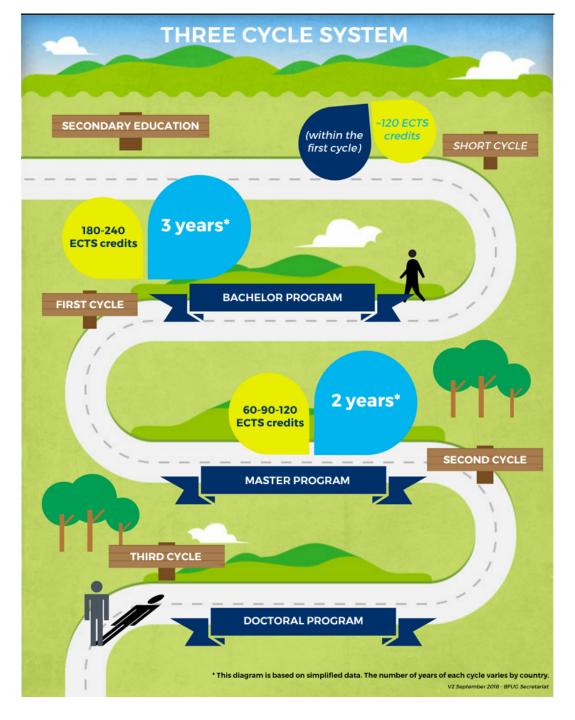FINNISH NATIONAL
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION

State of play and next steps: self-certification of national qualifications frameworks

Bologna Peer Support Group: Qualifications Frameworks and ECTS
Helsinki, 15th January 2019

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EHEA framework cycles

THREE CYCLE SYSTEM

SECONDARY EDUCATION

(within the first cycle)

~120 ECTS credits

SHORT CYCLE

180-240 ECTS credits

3 years*

FIRST CYCLE

BACHELOR PROGRAM

60-90-120 ECTS credits

2 years*

SECOND CYCLE

MASTER PROGRAM

THIRD CYCLE

DOCTORAL PROGRAM

* This diagram is based on simplified data. The number of years of each cycle varies by country.

V2 September 2016 - BFUG Secretariat

The criteria and procedures

for verifying NQFs compatibility with the EHEA framework

- The **competent national bodies shall certify the compatibility** of the national framework with the European framework

- The self-certification process shall include the **stated agreement of the quality assurance bodies** in the country in question recognised through the Bologna Process

- The self-certification process shall involve **international experts**

Criteria and procedures continued

- The **self-certification and the evidence** supporting it shall be **published and shall address separately each of the criteria** set out

- The **ENIC and NARIC networks** shall **maintain a public listing of States that** have confirmed that they have **completed the self-certification process**

- The completion of the **self-certification process shall be noted on Diploma Supplements** issued subsequently by showing the link between the national framework and the European framework

Notes about the criteria and procedures

- The EHEA alignment criteria are interlinked and overlapping

- Also similar to the EQF referencing criteria, and this is why many countries have prepared combined referencing and self-certification reports

- Alignment with the EHEA framework is a process that is separate from developing the NQF

State of play and activities for the Peer Support Group

- Currently 24 countries have published their self-certification reports in the ENIC-NARIC portal and on the EHEA website

    Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom

- How to support other countries to complete their self-certification?

- Support for other stages: national adoption and implementation of the NQF?

- How do we use self-certification reports on European level?

Concluding remarks/important topics linked to the self-certification

- Learning outcomes of individual qualifications vs. level descriptors in the QF

- System level mechanisms to support interaction between QF and quality assurance: good practice codes, guidelines for specification of learning outcomes/curriculum design, accreditation/ validation of programs

- Mobility and progression (national, international, recognition)

- Stakeholder involvement and commitment

- Documentation

- Updates on the self-certification