SOLOMON ISLANDS QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

THE SOLOMON ISLANDS TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS AUTHORITY (SITESA) ACT AND SITESA POLICY ESTABLISHED AND WILL REGULATE QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM
BACKGROUND

• Solomon Islands is focusing on lifelong learning in education and training and wishes to link training and qualifications attained with different training providers at different levels to benefit individuals.

• Solomon Islands is pursuing appropriate social and economic development programs and wishes to prepare its people to meet the demands of such programs with knowledgeable, skilled and competent citizens.

• Solomon Islands is responding to an ever-changing global environment and requires its people to be alert to the changes.

• Solomon Islands is preparing its people to apply their knowledge and skills in a changing national and international workforce environment.
PURPOSE

Solomon Islands qualification framework aims to:

• Promote lifelong learning through:
  • improving understanding of qualifications and how they relate to other qualifications;
  • accessing further education and training opportunities
  • ensuring that qualifications are relevant to perceived social and economic needs and
  • recognizing of all forms of learning

• Facilitate the international recognition of Solomon Islands qualifications through ensuring that:
  • education and training quality standards are defined and benchmarked against international standards
  • employability, careers development and labour and learner mobility are assured
TARGET

- Organizations that develop qualifications including government, provincial government, private sector organizations, higher education institutions, vocational education and training establishments, schools, church and community based training establishments and other private training providers

- Organizations that are authorized through government legislation in Solomon Islands to accredit and / or issue SIQF qualifications
RESPONSIBILITY

- Minister for Education
- Solomon Islands Tertiary Education and Skills Authority (SITESA)
  - Register tertiary and skills training providers
  - Accredit all education and training programs
  - Conduct periodic and audit of programs and training providers
  - Maintain a registry of training providers and qualification accreditation
  - Maintain linkages with relevant national, regional and international stakeholders to facilitate the international recognition of Solomon Islands Qualifications.
WHO WILL BENEFIT?

- Industries, representative bodies, professional bodies, unions, university students, graduates and employers, both Solomon Islanders and international, benefit from the quality qualifications built around the requirements of the SIQF.

- Country for recognition of its quality qualifications and its potential to export its qualified and recognized and skilled labour.
ARCHITECTURE OF SIQF

• Taxonomic structure of levels and qualification types of which is defined by a taxonomy of learning outcomes enabling consistency in the way in which qualifications are described as well as clarity about the differences and relationship between qualification types.

• SIQF has ten (10) levels: level 1 (certificate 1) to level 10 (doctoral qualification)

• Key objective is to facilitate pathway from level 1 to level 10 linking learning pathways between training providers and work as an individual’s learning and career ambitions require.
VERIFICATION OF SIQF QUALIFICATIONS

• Rests with the Solomon Islands Tertiary Education and Skills Authority (SITESA)
ESTABLISHMENT OF SITESA

• SOLOMON ISLANDS QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK FINALISED 2016
• CABINET APPROVED SITESA 2016
• PARLIAMENT PASSED SITESA BILL LAST MONTH (FEBRUARY 2017)
• RECRUITMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) APRIL – JUNE 2017
• RECRUITMENT OF SENIOR MANAGERS OF SITESA, JULY – SEPTEMBER 2017
• RECRUITMENT OF OTHER STAFF, OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2017
• SITESA WILL IMPLEMENT SIQF
ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES

• HOW TO CONVINCE PUBLIC WITH REGARDS TO THE CHANGE
• RECRUITMENT OF EXPERTS (QUALIFICATIONS, ACCREDITATION, MODERATION, EVALUATORS ETC)
• FINANCIAL BUDGET (SUSTAINABILITY)
• STRATEGISATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS