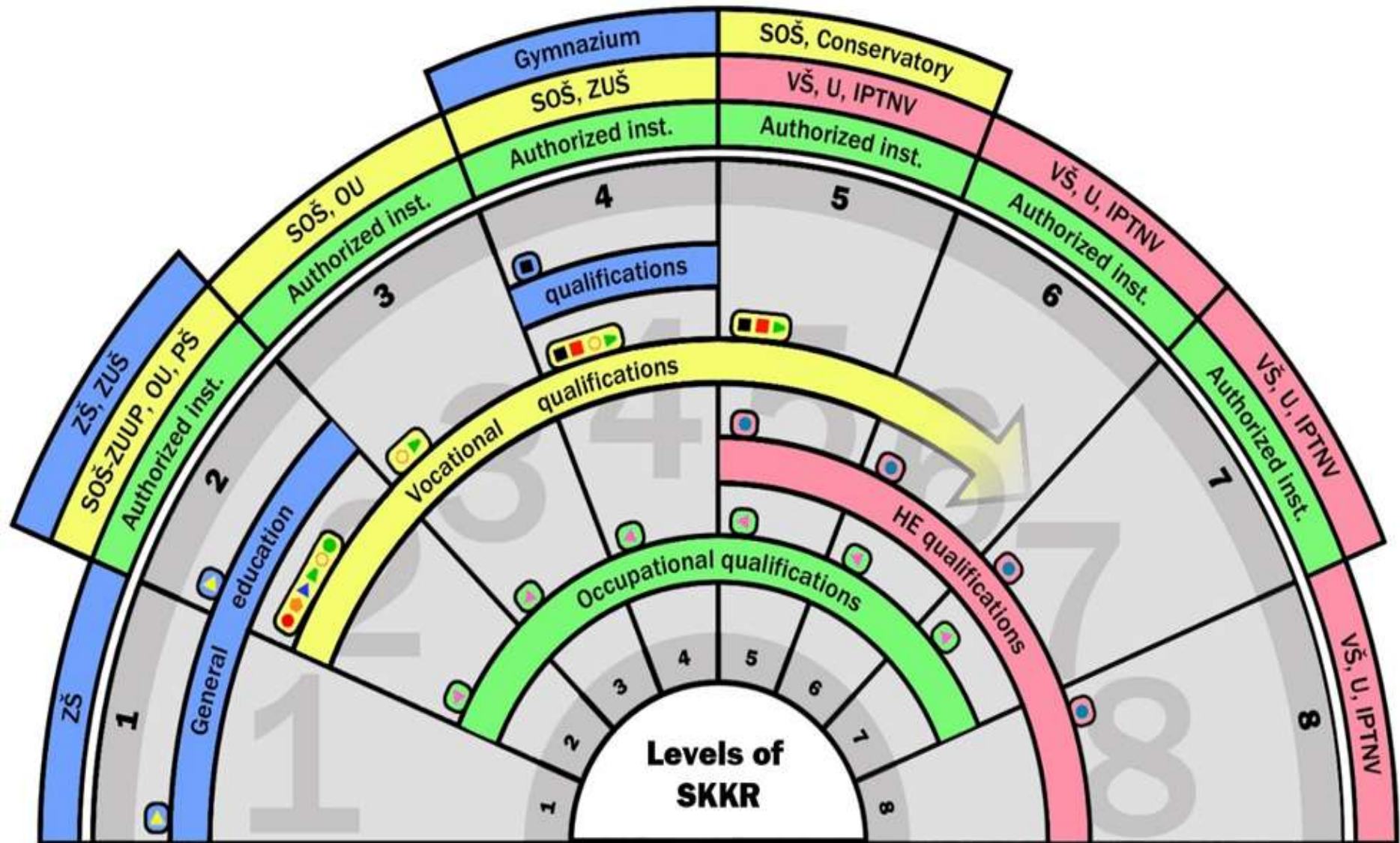
- New scheme - highlighting levels of qualifications
- All formal qualifications awarded on different levels of the system
- Discussions and consultations of Ministry of Education, stakeholders, experts
- Produced within the referencing process in Slovakia



SLOVAK QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK – SKKR

Roles of SKKR

- **Communication**
- **Transformation**
 - **Regulatory**
- **SKKR - classification of qualifications**
- hierarchical levels by a certain level of difficulty
- reference characteristics – national descriptors



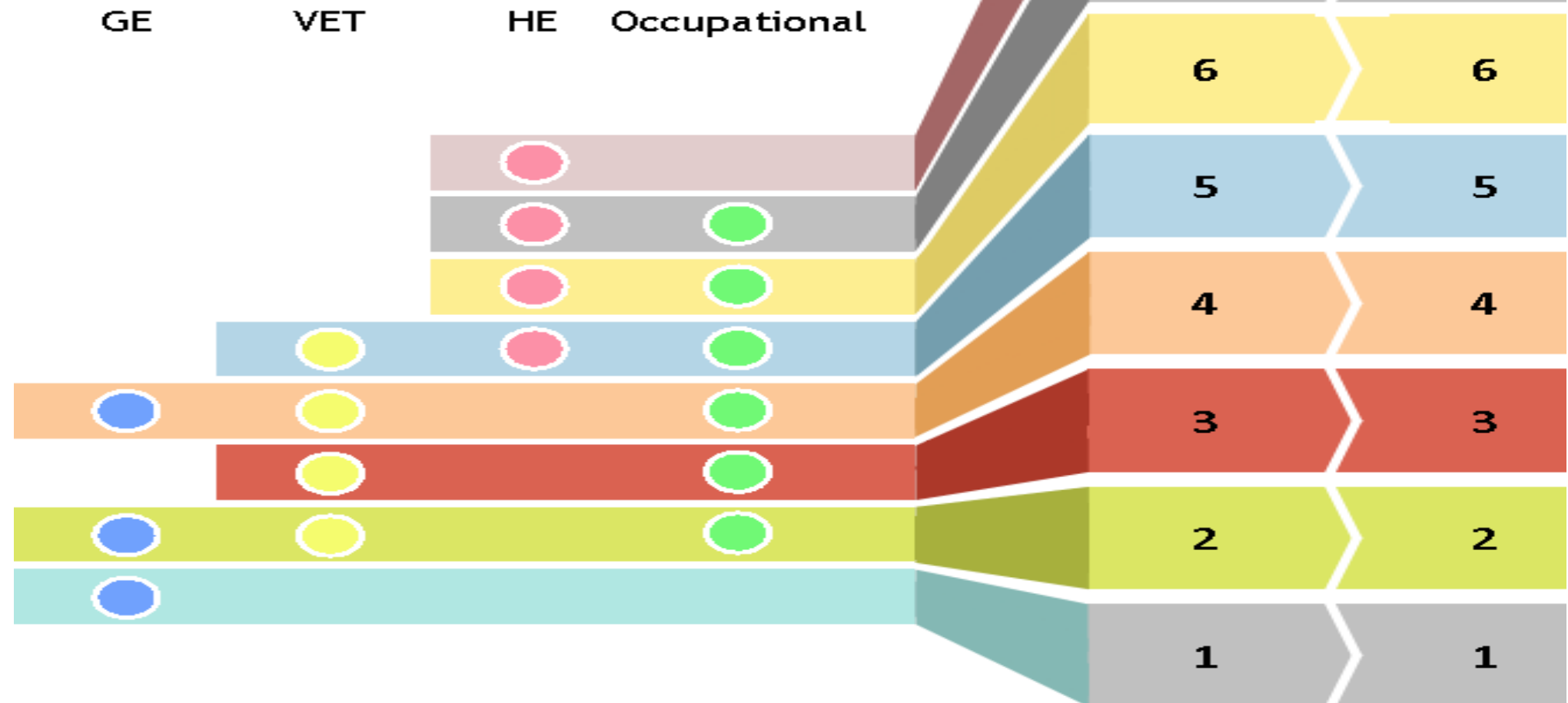
Slovak Qualifications Framework - SKKR

SKKR SUB-FRAMEWORKS

SKKR

EQF

QUALIFICATIONS



Subframeworks of SKKR

- General education qualifications' sub-framework → School Act
- Vocational qualifications' sub-framework
- HE qualifications' sub-framework → Act on HE
- Occupational qualifications' sub-framework
= *a link between the sub-frameworks in the LLL perspective* → Act on LLL

SKKR vs. EQF

Level descriptors - hierarchical principle

Frame- work	Categories		
EQF	Knowledge	Skills	Competences
SKKR	Knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ general▪ vocational	Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ cognitive▪ practical	Responsibility and autonomy Social competences

- Semantic analysis of LO requirements vs. descriptors at particular level
 - Methodologies based on „best-fit“ principle
 - Approval by competent authorities

SKKR descriptors

“horizontal and vertical reading” (increase of LOs requirements)

- complexity, scope and deepness of knowledge and their understanding;
- degree of necessary support for performing activities or during learning;
- degree of required integration, independency and creativity;
- range and complexity of application of knowledge or practice;
- degree of transparency and dynamics of situations within the practice or during learning

Future of SKKR

- Comprehensive **reform** of the education system in the Slovak Republic
- Further development of the **national qualifications system**
- Act on **Quality Assurance in Higher Education** (2018)
- Amendments of **LLL Act** (2018)
- Introduction of the **EQF/SKKR level** on all documents on qualifications
- Introduction of the system of **validation of VNIL**

Thank you for your attention