



ACQF

African Continental
Qualifications Framework

KNQA
Shaping the future of Kenya

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) IN KENYA

PRESENTED BY

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SPEAKER

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1 Background information

2 Target beneficiaries of RPL in Kenya

3 The Process of RPL in Kenya

4 RPL implementation & Challenges faced

1 About KNQA

Set up to coordinate and harmonize the various levels of education & training and to create a national database of all qualifications in the country.

2 Rationale

establish a common regulatory system for the recognition of attainment of knowledge, skills, competences, values and attitude (*Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2005*)

3 Our Mission

To establish and manage the KNQF aimed at promoting globally recognized & competitive qualifications for sustainable development

4 Our VISION

Globally Recognized and Competitive
Qualifications Transforming Kenya

5 Core Values

Professionalism; Integrity; Teamwork;
Accountability; Quality; Relevance &
Equity

6 OUR Motto

Shaping the Future of Kenya

What is RPL?



- ❖ It is process to **identify**, **assess** and **certify** knowledge, skills and competences of a person regardless of **how**, **when** & **where** learning occurred (**RPL Policy Framework in Kenya**);
- ❖ It is the learning outcomes that are assessed, and potentially validated, not the learning process; (RLO)
- ❖ Assessment is the heart of the system for trust/integrity & parity of esteem (balance).



In the Kenyan context;

- ❖ RPL is a philosophy that learning takes place **everywhere** and **all the time...** throughout life; (Nafukho, Amutabi and Otunga, 2005);
- ❖ There is diversity & flexibility in the manner people acquire skills leading to Skills that are invisible;

RPL exists:

- To make these *'invisible skills visible'*;
- RPL is a Bridge between informality and formality;
- RPL is an optional pathway to attainment of qualifications;
- Redress mechanism for people with skills but lack qualifications.



Rationale for RPL

- Many people acquired skills through informal & non formal means;
- The Paradox of skills mismatch/shortage in Kenya;
- Kenya has an many ‘invisible’ skills that are driving the economy;
- However, education system does not recognize this type of learning;
- Constitution provide for a right to education- *Hence RPL is a Right;*
- **Comply with ILO’s recommendation No.195 of 2004;**
- RPL is a Bridge between informality and formality;
- RPL is an optional pathway to attainment of a qualification.

Target beneficiaries



Demand for a system
for recognition of
skills by informal
sector

Presidential Directive on RPL

2005

2018

2019

2021

2022

Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2005
Recommendation on RPL system

1st Draft RPL Policy
Framework

National RPL
Conference
& Launch

What RPL is NOT

- The heart of RPL is **assessment**;
- RPL is **not** about education & training;
- It's about assessing competences an applicant **already** has;
- RPL is **NOT** about a curriculum.



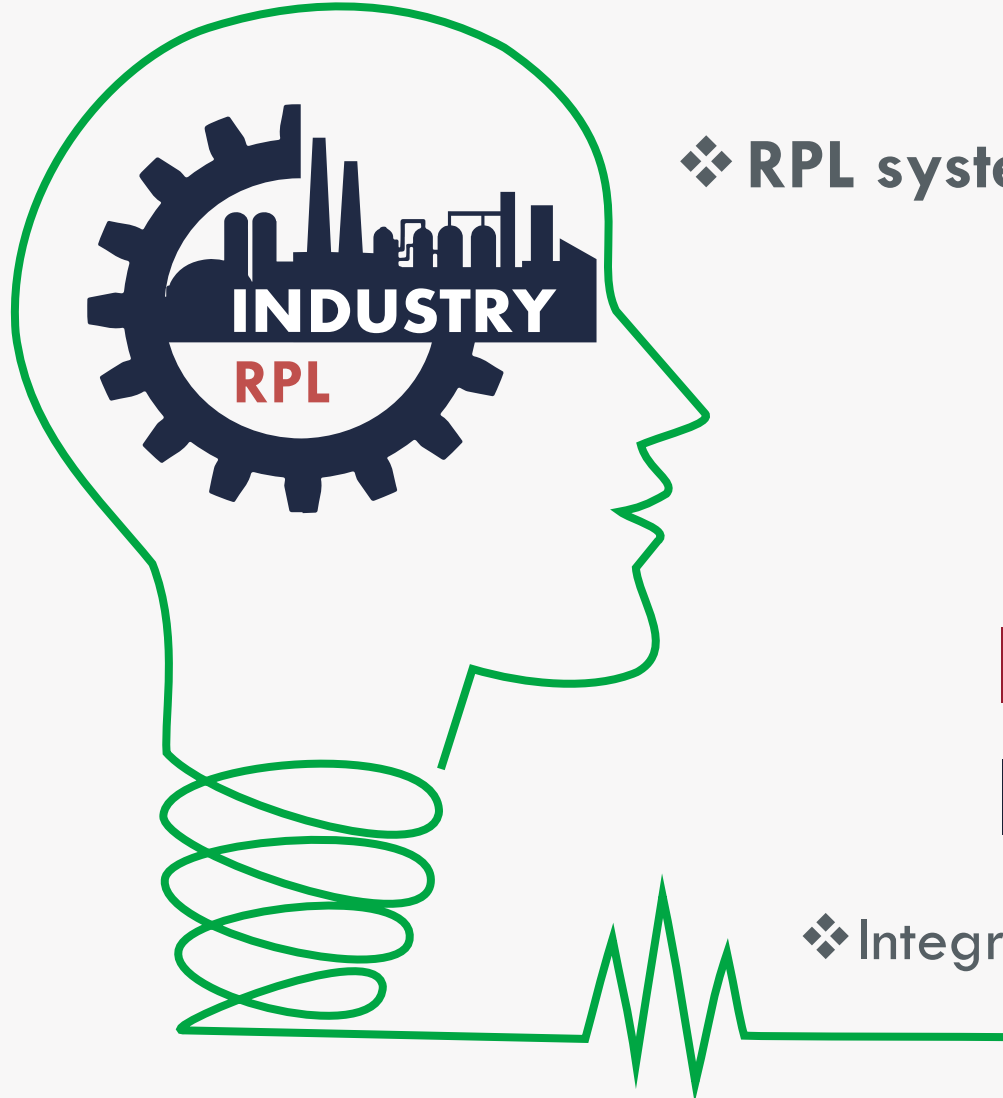
☐ Anchored in the following Act:

✓ KNQF Act no. 22 of 2014 mandates
KNQA;

✓ **Section:8 1(k);**

❖ *Establish a national system for the recognition of competencies, skills, knowledge, attitudes and values.*



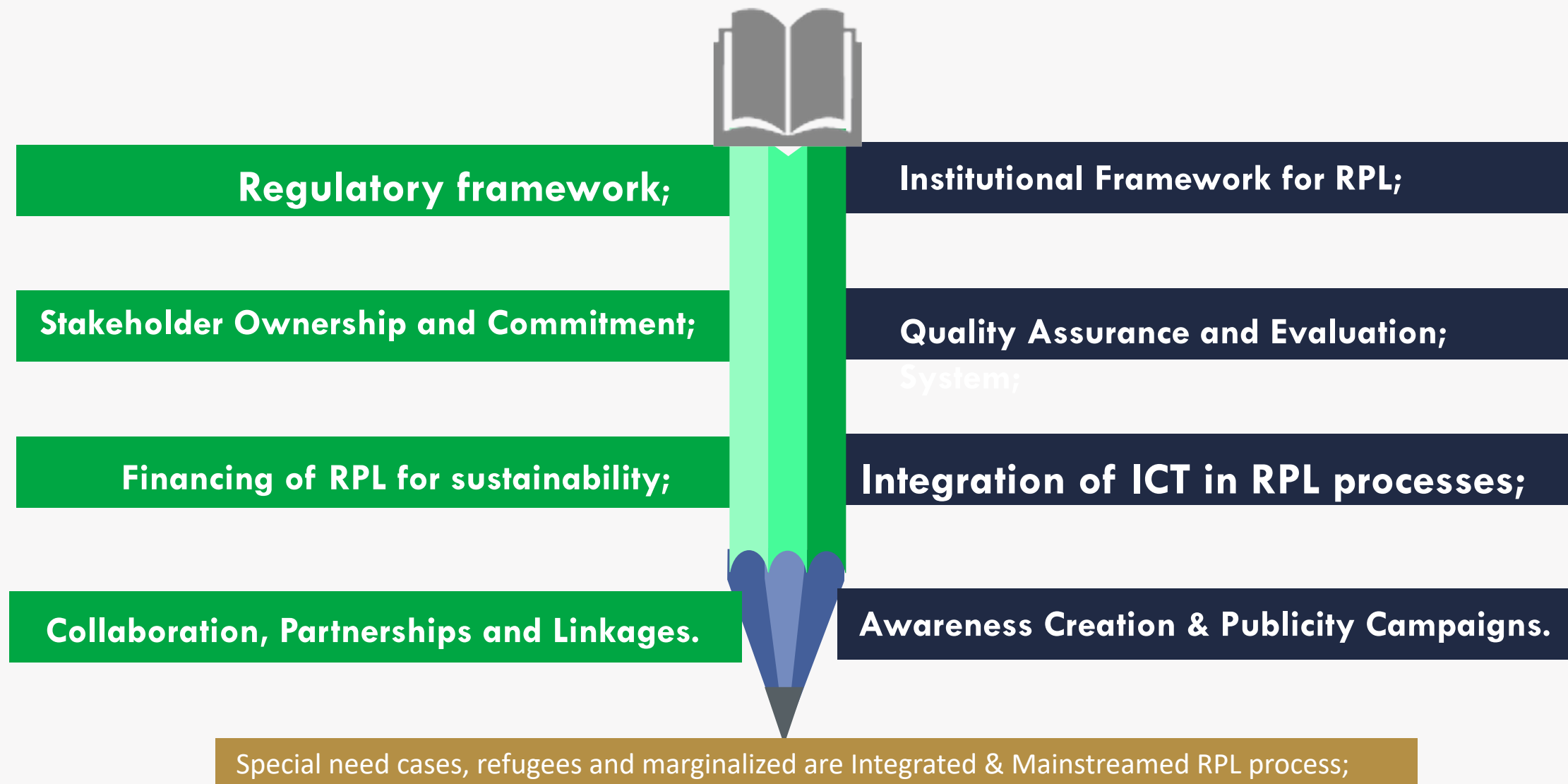


❖ RPL system in Kenya is build on Five (5) Blocks :

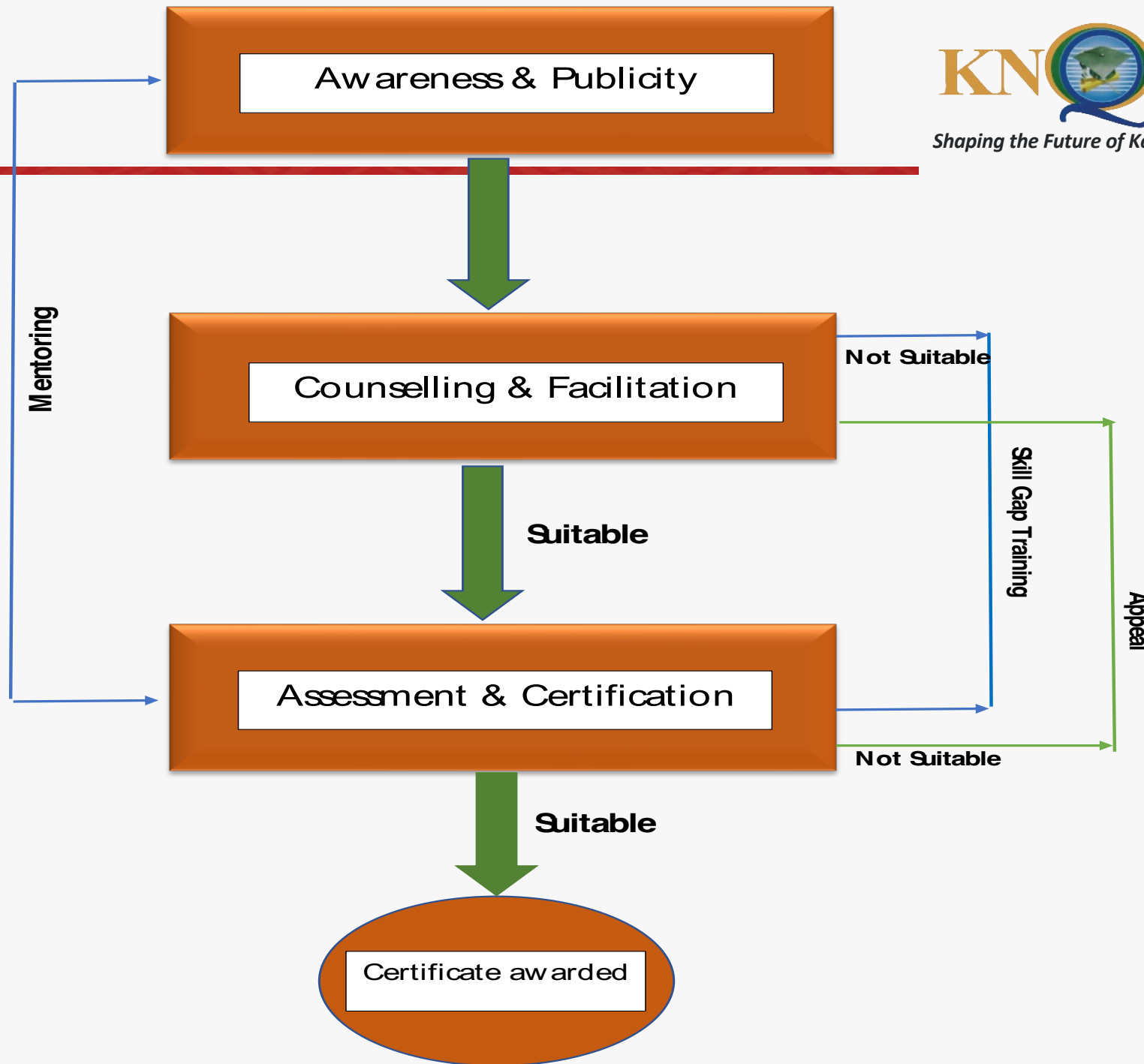
- 1 Regulatory framework;
- 2 Institutional framework;
- 3 Quality assurance;
- 4 Stakeholder involvement;
- 5 Sustainable Financing.

❖ Integrated to the National Qualifications Frameworks;

RPL ENABLERS

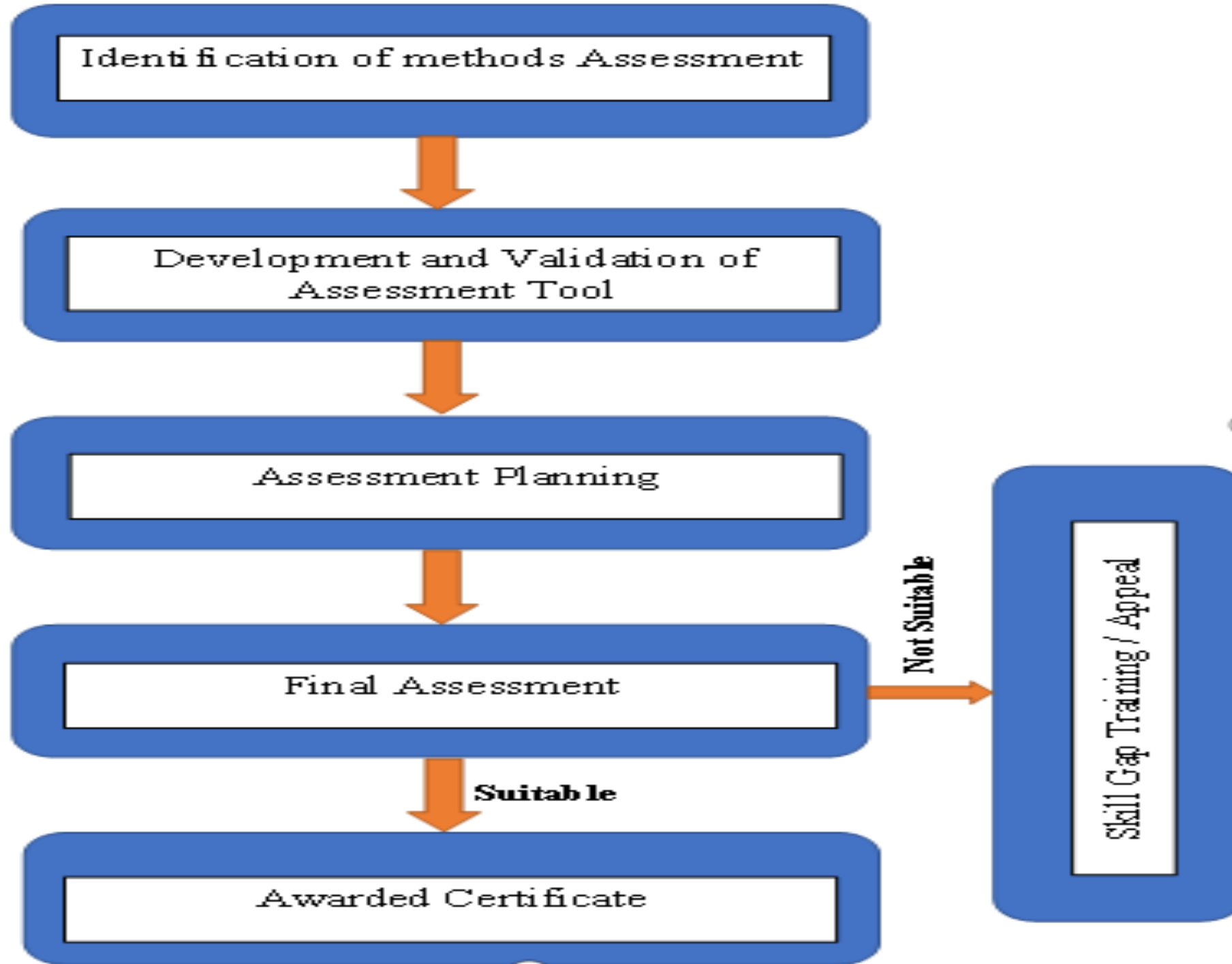


Process of RPL

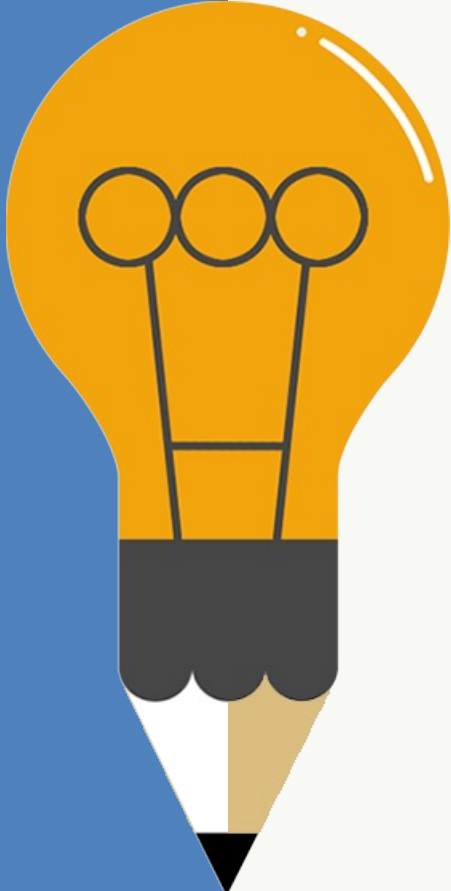




RPL Assessment Process



Final outcomes of RPL



01

Lifelong learning;

02

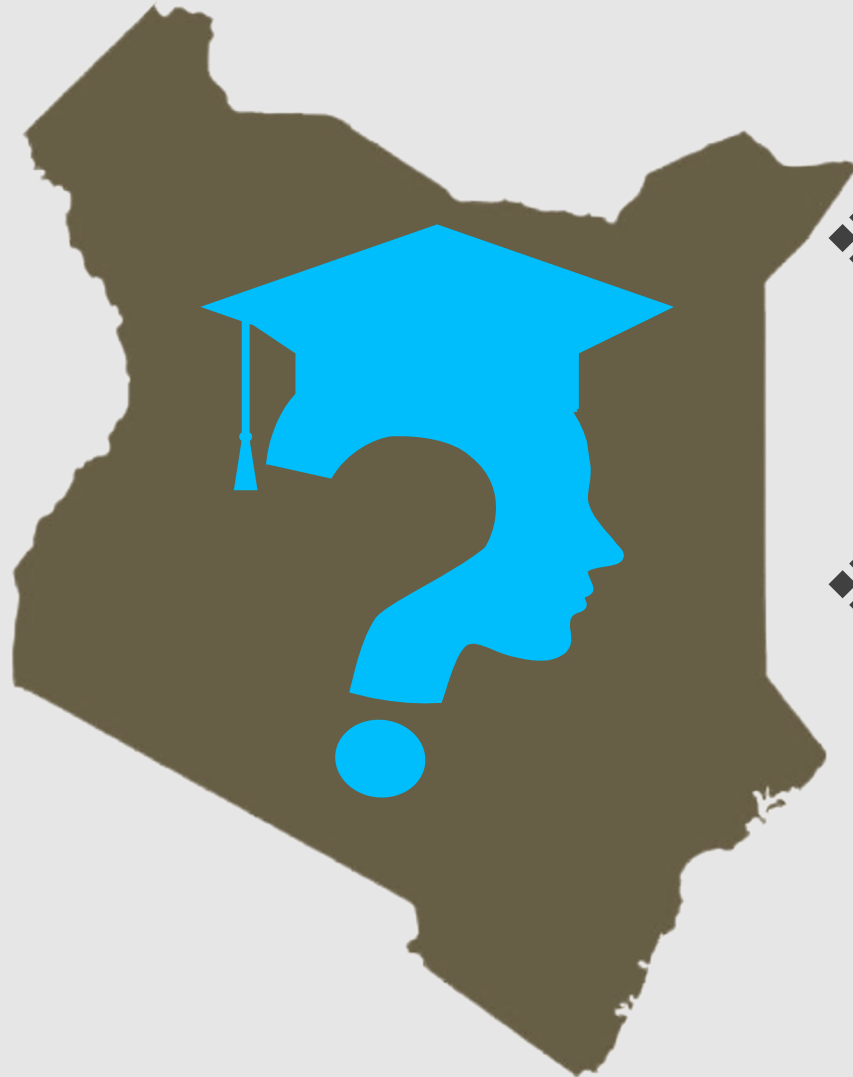
Access to higher education;

03

Employability;

04

Self esteem and inclusivity & Mobility



- ❖ All qualifications in the National Qualifications Framework(KNQF);
- ❖ Phase I of implementation entails TVET Qualifications levels 3- 5

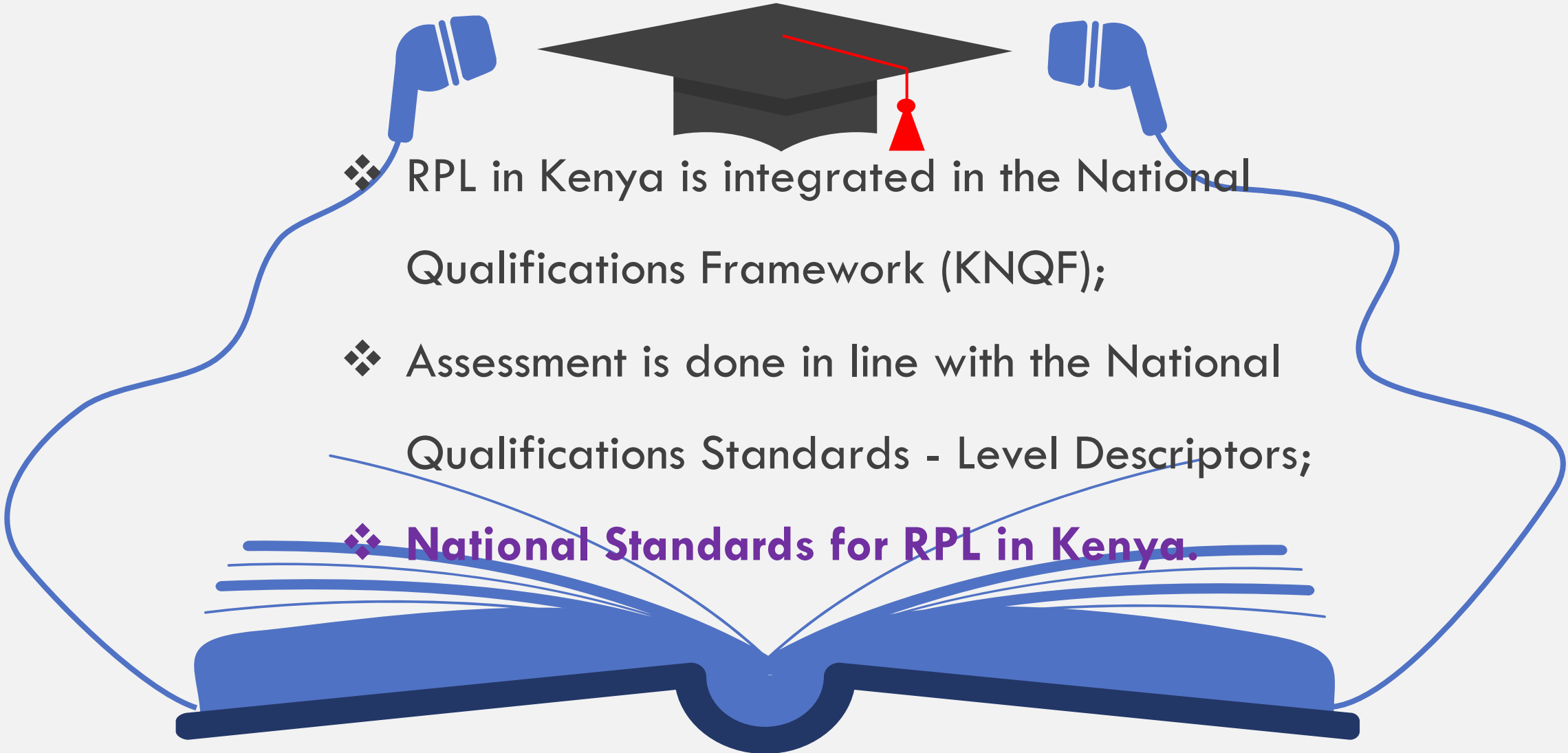




Who assesses the RPL candidates?

- ❖ RPL Process is executed by accredited RPL Practitioners;
 - From RTPs and or Industry;
 - Assessment done by panel;
- ❖ RPL Practitioners/ personnel used in the execution of RPL includes:
 - Counsellors/Facilitators;
 - Assessors;
 - Coordinators;
 - Moderators
- ❖ Assessment is coordinated by QAIs through accredited Assessment centers;

Which standards are used for assessment?

- 
- ❖ RPL in Kenya is integrated in the National Qualifications Framework (KNQF);
 - ❖ Assessment is done in line with the National Qualifications Standards - Level Descriptors;
 - ❖ **National Standards for RPL in Kenya.**

Main elements of quality assurance of RPL

1. Establishing Common RPL Standards;
2. Ensuring Availability of competent RPL Practitioners;
3. Collaborating with Stakeholders, Employers & Workers organizations;
4. RPL Assessment & Certification Framework;
5. RPL Assessment tools and Methodologies;
6. Accreditation of Qualifications Awarding Institutions & Registration of Qualifications;
7. RPL Monitoring & Evaluation & Continuous Professional Development.

- ❑ **Establishment of two-tier Committee;**
 - National Advisory Committee (NAC)- policy direction;
 - National Implementation Committee (NIC)- Implementation

- ❑ **Capacity development of RPL practitioners;**
 - Trained the NIC members (Experts);
 - Training of RPL Practitioners (TOA);

- ❑ **Piloting in 4 Priority Areas;**
 - Motor Vehicle Mechanics;
 - Welding & Fabrication;
 - Hairdressing & Beauty

Levels 3-5

❑ Development of RPL Tool box;

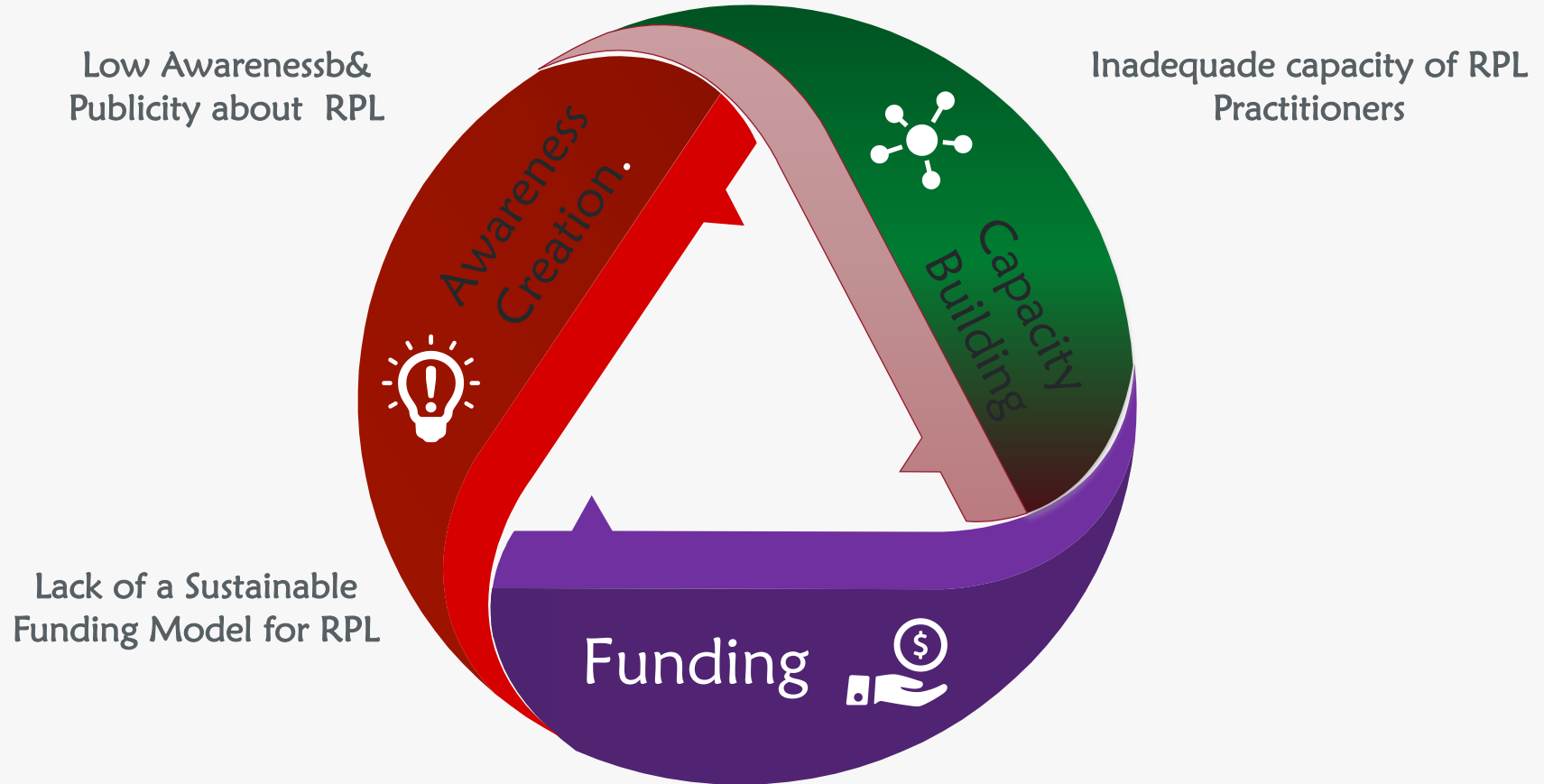
These are instruments/platforms for the execution of the RPL process;

- ✓ Guidelines for the implementation of RPL;
- ✓ National RPL Standards;
- ✓ RPL Guides (*QAIs, Assessment Centers, Candidates, Practitioners Regulators, Appeal*);
- ✓ Application Templates & Forms;
- ✓ Practitioner Training Manual;
- ✓ RPL Practitioners Code of Conduct;
- ✓ RPL Quality Assurance Manual.

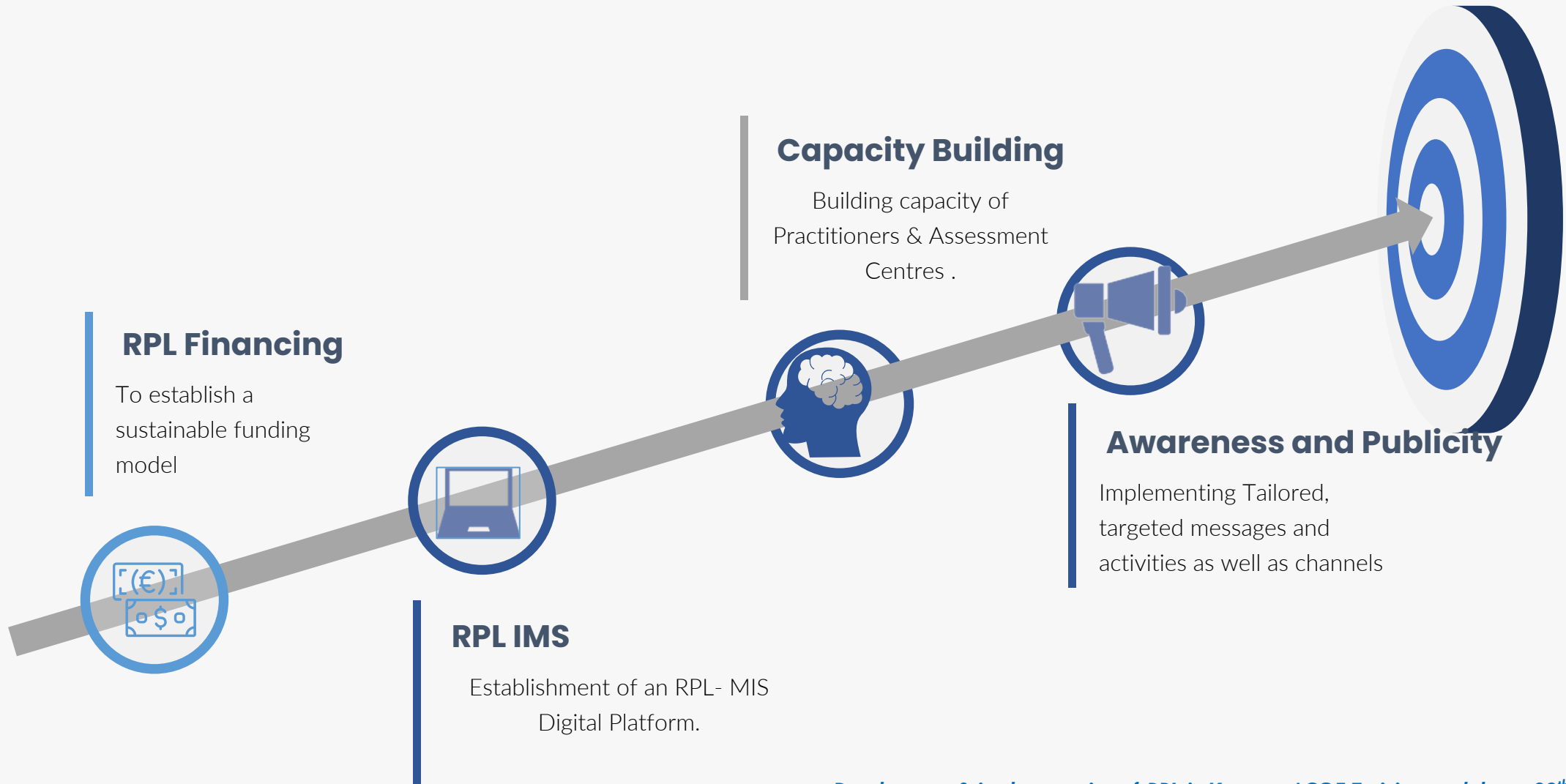
Challenges



Important Challenges



Proposed Solution to the Challenges



Questions & Answers



Thank you

