



Education and Culture

Towards a European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning

Consultation



What is the EQF?

**Translation device
for comparing qualifications**

**Neutral reference point
based on
learning outcomes**



Our Lifelong Learning Experience: Obstacles!

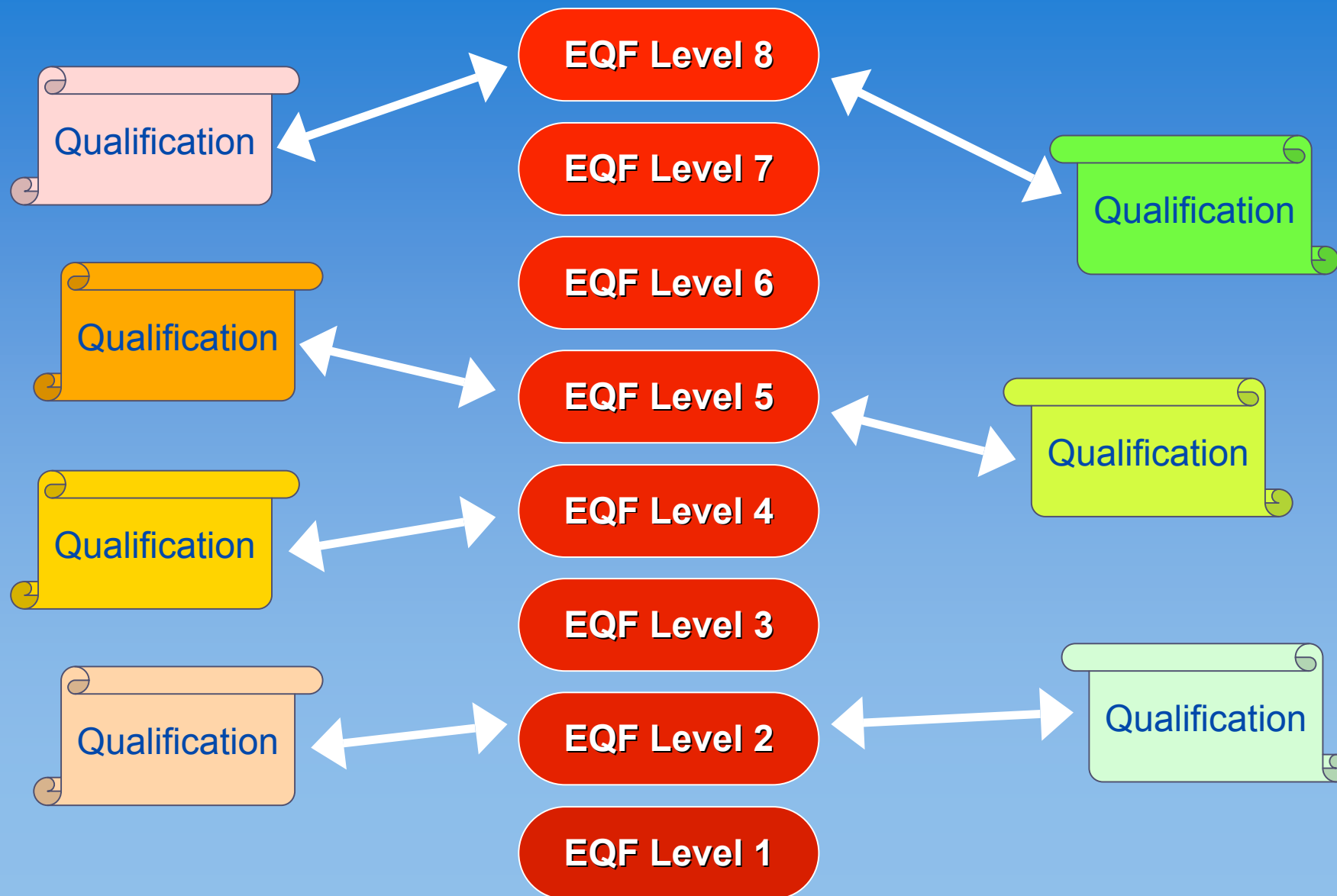


- within and between countries
- between education and training systems
- to use of acquired skills
- to new learning



Country A

Country B





Education and Culture

Swedish post-
secondary engineering
education
(Påbyggnadsutbildning)
= EQF Level 4
= Irish post secondary
education at national
level 6 (Advanced
certificate)



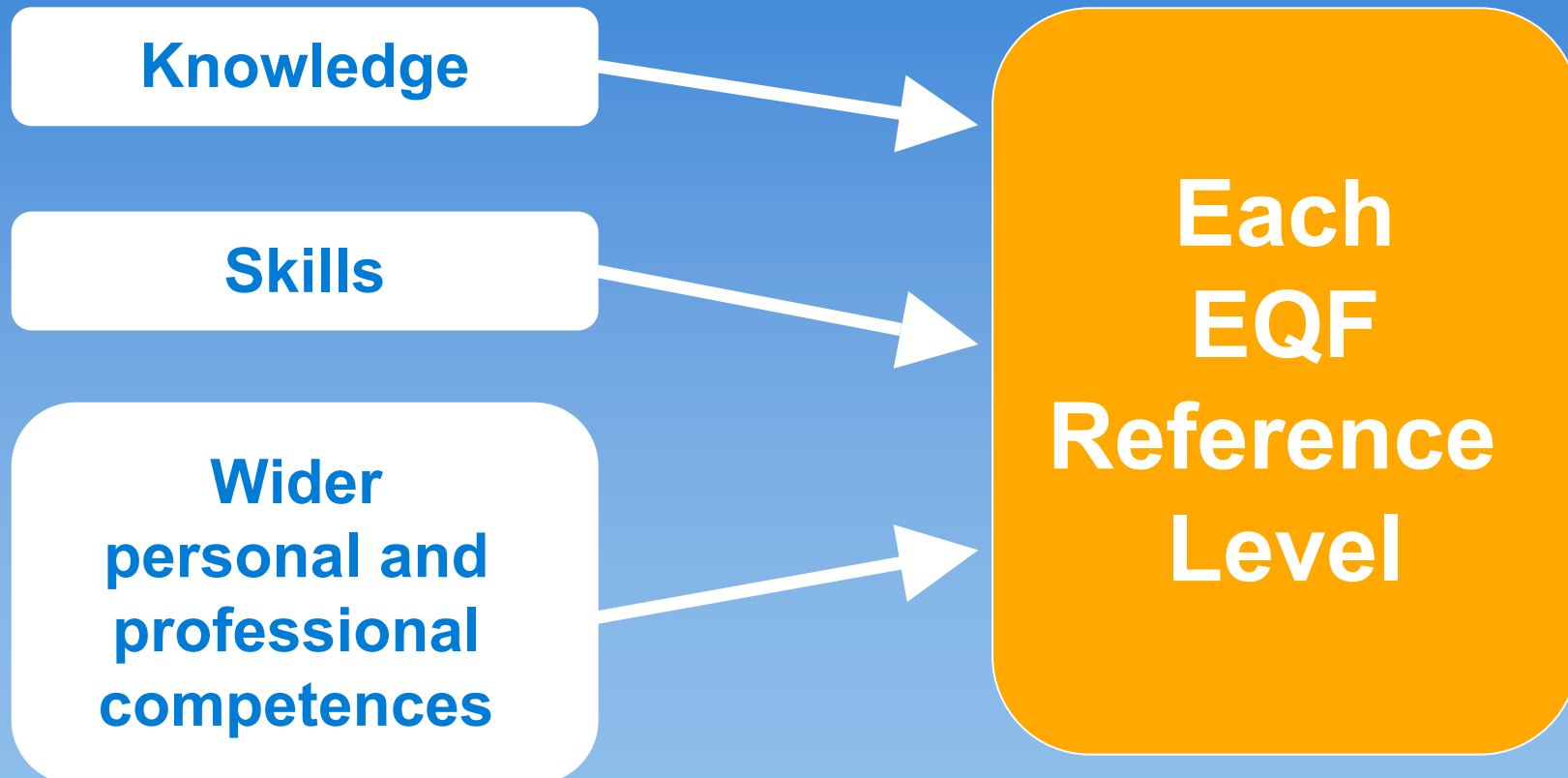
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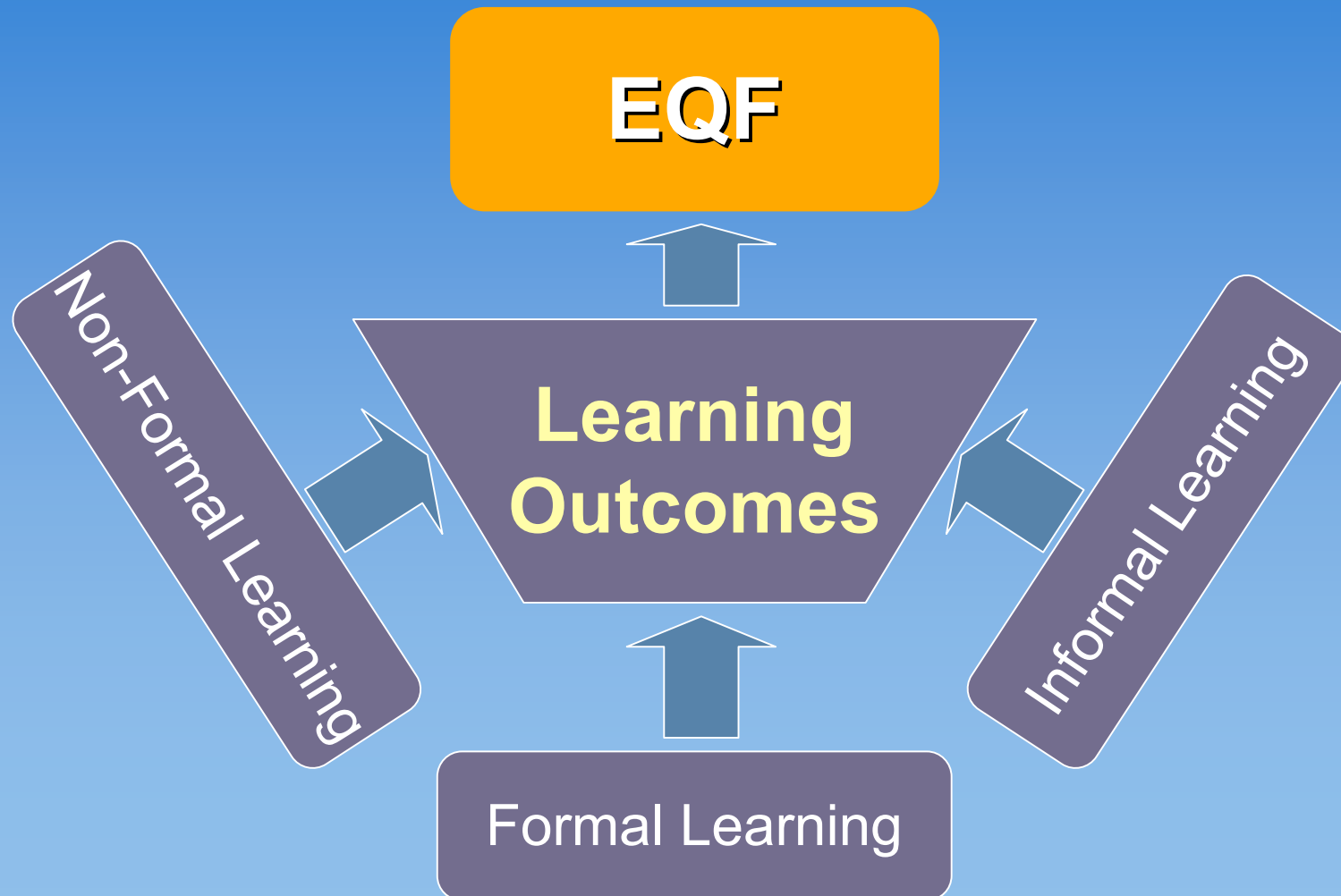


The Eight EQF Levels





Focus on Learning Outcomes





The EQF beneficiaries:

- **Individuals**
- **Sectors, employers and social partners**
- **Education and training systems**



The European Qualifications Framework

- **Bologna and Copenhagen**

- **Qualifications**

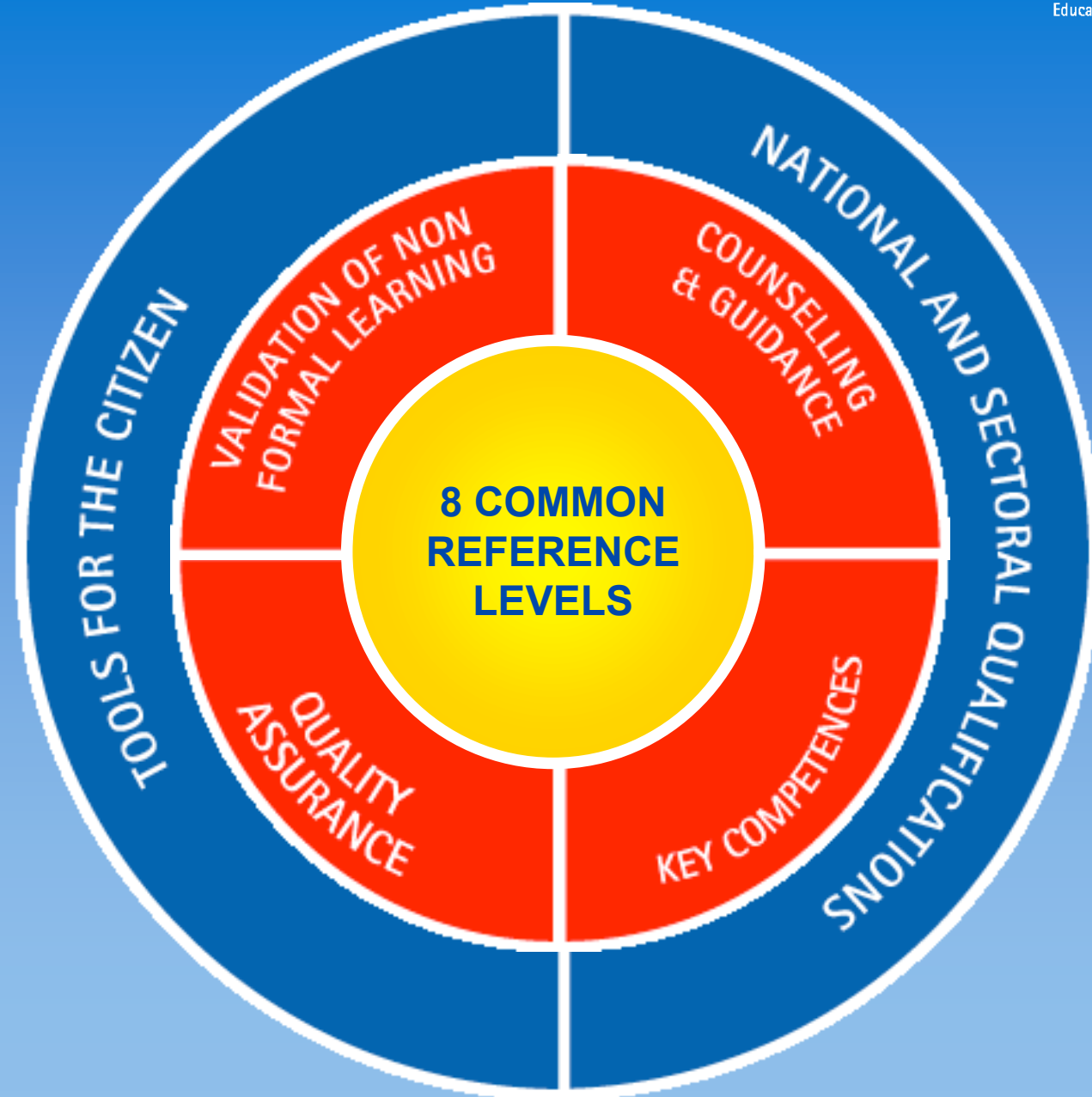
- **Wanted**

- **Expert group**

Consultation
—
**Not a final
recommendation**



The main elements of the EQF





A basis for co-operation



- EQF implementation is ***voluntary***
- Entails ***no legal obligations*** on Member States or sectors
- ***Fosters change*** by supporting and informing reform



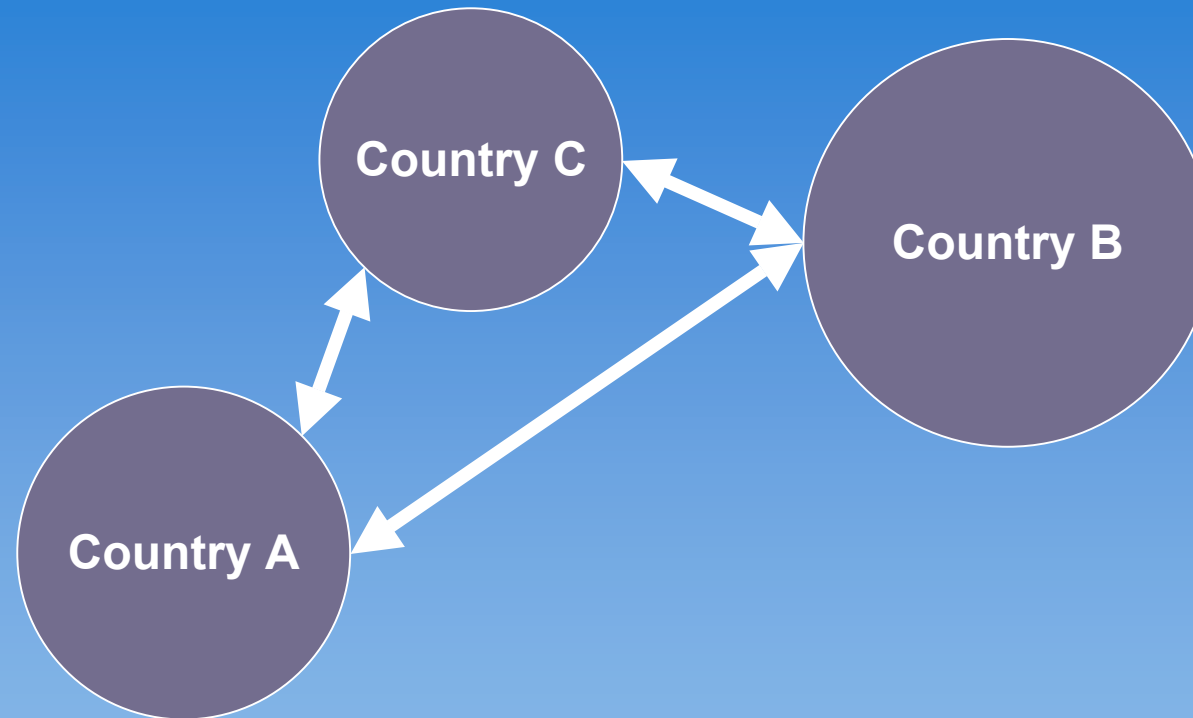
What EQF is NOT!



- EQF **not about replacing national/sectoral frameworks**
- EQF **not about harmonisation**
- EQF **CANNOT define new qualifications**



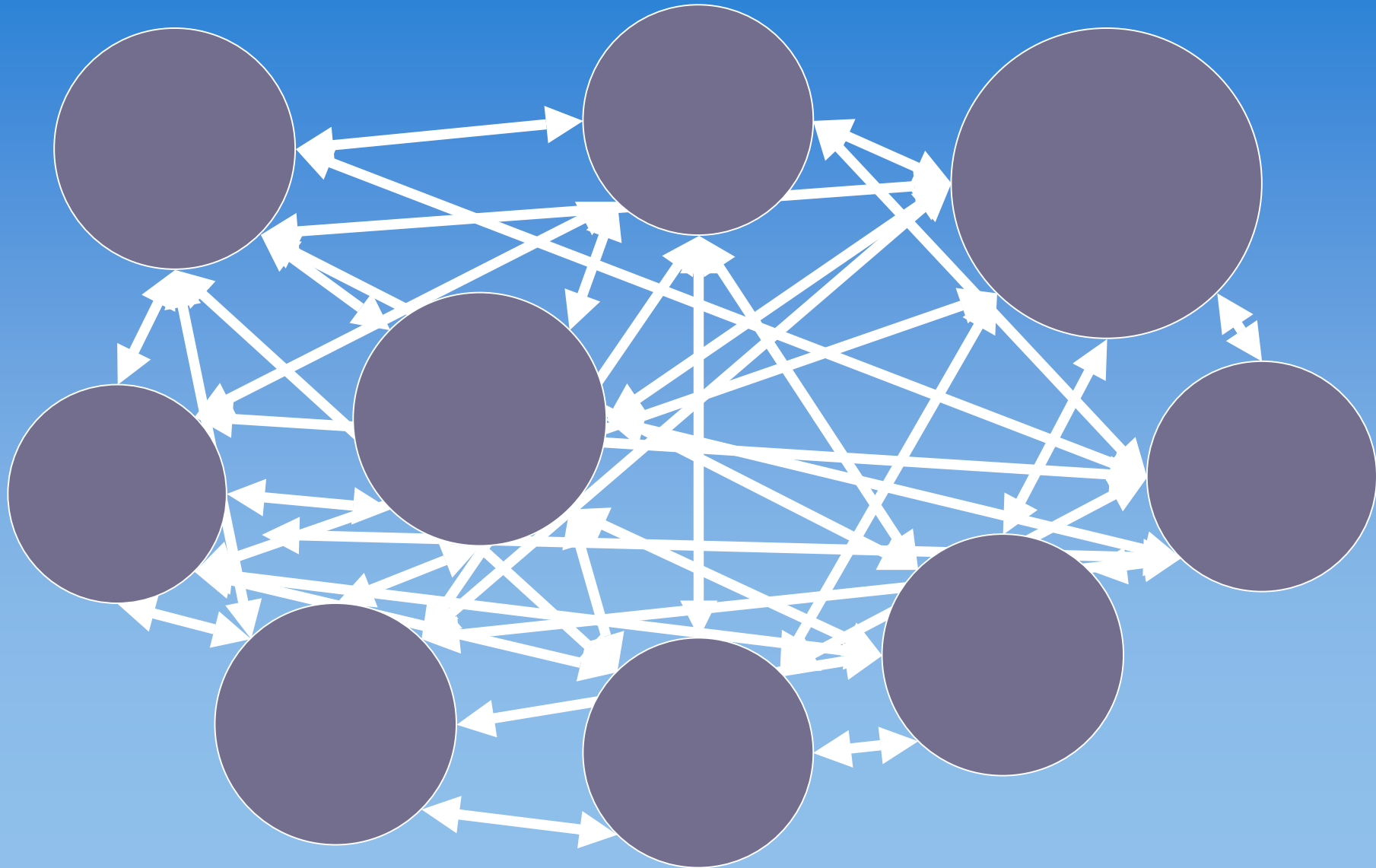
The alternative to EQF: bilateral agreements?



...they rapidly become very complex...



The alternative to EQF: bilateral agreements?





Using the EQF

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Table 1: Learning Outcomes

Aimed at qualifications authorities, experts:
makes translations between systems and
frameworks possible

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Table 2: Supporting Information

Needs to be compiled and completed at
national or sectoral level



Credit transfer and accumulation system



Goal: to create an integrated credit transfer system at European level, meeting the needs of vocational and academic institutions



Linking qualifications to the EQF: the role of **national** authorities

- **Commitments to link national qualifications to EQF**
- **Long term reform process**
- **Learning outcome-based qualifications**
- **National Framework of Qualifications?**



Linking qualifications to the EQF: the role of **sectoral** stakeholders

- Invite sectors to link sectoral qualifications to EQF
- Facilitate sectoral developments
- Facilitate link between national and sectoral qualifications
- Decentralisation and self-certification



Consultation

Europe-wide consultation process from July to December 2005:

- **32 countries in 'Education and Training 2010'**
- **Bologna follow-up group**
- **European Social Partner organisations**
- **Industry & sector organisations**
- **Education and training NGOs**



Consultation — Results

- **Input to drafting of Council and EP Recommendation in Spring 2006**

- **Support from the new Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme**



Summary

- **8 common reference levels (learning outcomes)**
- **Common principles support EQF levels and provide guidelines for cooperation**
- **Implementation is voluntary**
- **Commitment from national and sectoral bodies**
- **Europe-wide consultation process from July to December 2005**



Wat betekent dit voor VVS?

- Deelname aan consultatie: voorstel standpunt volgende AV
- Eerste denkoefening
- Infodag departement onderwijs op 17 november 2005
- WG Internationaal 24 november 2005 om 18u30