

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PACIFIC : THE REGIONAL CONTEXT CURRENT TRENDS AND ISSUES

Regional Workshop on Skills Development in the PACER Plus
Arrangement for Labour Mobility

8 – 12 July 2024

Apia, Samoa

Overview

1. About the Organisation: Pacific Community (SPC); Educational Quality & Assessment Programme (EQAP)
2. Regional Mandate
3. The Pacific Qualifications Framework (PQF) & Pacific Register of Qualifications & Standards (PRQS)
4. Skills Development Support by the Pacific Community
 - Current Focus
 - Issues

The Organisation- SPC & What it does?

Vision: *We are voyaging towards a resilient Pacific. A region of peace, harmony and prosperity where our all our people and communities live safe, free, healthy sustainable and productive lives. As wayfinders, our paths are intertwined with the culture, environment and resources of our Blue Pacific Continent. We recognise our role as stewards of our Pacific Ocean and are responding with urgent collective action to the threat of climate change,*

Mission: *To progress all Pacific peoples rights and well being through science and knowledge, guided by our deep understanding of Blue Pacific contexts and cultures.*

SPC'S DIVISIONS



Climate Change and
Environmental
Sustainability (CCES)
Programme



Educational Quality and
Assessment Programme
(EQAP)



Fisheries, Aquaculture &
Marine Ecosystems
(FAME) Division



Geoscience, Energy and
Maritime (GEM) Division



Human Rights and Social
Development (HRSD)
Division



Land Resources Division
(LRD)



Public Health Division
(PHD)



Statistics for
Development Division
(SDD)



Integrated Programmes

Goal 1:
All Pacific people benefit from
sustainable development.

Goal 2:
All Pacific communities and
cultures are empowered and
resilient.

Goal 3:
All Pacific people reach their full
potential and live long and
healthy lives.

Goal 4:
One SPC delivers integrated
programmes through
streamlined services

Educational Quality and Assessment Programme

ICT

Data

PacREF

Qualifications



**Supporting Skills development
through its regional mandate**

Policy and Research

Large Scale Assessment

Curriculum and Assessment

The Pacific Qualifications Framework (PQF) & Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards (PRQS)

- Developed in response to the wishes of the Pacific Leaders
- Various leaders' fora discussed the need for a system to quality assure education and training in the region
- 2009 – 2013 development phase
- Implementation began around 2014

Pacific Qualifications Framework	
10	Doctorate
9	Masters
8	Bachelor with Honours, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate
7	Bachelor, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate
6	Advanced Diploma, Diploma, Associate Degree
5	Diploma
4	Certificate
3	Certificate
2	Certificate
1	Certificate

Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards:

- Quality Assured Qualifications
- Occupational Standards
- Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Skills

Link to Skills development

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Pacific Register of Qualifications and Standards

- Quality Assured Qualifications
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The Regional Mandate :

Facilitate the international recognition of Pacific qualifications through:

- Quality assuring education and training in countries with no agencies and supporting them to establish their National Quality Assurance Agencies.
- Provide support on the quality development and delivery of training programmes.
- Referencing the PQF against the NQFs.
- Referencing the PQF against other regional frameworks.
- Establishing mechanisms for mutual recognition of skills & qualifications within the Pacific region.
- Facilitating training for staff of national agencies and ministries of education.
- Convening meetings and conferences to enable networking and sharing of best practices on QA of higher education and training.
- Facilitating arrangements for the uptake of qualifications on the PRQS by other countries.
- Representing the interest of member organisations at international QA conventions and meetings.

1. Training Support to National Agencies & Providers

- Recognised training providers who are able to provide training on skill sets and qualifications are being engaged
- Such trainings lead to certification of participants who complete assessments and meet training outcomes
- Upskill staff and contributes to upgrading staff qualifications
- Trainings facilitated:
 - ✓ Key Management Skill Set
 - ✓ International Skills Training (TVET Trainer and Assessor)
 - ✓ Quality Audit
 - ✓ Internal Quality Assurance
 - ✓ Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
 - ✓ Conversion of training programme from Face to Face delivery to virtual delivery

Examples of training provided:

Name of Training	Description	Year
Key Management Skill set	Accredited skill set on Australian Qualifications Framework & Statement of Attainment awarded to participants by RTO	2018
International Skills Training (TVET Trainer and Assessor)	Internationally recognised qualification awarded to participants by RTO	2019
Quality Audit (5/8 units from Diploma of Quality Auditing)	Accredited qualification on Australian Qualifications Framework & Statement of Attainment awarded to participants by RTO	2019
Internal Quality Assurance Training	5 units from the Diploma of Leadership and Management Statement of Attainment awarded to successful participants	2020 - 2021
Recognition of Prior Learning	Enterprise Trainer and Assessor Skillset - – Accredited on Australian Qualifications Framework	2021 - 2022
Conversion Training	Deliver E-Learning Skill set – Accredited on Australian Qualifications Framework	2022

2. Addressing the need at school level and beyond...

There are 4 stages:

(1). National Climate Change Policy - Integration of climate change into curricula

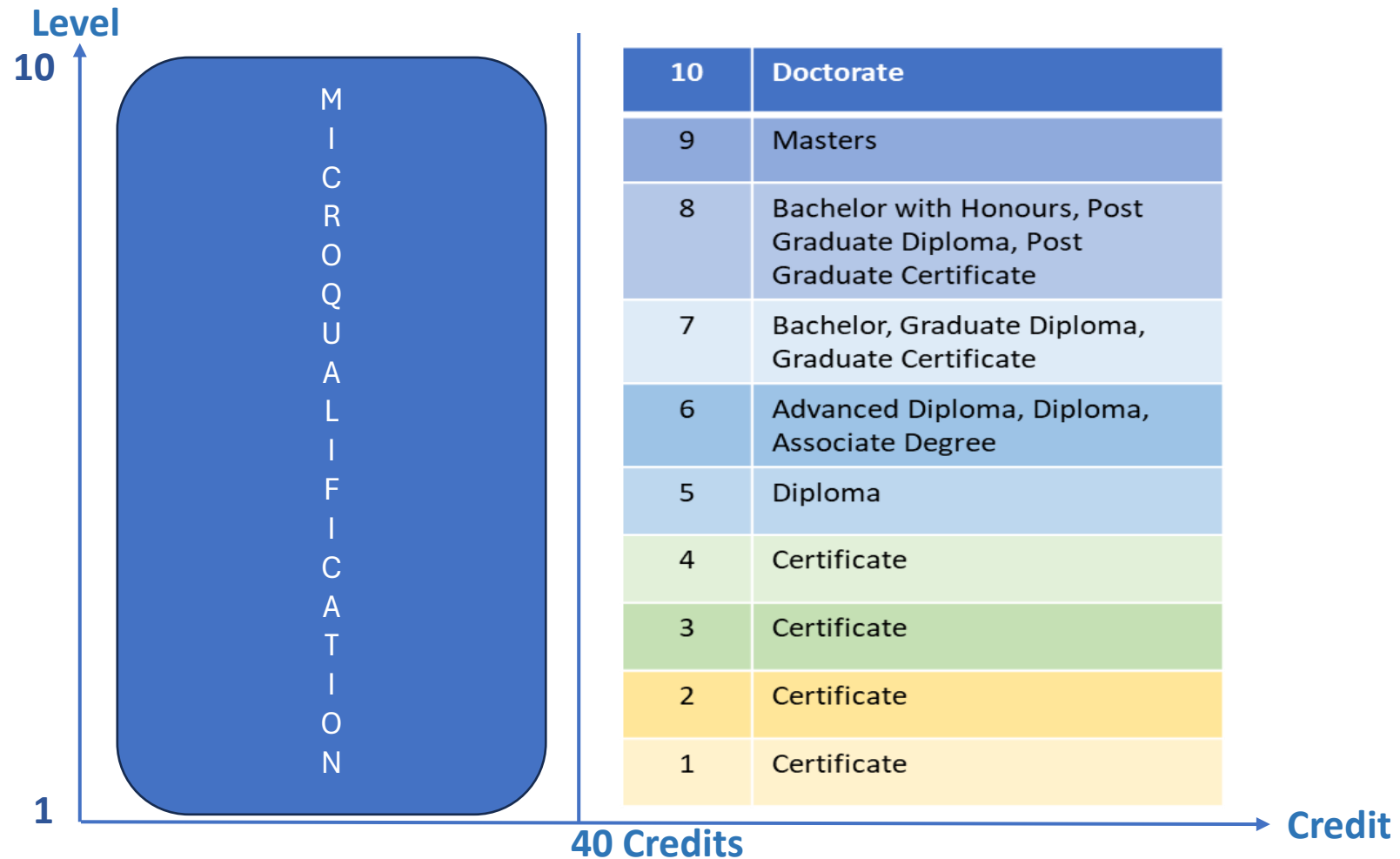
(2). National curriculum consultations

(3). Development of teaching materials

(4). Training of teachers

3. Post- secondary Education and Training

Micro-qualifications vs Qualifications



Developed based on gaps and needs analysis:

Post-Secondary Education and Training:

- **Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience (PacRES)**
- **Renewable Energy (PAWES)**
- **Nature-based Solutions (NbS – KIWA)**
- **Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF)**
- **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning**
- **Sports (ONOC)**

Development Process

1. Identification and confirmation of need

2. Identification and engagement of the Industry Advisory Committee

3. Development of draft

4. Review the draft

5. Development of required documents

6. Stakeholder endorsement

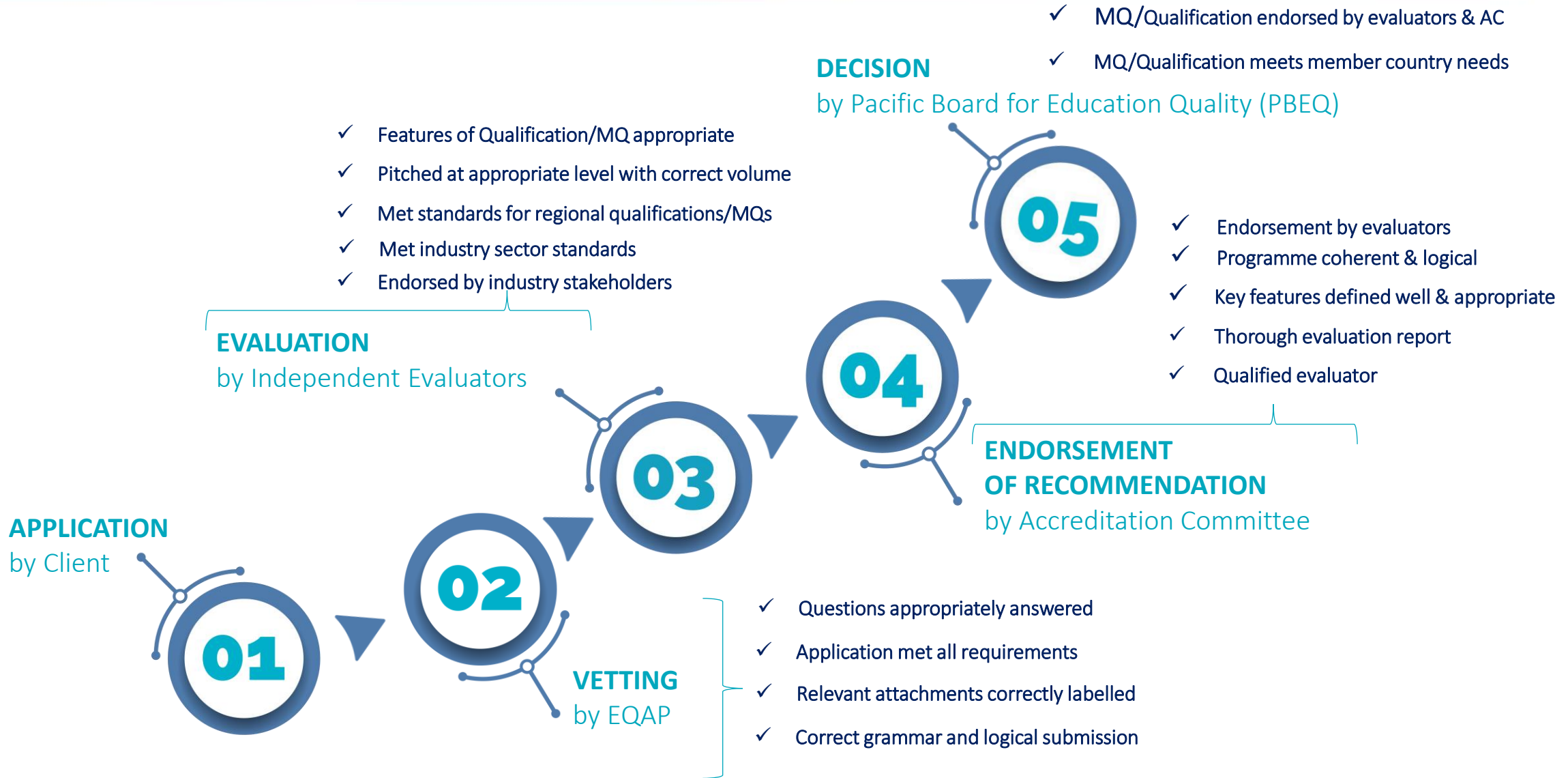
Support development, review and delivery of regional qualifications and micro-qualifications:



Support training institutions – competency based training, training of trainers



Regional Accreditation Process



Issues...

- 1. Generally, greater support is required for the uptake of regional qualifications and micro-qualifications by both learners and institutions.**
- 2. Lack of project continuity – project funded initiatives.**

Thank you.