**TCCA SADCQF – Annual Meeting
Session 2-1**

**Eswatini: NQF State of Play
Date: 09 May 2024**

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Presentation Outline

- Background Information
- The establishment of the EQA and its Mandate
- The Eswatini Qualifications Framework
- key milestones of the ESQF development
- Challenges
- Future Plans

Background Information

▶ In 2010, the Government conducted a comprehensive analysis of the education and training system which informed establishment of :

   ▶ The Eswatini Higher Education Council (ESHEC)

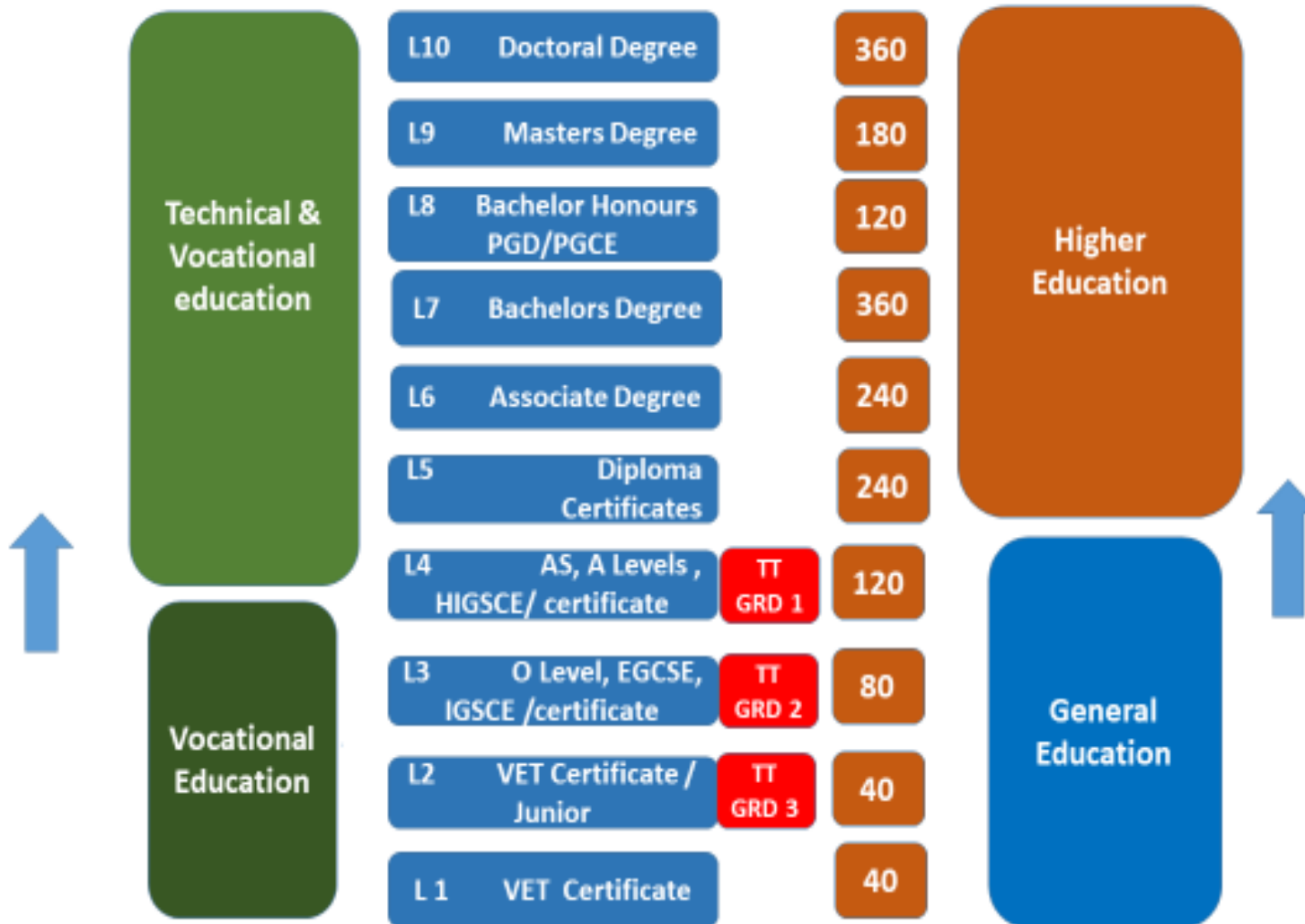   ▶ The Eswatini Qualifications Authorities, among other entities

The Establishment of the EQA

▶ In 2022, responsibilities on quality assurance and qualifications were streamlined.

▶ EQA started operations in August 2022 – Cabinet decision

▶ The mandate of EQA is the development, implementation and maintenance of the national qualifications Framework

▶ The functions include, among other things:

  ▶ Policy & Guidelines on design and implementation

  ▶ Verification and evaluation of qualifications

  ▶ Registration of qualifications obtained from all levels

The Eswatini Qualifications Framework (ESQF)

- ESQF is in stage 4 , legally approved and implementation has started.

- Has ten levels, seven situated at under graduate level and three at post graduate level

- An integrated framework encompassing the whole education sector, ensuring comparability and transparency of qualifications in the different field of learning

- Three domains; knowledge, skills and personal attributes

- Embraces learning outcomes and encourages backward approach model for programme design

The ESQF Structure

Key milestones

- Cabinet approval (2020)
- Participated in alignment of SADCQF to NQFs pilot project/ National Alignment Committee established.
- Development and launch of the Credit Accumulation and Transfer System Policy and Guidelines
- Development and Launch of Qualification Registration Guidelines
- Classification of study fields and subfields established based on UNESCO ISCED
- RPL Policy and Guidelines under development
- EQA website active
- Verification of qualifications

Current initiatives

- Finalisation of the RPL Process and approval

- Fully digitalising our processes

    - Development of online searchable database of qualifications

    - Development of National Learner Records Database

    - Automation of the verifications process

    - Migrate to E Certificate

    - Automation of qualifications registration

Current initiatives cont.

▶ Ratification of Addis and Global Conventions

▶ Review the ESQF

▶ Reference the ESQF to the ACQF

Challenges

- Understanding new programme design and implementation
  - Comprehension and implementation of learning outcomes
  - Calculation and allocation of credits
  - Accumulation of credits vs content
  - Articulation
  - Assessment of learning outcomes
  - Pedagogy
  - Implementation of registration guidelines