The European Qualifications Framework: supporting learning, work and cross border mobility
15-16 March 2018, Brussels

Qualifications frameworks and institutional governance: the Italian case

Gabriella Falzacappa ANPAL – National Agency for Active Labour Market Policies

NQF - main institutional steps

Law 92/2012 Reform of the Labour Market

Lifelong learning for a new economic growth, social inclusion and for supporting employability/mobility

The First Referencing Report to EQF

2012

Legislative Decree 13/2013

National Repository of Qualifications awarded at the national/regional level based on Learning Outcomes and EQF levels

Inter-ministerial Decree establishing the NQF

8 January 2018

NQF Objectives

Tool for the description and classification of all national qualifications

for
qualifications
to access the
National
Repository of
qualifications

....thus

Completing the referencing of qualifications to EQF

NQF characteristics

Structured on 8 levels

Based on Learning Outcomes (LOs) approach

EQF descriptors

Holistic/all-inclusive approach (sub-descriptors)

NQF Sub-descriptors: 4 methodological criteria

Criteria 1

The EQF explicit dimensions are fully adopted

Criteria 2

The EQF implicit dimensions are made explicit

Criteria 3

The EQF explicit dimensions adjusted to the national qualifications systems

Criteria 4

Further
descriptive
elements to
make NQF
descriptors more
inclusive

Sub-descriptors and criteria. The methodological framework

Knowledge	Skills	Responsibility / Autonomy
Theoretical and/or factual dimension of knowledge - The EQF explicit dimensions are fully adopted (Criteria 1)	Procedural and practical skills - The EQF explicit dimensions are fully adopted (Criteria 1) Technical, professional and context specific skills - Further descriptive elements to make NQF descriptors more inclusive (Criteria 4)	Context - The EQF implicit dimensions are made explicit (Criteria 2)
Extent and depth of knowledge - The EQF implicit dimensions are made explicit (Criteria 2) Understanding and awareness of knowledge - The EQF implicit dimensions are made explicit (Criteria 2)	Cognitive skills - The EQF explicit dimensions are fully adopted (Criteria 1) Social-interaction and activation skills - Further descriptive elements to make NQF descriptors more inclusive (Criteria 4)	Responsibility - The EQF explicit dimensions adjusted to the national qualifications systems (Criteria 3) Autonomy - The EQF explicit dimensions adjusted to the national qualifications systems (Criteria 3)

Main NQF level descriptor elements in Italy

Deree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies in accordance with the Ministry of Education, University and Research establishing the NQF in Italy, 8 January 2018 - http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2018/01/25/18A00411/sg

Translation by Michela Bastianelli and Gabriella Falzacappa (ANPAL)

Descriptor	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS	RESPONSIBILITY and AUTONOMY
Level 1	limited extent, aimed at performing	Using know-how, materials and tools to gperform simple tasks by involving basic l cognitive, interpersonal and social skills. Typically: FOCUS and INTERACTION	0 0
Level 2	<u> </u>	Using know-how, materials and tools to perform simple tasks in different sequences, by involving cognitive, interpersonal and social skills, in a detailed range of context variables. Typically: MEMORY and PARTICIPATION	with established criteria, under supervision
Level 3		Applying a range of know-how, methods, materials and tools to achieve expected results by involving a set of cognitive, interpersonal, social and activation skills which facilitate the adaptability in changeable contexts. Typically: UNDERSTANDING, CO-OPERATION and GOAL ORIENTATION	compliance and by identifying the most appropriate implementation methods, in a
Level 4	knowledge in different fields	Applying a range of know-how, methods, routines, procedures, materials and tools to solve problems, by involving a set of cognitive, interpersonal, social and activation skills needed to overcome increasing difficulties. Typically: PROBLEM SOLVING, CO-OPERATION and MULTITASKING	integrating own and others results and activities, and by participating in both

Can the learning outcomes approach make a difference?

Impact of the LOs approach on the national Learning System

- General Education Reform
 Decree of the Ministry of
 Education n. 211, 2010
 (Upper Secondary School
 and Regional qualifications
 awarded within State Regions Agreement)
- The First National Referencing Report to the EQF (2012)
- Networking co-ordination among different istitutional stakeholders

Work-based learning policies:

- Decree n. 107, 2015 Buona scuola
 School-work alternation in Upper Secondary School (even abroad)
- State-Regions Agreement 24 Sept.,
 2015 on Dual system in VET pathways

In progress...

 Re-design of Regional Repositories: alignment of regional qualifications

Still resistance to the output oriented approach

Potential NQF impact

Validation of non formal and informal learning

Coordination of learning opportunities and permeability between different systems

Development of policies, services and measures for **vulnerable groups** (NEET) or for supporting specific programme (Upskilling)

Operational **networking** at local level between PES, Guidance centres, and Adult Learning Centres

Reducing the **skills mismatch**, increasing **employability** and labour market **competitiveness**

Developing the National Framework

Updating the First Referencing Report to the EQF (end of 2018)

Guidelines for referencing the qualifications to the NQF/EQF

Implementation of VNIL procedures

Thank you for your kind attention

Gabriella Falzacappa EQF NCP – ANPAL (<u>www.anpal.gov.it</u>) gabriella.falzacappa@anpal.gov.it