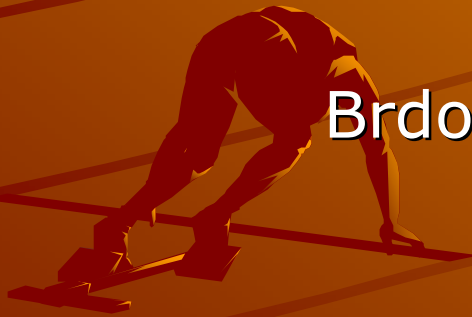


Working group III

# Qualification frameworks and lifelong learning

Presidency conference "Universities and  
Lifelong Learning"

Brdo Congress Centre, 10-11 March  
2008



# Crucial questions

How is HE coping with the new challenges in development of society (demographic and labour market changes)

How is HE responding to the needs of re-skilling, upgrading knowledge at the higher levels

How can NQF foster LLL at universities

# Scottish example

- ◆ Scotland launched its NQF in 2002
- ◆ It was a joint venture of the social partners and business
- ◆ The levels of the framework are described in complexity of knowledge and its application
- ◆ Benefits for individuals: practically all learning can be accredited and recognised
- ◆ Benefits for organizations: it assists capacity building and fosters career paths
- ◆ Is a meeting point (learning outcomes) for traditional and non-traditional qualifications and
- ◆ makes qualifications comparable

# Universities and SCQF

- ◆ HE qualifications are placed within the framework, on the highest levels of the framework
- ◆ The descriptors provide transparency of qualifications and the students are better informed as to what to expect from HE
- ◆ But are the universities ready to admit there are different environments, apart from universities where learning at the highest levels can take place? (top research companies, IT)

# How can NQF foster LLL at universities

- ◆ It can be a tool:
- ◆ for systematic transferability and recognition of learning outcomes obtained through different learning paths
- ◆ for dialogue between HEI and business as well as society at large (education provision and needs analysis)
- ◆ for re-recruiting former students to increase their level of education, skills and competences
- ◆ for recruiting different groups of learners
- ◆ for transfer of non-formally acquired qualifications into HE
- ◆ for increasing the social dimension of universities' activities (by offering non-traditional courses and non-traditional students)
- ◆ for sharing the know-how that universities have in national as well as international environment
- ◆ for developing additional, new courses, programmes, qualifications, adopted to specific circumstances and target groups