

## **CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM-ZAMBIA**

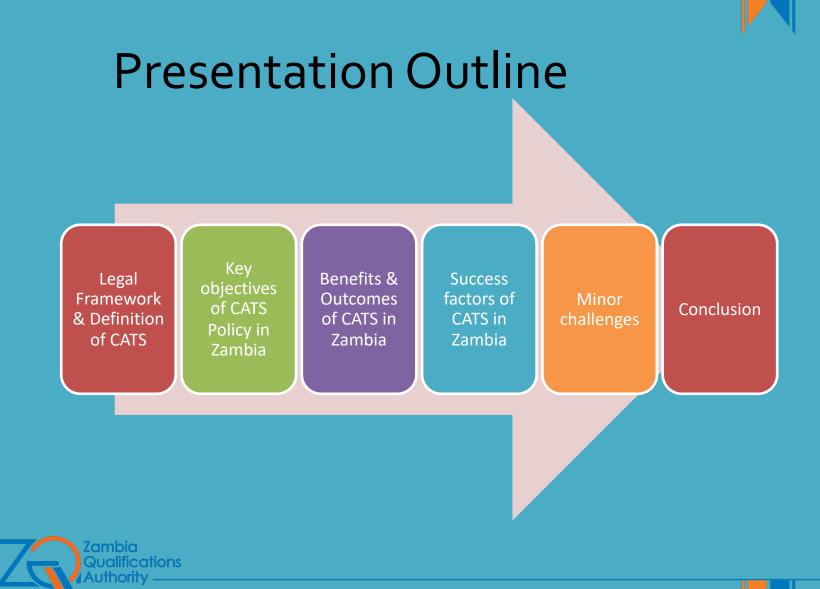
Theme 3 b)

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## Forum of Institutions of National Qualifications Frameworks

## **MEMLING HOTEL - KINSHASA**





#### Legal Framework

Section 9(d) of the ZAQA Act No. 13 of 2011 mandates the Zambia Qualifications Authority to develop Policy and Criteria for RPL and CATS.

Definition of CATS

A process to facilitate recognition and validation of credits and allow learners to move from one programme or institution to another without having to duplicate learning thereby facilitating lifelong learning and access to the workplace.



#### KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY ON CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM IN ZAMBIA

- □ To eliminate unnecessary duplication of learning by promoting the use of already gained credits
- □ To harmonise recognition and application of credits nationally
- □ To facilitates the development of transparent and objective processes both for the accumulation of credits within qualifications and for the transfer of credits within and between the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF.
- To promote the development and implementation of CAT as an integral component of qualification design within the NQF and its Sub-Frameworks



#### BENEFITS & OUTCOMES OF THE CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM IN ZAMBIA

- Has built a common framework guiding the transfer of learners from one institution to another OR from one learning programme to another
- ❑ Has increased opportunities for mobility of learners without repeating learning (TEVET Diploma Vs University Degrees) thus providing articulation between qualifications within and across the NQF sub- frameworks.



#### BENEFITS & OUTCOMES OF THE CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM IN ZAMBIA

- Created a safeguard measure for learners facing challenges in a given environment e.g. Permanent closure of institution, displacement due to war or calamity etc
- ❑ Has Provided flexibility to learners thus allowing them to study at times and places suitable to their life pattern and personal circumstances, thereby providing more opportunities for lifelong learning



#### SUCCESS FACTORS OF THE CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM IN ZAMBIA

#### Elimination of duplication of learning

This was more common for Learners coming from TEVET wishing to pursue Degree programmes at universities. The ZQF through RPL and CATS Policies have provided for articulation between qualifications within and across the NQF sub-frameworks. Previously, Learners had to start in First year of study at university despite having done a 3 year Diploma in the TEVET e.g Diploma in Journalism Vs. Bachelors Degree in Mass Communications. They now enjoy exemptions into **Degree programs** 



#### SUCCESS FACTORS OF THE CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM IN ZAMBIA

#### Opportunity for Re-entry into Education and Training

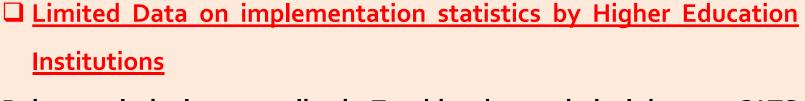
Learners are now able to move in and out of formal education and to engage in workplace training with the understanding that credit previously earned will be taken into account in future learning. This is promoting Lifelong Learning.

**Forcefully Displaced Learners gaining new opportunity** 

The RPL and CATS Policies have provided an opportunity for Zambian students to gain access back into school after forceful displacements as a result of war in Ukraine and Sudan (Using UQP Methodology)



#### MINOR CHALLENGES



Being a relatively new policy in Zambia, the statistical data on CATS beneficiaries is yet to be comprehensively collected and arranged for stakeholder information.

Weak Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) collaboration

The success of CATS may require strong collaboration in programme design, delivery and Peer reviews to build trust over Learning programmes. The HEIs are yet to build strong partnerships in Zambia



#### CONCLUSION

The Zambia Qualifications Framework CATS and RPL Policies have enabled learners to experience lifelong learning. The need for embracing CATS in education and training systems can not be overemphasized. A number of circumstances may arise during a learner's journey towards a qualification. CATS serves as a useful mechanism that allows continuity in learning and therefore is at the centre of lifelong learning



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# Thank you!



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