

Workshop on non-formal qualifications, Berlin 10th October

Situation in the Netherlands

- NLQF: focus on adults
- Adult learning in the Netherlands
- Process of classification
- Challenges for future



Adult learning in NL



- 1,5 million people a year participate in post-initial learning (15,5% of population)
- 84% of adult learning takes place in the private sector;
- Turnover € 3,5 billion per year;
- 10% of the Dutch population is functionally illiterate;
- NL has a developed system of recognition of non formal and informal learning (RPL).

Development and functioning NCP NLQF



- NCP NLQF started 1 February 2012
- Objectives NCP NLQF:
 - Classification and registration of qualifications of the **private** sector;
 - Information and communication;
 - Maintenance and evaluation of NLQF and link to EQF;
 - Accountability and monitoring of the implementation of the NLQF.

Information and communication



- Information meetings/workshops;
- Website;
- Presentations NCP staff: providers and companies;
- Development of PR programme;
- Development of a marketing approach;
- Question: how to reach employers/employees.

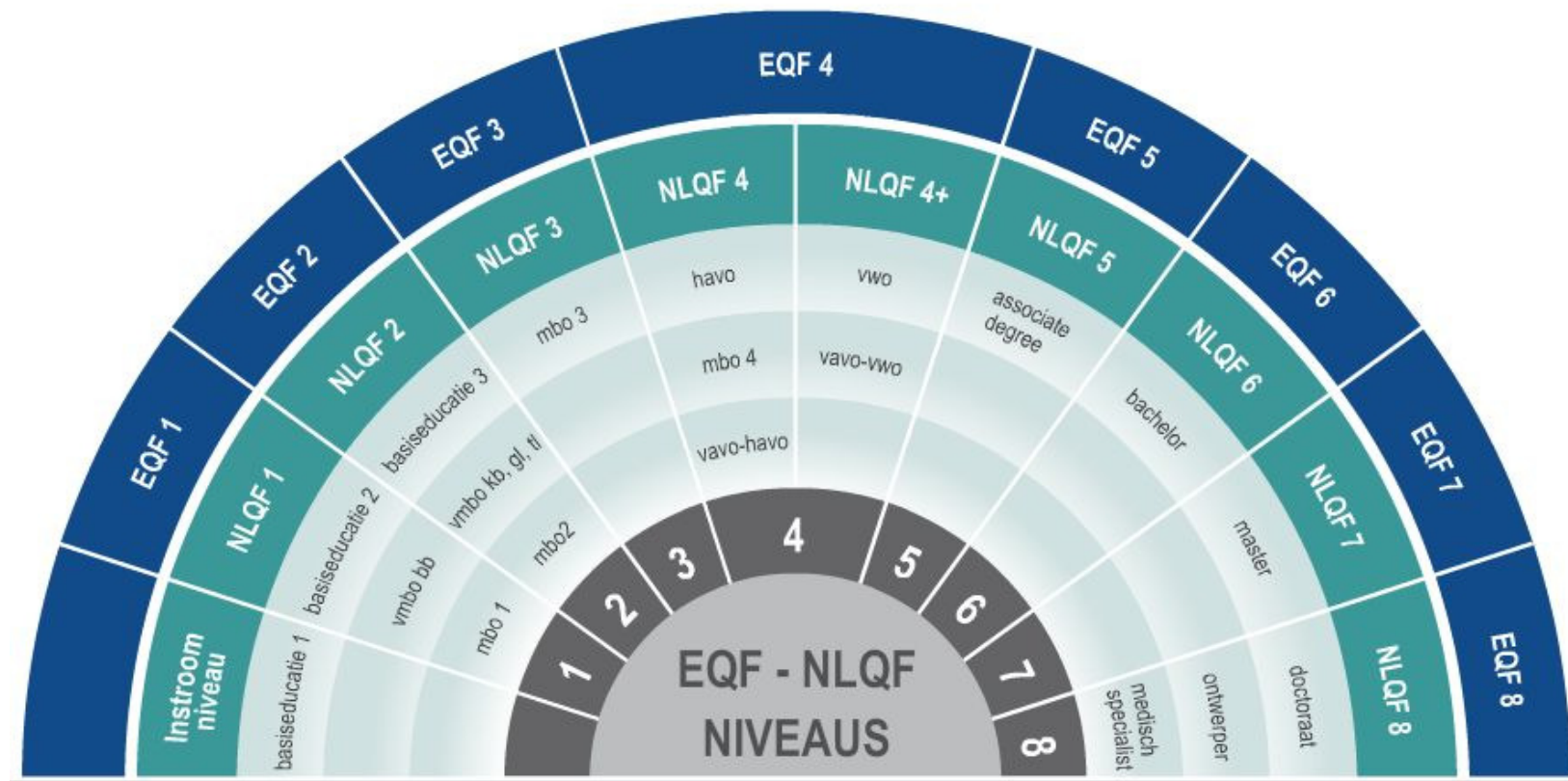
Classification of qualifications into the NLQF

- Qualifications regulated by the government (Ministry of Education): generically included in the NLQF;
- Qualifications of the private sector: applications to NCP NLQF. Procedures developed.



Classification of government regulated qualifications

- All government regulated qualifications are generically included in the NLQF



Classification of qualifications of the private sector



Step 1: Validation of the institution/organisation.
Validation is condition for step two;

Step 2: Classification of qualifications into levels of EQF/NLQF;

Step 3: Registration of EQF and NLQF-qualifications in register.

Step 1: Validation of the organisation



Issues to be examined:

- Legal entity;
- Ownership of the qualification;
- Permanency of the organisation;
- Process of examination;
- System of quality control.

Step 1: Validation of the organisation



- Validation organisation for ensuring quality of EQF/NLQF: no obscure private suppliers;
- Committee NCP which reviews/judges if the application has relations to existing quality control organisations;
- Final decision by the Board of NCP NLQF;
- At this moment 9 organisations validated. One in consideration.

Step 2: Classification of qualification into EQF/NLQF level



- Procedure has been developed;
Self-assessment by applicant:
 - Descriptors;
 - Workload (minimal of 400 hours);
 - Examination /assessment;
- Three experts make a report on the self-assessment and give an advice about the EQF/NLQF-level. This advice is judged by a committee of the NCP NLQF;
- The Board of NCP NLQF makes the final decision about the classification of the qualification in the NLQF.
- Seven qualifications classified. One in consideration.

Work in progress



- Improvement of the procedures is ongoing, based on experiences. At this moment discussion on “best fit” method;
- Need to communicate with stakeholders and a wider public, especially employers/employees (social partners);
- Relations with quality control organizations is necessary;
- NLQF in connection with ECVET/ECTS and validation of non-formal and informal learning: Partnership for life long learning.