



CNFP

*National Qualification*

*Framework*

*Romanian Experience*

# Romanian NQF

## - Elements -

- The **National Qualification Framework** - defines **the structure of qualifications and ensures the national recognition of qualifications** acquired in any context: initial and continuing vocational training; formal, non-formal and informal ways.
- The **National Qualifications Framework** - ensures quality instruments in vocational training due to **national standards**, used equally in training and evaluation of competencies; formal, non-formal and informal context.
- **Standards** - are elaborated by experts based on **national methodologies** and **validated by sectoral committees**.
- **National Qualification Register** – represents a national Data Base and structure for all qualifications being periodically updated in order to be correlated to the requirements on the labor market

# Romanian NQF

## - Sectoral committees -

- **Sectoral committees - are social dialogue structures**
- They have **multipartite structures** (social partners, ministries, professional associations, authorities for regulated professions).
- **Sectoral committees** have the following role:
  - Participate in the development of the **normative framework** of the vocational training;
  - **Encourage participation** of organizations and individuals to continuous vocational training and to technical and vocational education.
  - **Promote the competence** based training and evaluation system;
  - **Develop and update**, under the coordination of the National Authority for Qualifications the relevant qualifications for each domain;
  - **Validate** qualifications and associated standards;
  - **Identify experts** for occupational analysis and development of standards.



# *National Qualification Framework*

## Sectoral committees

### *Problems met*



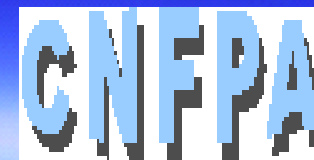
- ❖ Finding and organizing the representative stakeholders from each of the 23 sectors of activity (nominated by the National Authority for Qualifications)
- ❖ Juridical statute of the sectoral committees
- ❖ Finding a large number of sectoral experts to be involved
- ❖ The need of quality assurance in the involvement of sectoral committees (occupational analyses, occupational standards development and validation, qualifications' development)
- ❖ The sectoral committees financing system as a consequence of:
  - their very important role in NQF development and sustainability
  - the great volume of occupational analysis and standards for each sector waiting to be developed and validated
  - absence of constant sources of funding for spaces, administrative costs, logistic arrangements and wages for experts



# *National Qualification Framework*

## Sectoral committees

### *Problems solved*



- ❖ Creation of 23 sectoral committees composed by representative organizations at national and sectoral level: trade unions, employers associations, chambers of commerce, professional associations, regulating authorities, training providers
- ❖ Reorganization of the Sectoral Committees based on a special law (268/2009) as institutions for social dialogue and for public interest with well defined attributions in the field of qualifications and financed by the state for administrative costs and services costs
- ❖ Training of 134 sectoral committee experts (19 sectoral committees from 23)
- ❖ Help for the sectoral committees activities by giving equipment and technical assistance



# *National Qualification Framework*

## Sectoral committees

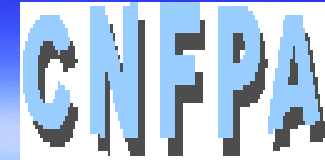
### *Challenges for the future*



- ❖ Aid for training and technical assistance for the 4 sectoral committees not-covered by Phare Program 2004 – 2006 and aid for the others
- ❖ Reorganization of the Sectoral Committees
- ❖ Aid for training and technical assistance for all committees
- ❖ Development of projects referring to new qualifications and new standards



## Chronological steps towards



## the National Qualification Framework (NQF)

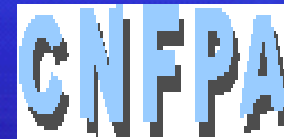
- **8 June 2004** – Signing the Memorandum between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labor, approved by the Prime Minister of the Romanian Government
- **7 December 2004** – Transformation of the National Adult Training Board (NATB), autonomous and tripartite organization, into National Authority for Qualifications (by law)
- **23 February 2005** – Signing the Tripartite Agreement for NQF between the Romanian Government and the national representative confederations of trade unions and employers associations
- ***December 2005 – The end of the consultation process for the European Qualification Framework (EQF)***
- **December 2006** – present – Implementation of the multi-annual PHARE Program 2004-2006 “Establishment of the Romanian National Authority for Qualifications”

# The multi-annual PHARE Program 2004-2006

## “Establishment of the Romanian National Authority for Qualifications”

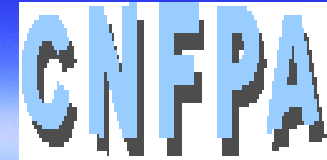
### - Objectives -

- *Strengthening the institutional capacity of the NATB as national Authority for Qualifications*
- *The growth of the institutional capacity for the sectoral committees*
- *The development of the National Register of Qualifications, as an information data base for the labor market*
- *The development of methodologies based on common principles for initial and continuous education and formal or non-formal contexts of acquisition*





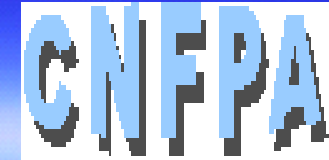
# The multi-annual PHARE Program 2004-2006 “Establishment of the Romanian National Authority for Qualifications” - Achievements ( I ) -



- A better institutional capacity of the National Adult Training Board (NATB) in becoming the National Authority for Qualifications
- Creation and **development of 23 sectoral committees**
- New objectives of the National Authority for Qualifications for the **coordination of the sectoral committees**
- Creation of **4 national methodologies** for the development of standards and certification of programs
- Aid the NATB and the sectoral committees in implementing the methodological framework (by training, methodological assistance, study visits, meetings)



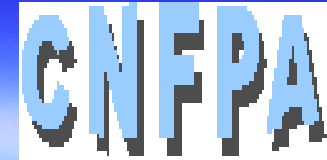
# The multi-annual PHARE Program 2004-2006 “Establishment of the Romanian National Authority for Qualifications” - Achievements ( II ) -



- Training of **134 sectoral committee experts** for occupational analysis and development of occupational standards
- Development of **250 occupational standards** for formal and non – formal education
- Help for the National Authority for Qualifications and the sectoral committees for:
  - the development of the data base “**National Register for Qualifications**”
  - the development of common principles and a **mechanism in quality assurance**
- Dissemination of the project in the 8 regions of Romania



## Steps towards the harmonization of the pilot system of adult education with Vet and higher education systems



- Pilot analysis on the 8 levels of references of EQF
- Instruments to ensure transferable credits in Long Life Learning
- Harmonization between initial and continuous education in principles and procedures for the development, implementation and certification of qualifications
- Quality assurance

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board

- Law 132/1999 for the establishment of the National Adult Training Board (NATB)
- Law 559/2004 which gives NTB the role of National Authority for Qualifications
- Government Ordinance 129/2000 and 76/2004 for adult training
- Order 4543/468/2004 for approval of non formal evaluation procedures
- Norms and orders

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board

- Autonomous authority
- Tripartite structure: 5 central public administration, 5 trade unions, 5 employers associations
- 1 president nominated by the Prime Minister at the proposal of the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Education
- 1 Technical secretariat with 75 working places coordinated by a general director

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board - Attributions -

- Coordination and control of the training providers (3000 now) through county committees
- Coordination and control of the development of occupational standards (850 now)
- Coordination and control of the competencies assessment centers (52 now)
- Advisory for training regulations

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board

## - Attributions -

- Coordination and control of 42 authorizing committees
- Coordination of 23 sectoral committees
- Management of the 4 national methodologies for the development of standards and certification of programs
- Management of the National Register of Training Providers
- Management of the National Register of Qualifications
- Management of the Data Bases with occupational standards and assessment centers

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board

## - European Social Fund Strategic Projects in - implementation

- CALISIS – Quality assurance in continuous education
- CNC-FPC – National Qualification Framework implementation
- FPC-FORMATOR – Train the adults' training at the national level
- TOTAL fund – 10 mil.euros

# National Authority for Qualifications – National Adult Training Board

- Structure of the Technical Secretariat -

- Direction of Methodology and Quality Assurance
- Direction of Standards, Qualifications and Assessment
- Direction of Programs and Innovation
- Sectoral committees secretariat
- IT
- HR, Financing and Accountancy
- PR

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