

# Using the HEQSF as a tool for transformation in South African Higher Education

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“Ensuring quality higher education is one of the most important things we can do for future generations.



”

Ron Lewis

- Understand transformation in higher education
- Exploring challenges facing transformation in higher education
- Discuss the use of the HEQSF as a tool for transformation in higher education

**Workshop purpose**



**Transforming South African Higher Education**

“

There is a multitude of changes that have transformed higher education in South Africa. Some of these are small and gradual changes, initiated from within institutions; others have been large-scale changes initiated from without, that is, through government and donor interventions. It is very clear that while continuities remain, the higher education system does not resemble the distortion, upheaval and fragmentation that marked the sector at the start of the 1990s.

”

Jansen, 2004

Understanding the  
higher education  
transformation  
imperative in, and  
between, various policy  
documentation

**Group Activity**



**Challenges facing academic transformation in higher education**

“

...Given that successful change in one area of higher education often depends crucially on simultaneous changes in other areas, ...challenges may well be faced in common with any society that, whatever the sources of and imperative for change, is seeking to reform/modernise/transform its higher education system.

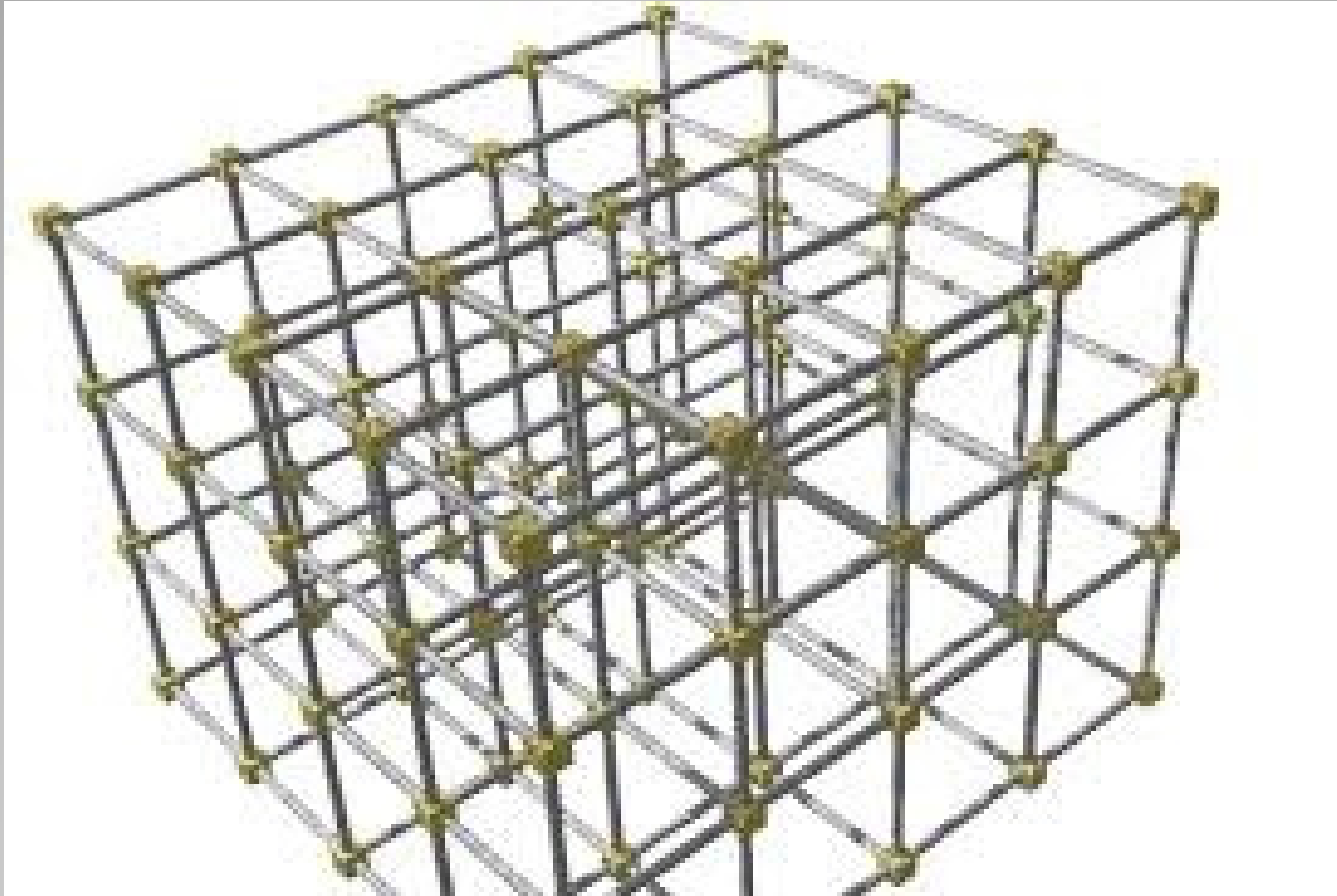
”

Badat, 2004



Identifying challenges  
facing transformation in  
higher education

**Group Activity**



**“May I have the number for the HEQSF?”**

“  
The impact of a qualification sub-framework applicable to all higher education institutions might be creating a platform for convergence and not lead to a diverse system.

”  
Van Staden, 2013

2007 – HEQF Gazetted

2009 – HEQF alignment of all new programmes

2010 – CHE implementation plan

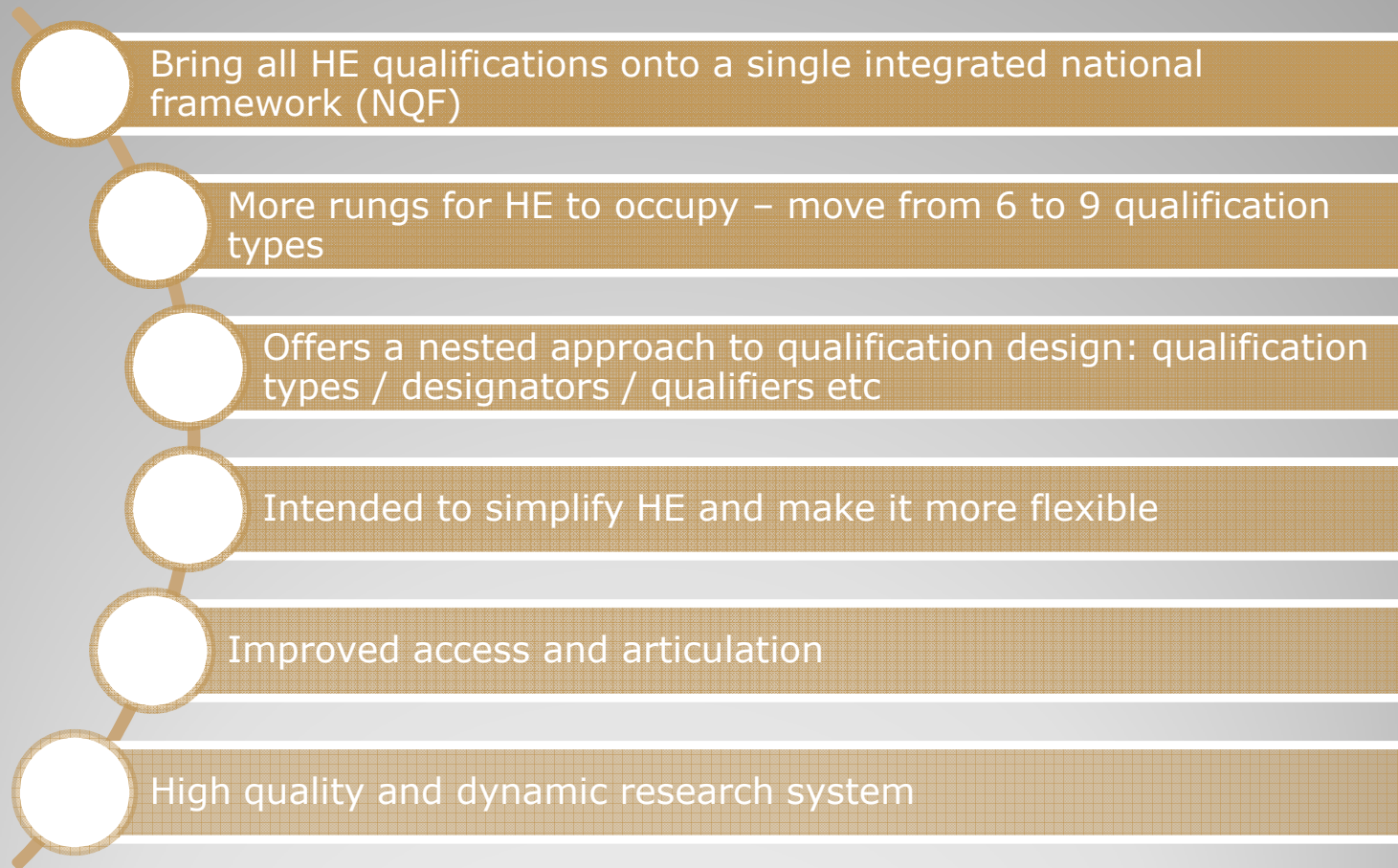
2011- 2012 HEQF Review

2013 – revised HEQSF gazetted

2011-2015 HEQSF alignment of existing programme

2018? Full HEQSF implementation

## HEQSF Timeline

- 
- Bring all HE qualifications onto a single integrated national framework (NQF)
  - More rungs for HE to occupy – move from 6 to 9 qualification types
  - Offers a nested approach to qualification design: qualification types / designators / qualifiers etc
  - Intended to simplify HE and make it more flexible
  - Improved access and articulation
  - High quality and dynamic research system

## Characteristics of the HEQSF



**The HEQSF as a tool for transformation**

Mapping the  
implementation of the  
HEQSF: an institutional  
perspective

**Group Activity**

# Questions?

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