

Quality Assurance Works Hand-in-hand with Qualifications Framework to Promote Recognition

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Development of Hong Kong Qualifications Framework

Initiatives in Promoting Recognition under the HKQF

Reflections: Challenges and Solutions

HONG KONG



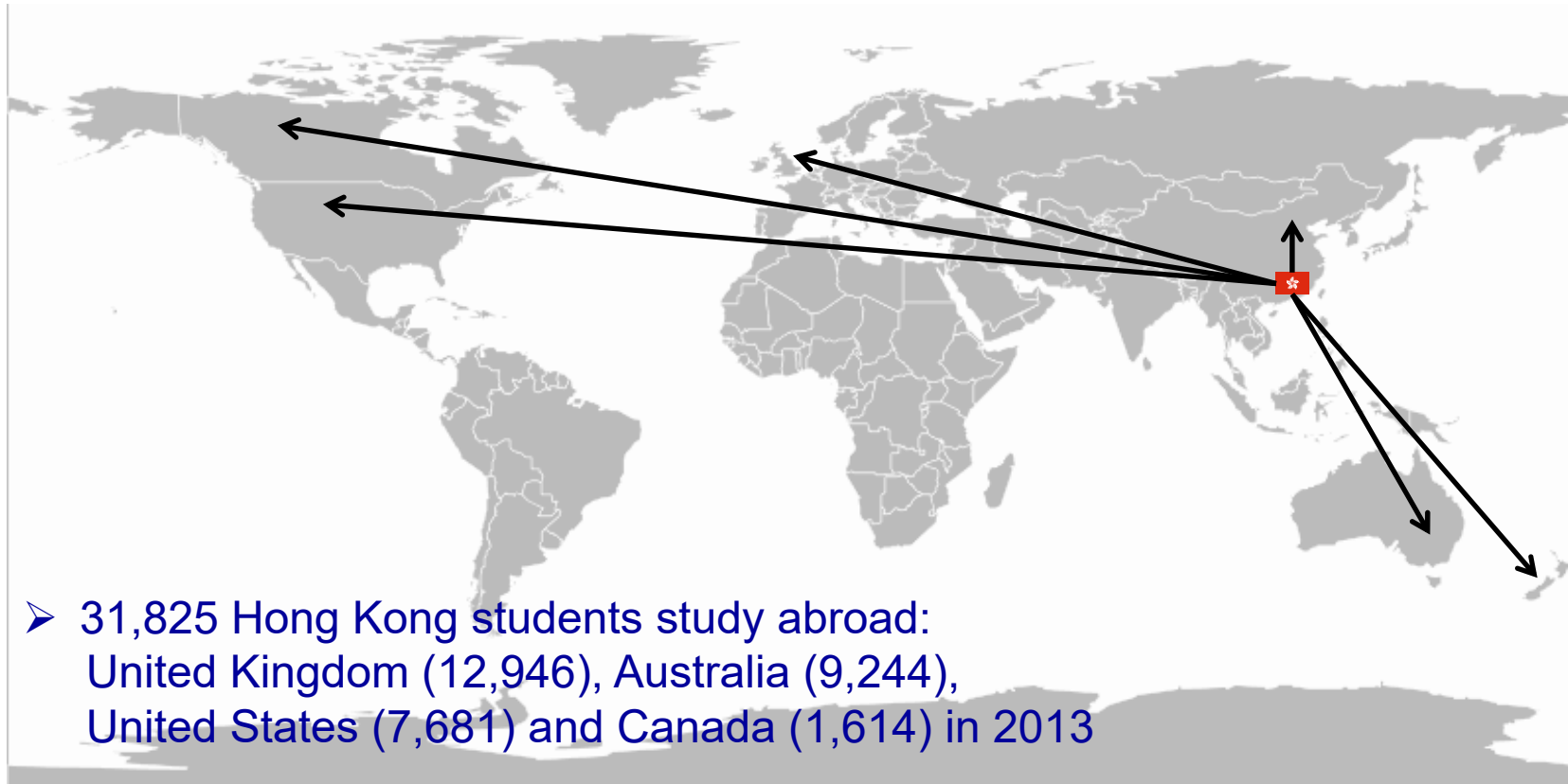
Source of picture: http://s1.picswalls.com/wallpapers/2014/08/08/hong-kong-view-image_020441433_161.jpeg

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)

- 
- International city
 - One Country Two Systems
 - TNE 'hot spot'
 - Significance of Greater Bay Area

Source of picture: <https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-illustration-hong-kong-skyline-buddha-stature-color-vector-illustration-city-big-panorama-white-background-image57849326>

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)



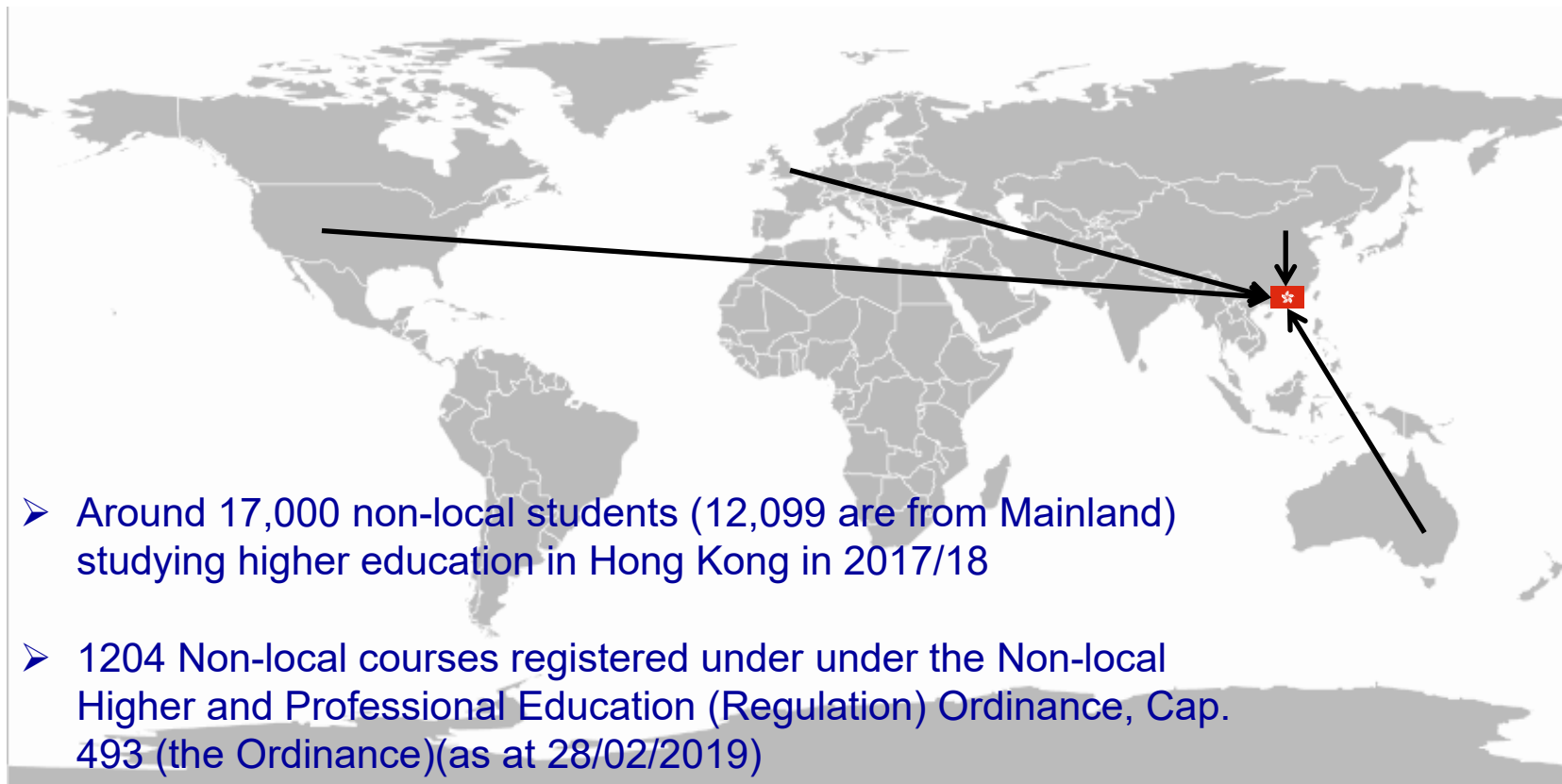
Source of Data :

<http://monitor.icef.com/2016/02/hong-kongs-outbound-numbers-continue-to-rise/>

<https://cdcf.ugc.edu.hk/cdcf/statEntry.action>

<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/postsecondary/non-local-higher-professional-edu/stat-info/index.html>

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)



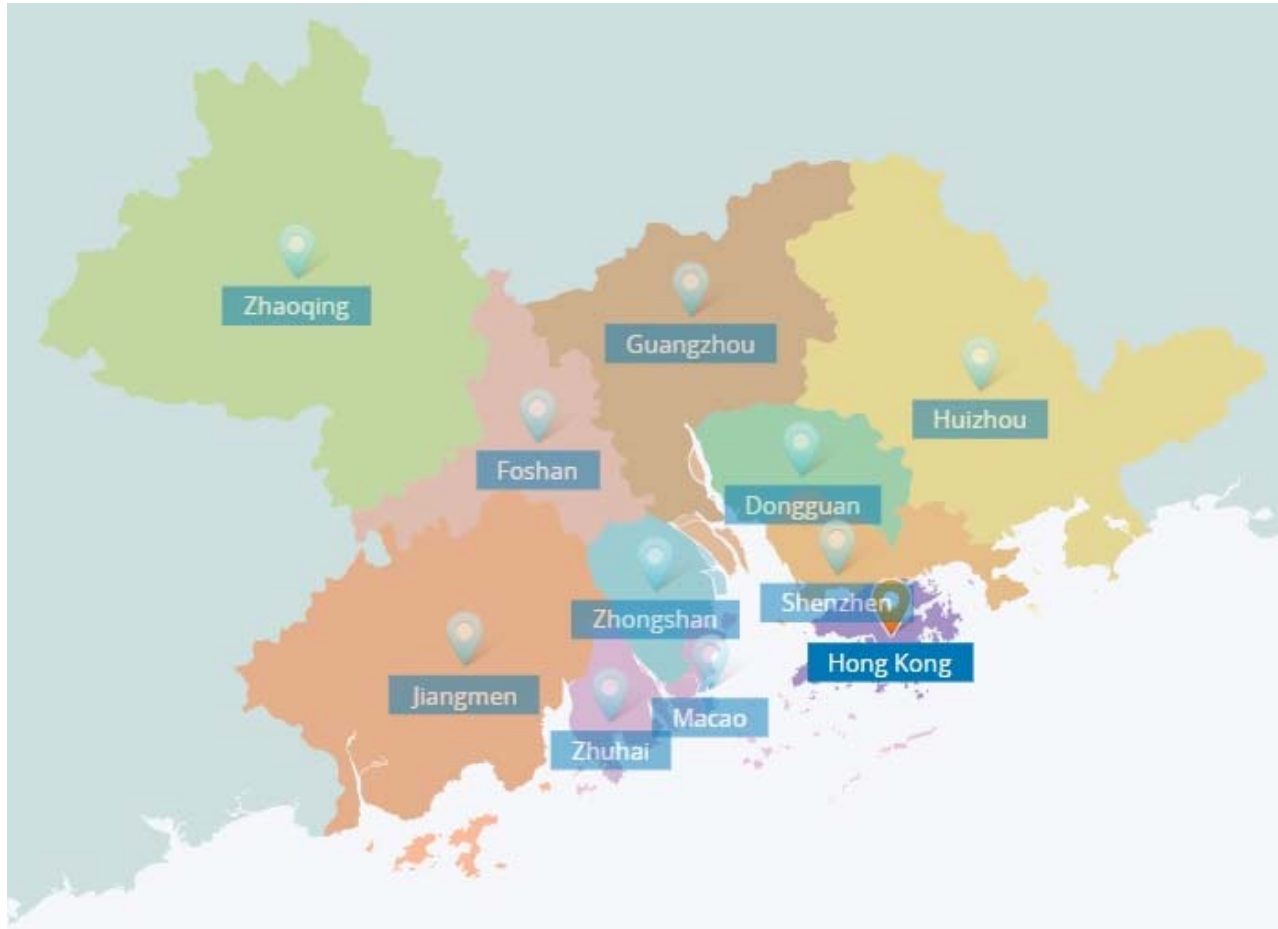
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<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/postsecondary/non-local-higher-professional-edu/stat-info/index.html>

Greater Bay Area



Source of picture: <https://www.bayarea.gov.hk/en/about/the-cities.html>

Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)

- established under the HKCAAVQ Ordinance (Cap. 1150) on 1 Oct 2007 to replace the former HKCAA set up in 1990
- Independent statutory body to promote, enhance and maintain quality of post-secondary, vocational and professional education and training in Hong Kong

Our History

Hong Kong Council for..



1990

• **Academic Accreditation (HKCAA)**

• Academic accreditation of the non-self-accrediting post-secondary institutions (Cap 1150)

2007

• **Accreditation of Academic & Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)**

- Accreditation Authority (Cap 592)
- Qualifications Register (QR) Authority (Cap 592)

2008

- Launch of the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (QF)

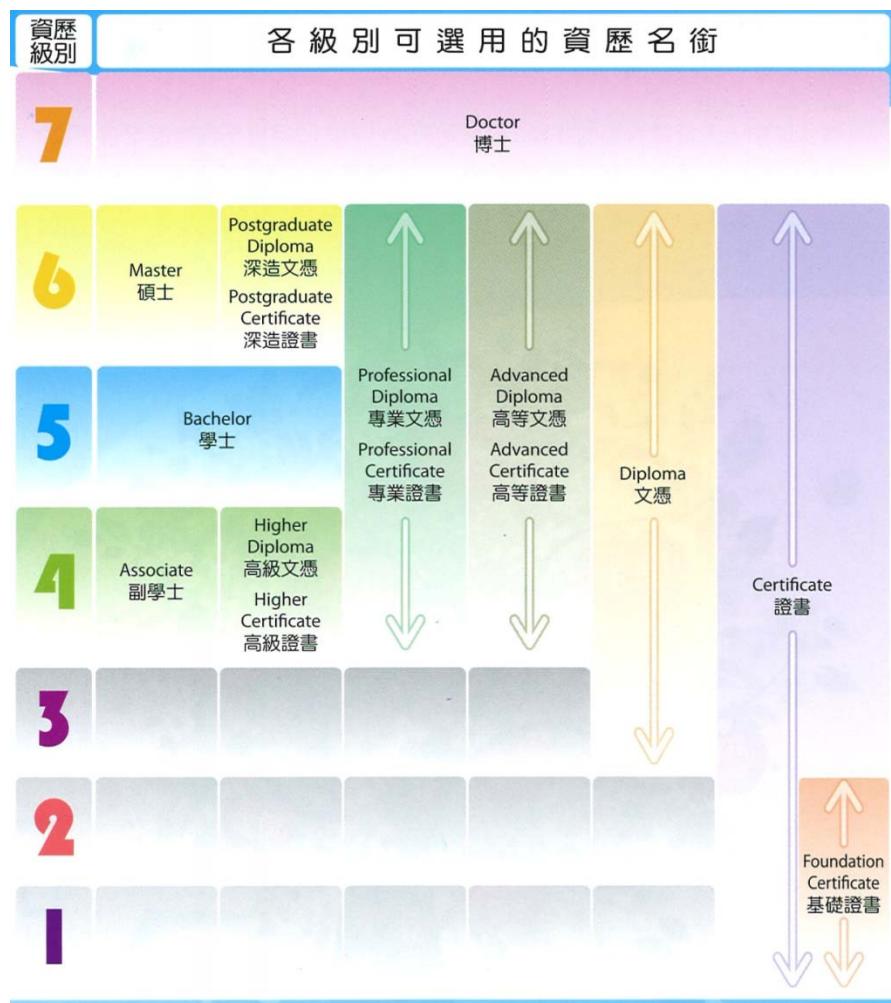


HKCAAVQ

Development of Qualifications Framework in Hong Kong

Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF)

- Since 2008
- Voluntary System
- Applicable to all sectors facilitate an interface between
 - ✓ Academic
 - ✓ Vocational
 - ✓ Continuing Education
- Key features: QF levels, credits, award titles
- Qualifications Register (QR)
- Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) system



QF Level

- Applicable to all sectors
- Academic ~ Vocational ~ Continuing Education
- GLD to describe the common features at the same level
- Outcome-based

Hong Kong Qualifications Register (HKQR)

Home > Search > Qualifications

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Qualifications Search

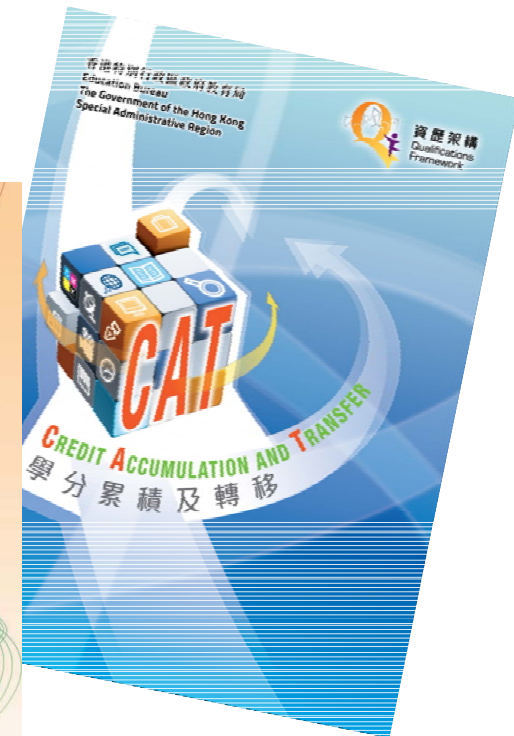
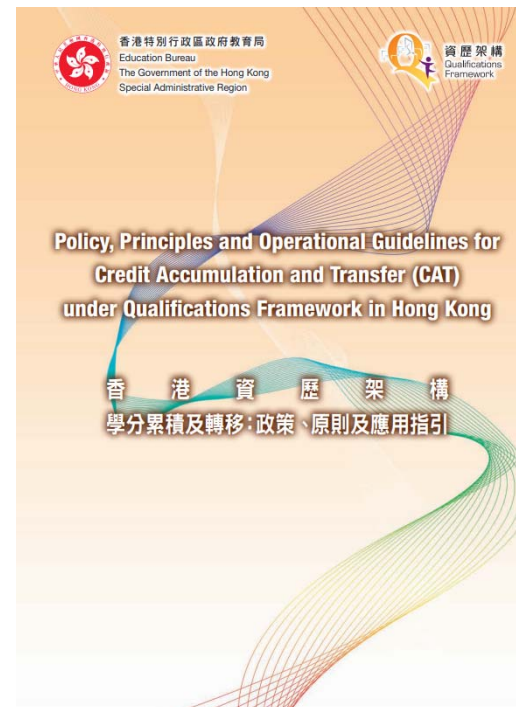
Keywords <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. Title, Area of Study, Agency, Industry / I</small>	Types of Qualifications <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. RPLs, SCS-based, NLQs</small>	QF Level <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. L1 - L7</small>
QR Registration No. <input type="text"/> <small>QR Registration No of the Qualifications</small>	QF Credit <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>	Types of Credit Accumulation and Transfer <input type="text"/> <small>Select from the following</small>
Area of Study and Training <input type="text"/> <small>Select from the following</small>	Sub-area <input type="text"/> <small>Select from the following</small>	
Industry List of Industry Training Advisory Committee and Membership <input type="text"/> <small>Select from the following</small>	Branch <input type="text"/> <small>Select from the following</small>	
Title of Learning Programme <input type="text"/> <small>Partial / Full Title of Learning Programme</small>	Title of Qualification <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. Bachelor, Higher Diploma</small>	
Name of Granting Body <input type="text"/> <small>Direct input or choose from the pull-down list</small>	Country / Region of Granting Body <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. HK, UK, Aust</small>	
Name of Operator / Agency <input type="text"/> <small>Direct input or choose from the pull-down list</small>	Country / Region of Operator <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. HK</small>	Mode of Delivery <input type="text"/> <small>E.g. FT, PT, E-Learning</small>
Operator / Agency Reference Code <input type="text"/> <small>Reference Code of the Qualification</small>	Registration Status <input type="text"/> <small>Current, Prospective</small>	

Simple Search **Reset** **Search**

Source: <https://www.hkqr.gov.hk/HKQRPRD/web/hkqr-en/>

Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT)

- To facilitate the recognition and transfer of credits
- To minimise repeated learning
- To effectively support lifelong learning



Source of picture: <https://www.hkqf.gov.hk/en/KeyFeatures/cat/index.html>

HKCAAVQ's Initiatives in Promoting Recognition under the HKQF

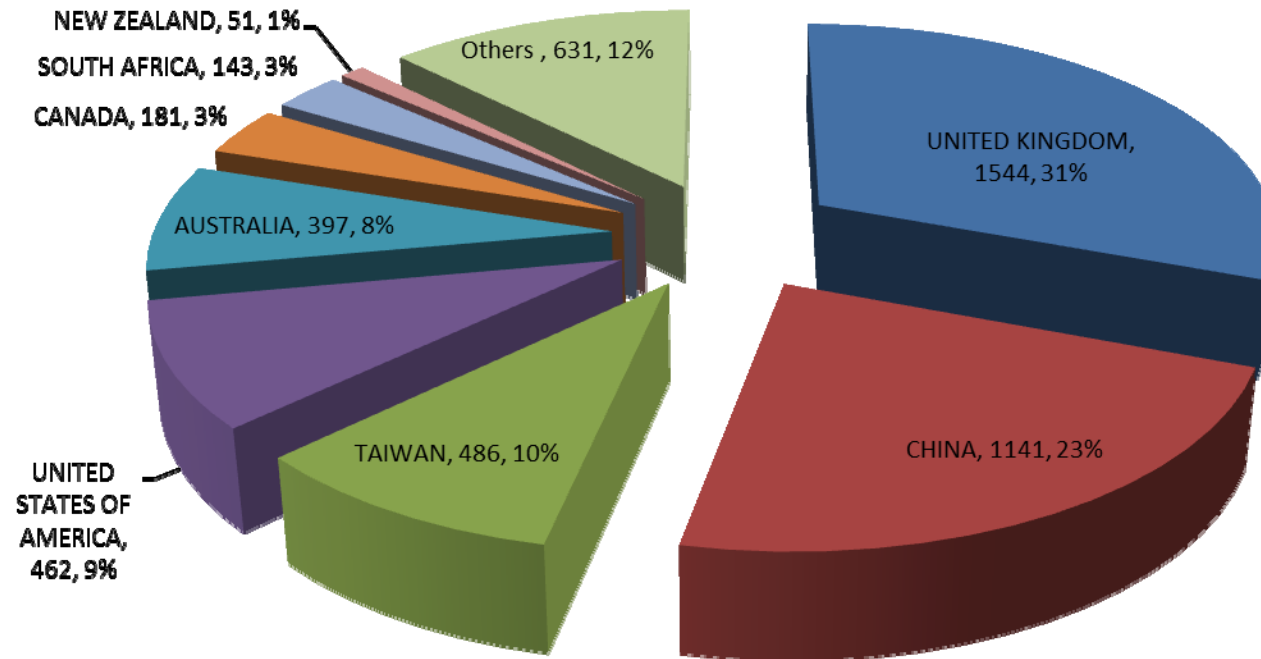
Use of Comparability Studies



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK
TE TAURA HERE TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA



Qualifications Assessment



Total: 5036 cases (from Jan to Dec 2018)

Country Area Profile (CAP) - Overview

- Total of 8 CAP: Australia, Canada, Mainland China, New Zealand, South Africa, Taiwan, UK, USA
- Contents of CAP:
 - Descriptions of Education System (Higher Education, Vocational Education, School Education, Grading Systems, Teacher Qualifications)
 - Comparison Chart of QF (if available) to HKQF
 - Assessment Guidelines
 - Non-Local Qualifications Level References
 - Non-Local Qualifications Parameters
 - Local Qualifications Parameters

Non-local Programme Accreditation

1997

- Non-local Higher and Professional Education (Regulation) Ordinance (Chapter 493)

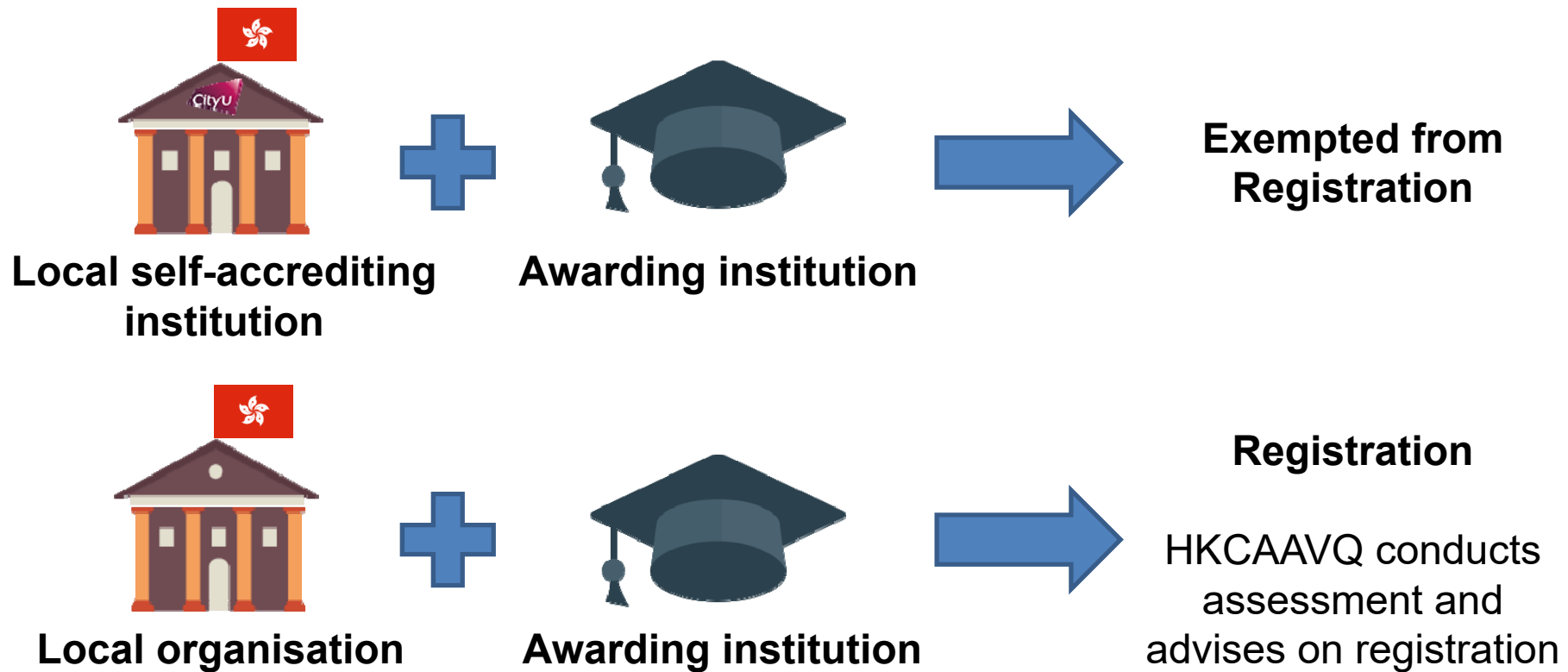
2008

- Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF)

Since
2009

- Accreditation for non-local programmes

Processes for Registration



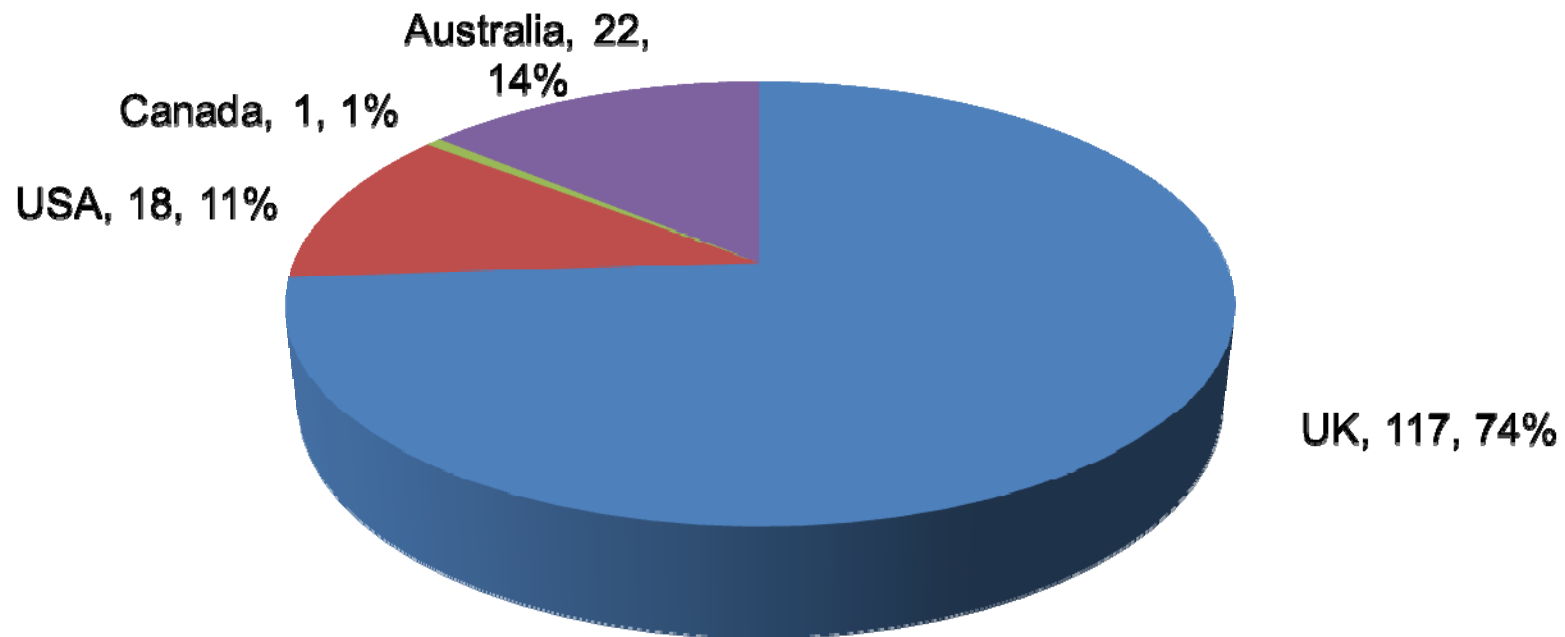
Issues relating to Registration

- Comparability of standards
- Recognition of the qualifications
 - “It is a matter of discretion for individual employers to recognise any qualification to which this course may lead.”

Why seek NLP accreditation?

- Recognition under HK Qualifications Framework (QF), and listing on the HK Qualifications Register (QR)
- Recognition of comparable qualifications at approved QF level(s) obtained in HK
- Students of accredited full-time programmes being eligible for financial assistance schemes from the HKSAR Government
- Accredited programmes being eligible for applying to become Continuing Education Fund (CEF) reimbursable courses from the HKSAR Government

Accredited non-local programmes



Total: 158 programmes

Source: Hong Kong Qualifications Register (1 March 2019)

International Cooperation



HKCAAVQ and QAA Joint Review Exercises
in April and May 2018

Key aspects of Joint Exercise

Panel formation	Two QAA reviewers acted as both HKCAAVQ panel members (including acting as Chair) and QAA reviewers.
Information submission before the site visit	QAA reviewers used information gathered through HKCAAVQ accreditation exercise to inform the QAA TNE review Additional information had been submitted to QAA exclusively for the QAA TNE Review and Case Study purpose.
Collection of evidence during site visit meetings	Single site visit to collect data for two quality assurance exercise
Outcomes	Separate reports issued by HKCAAVQ and QAA with reference to the relevant standards and criteria.

International Collaboration

QAA

English

Search

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Home > International > Transnational Education Review > Review of TNE in Hong Kong

127 QAA and HKCAAVQ cooperated closely throughout the TNE review process, sharing data, information, and intelligence on UK TNE provision delivered locally, and for the first time they carried out joint review activity. Such close cooperation allowed both agencies to deepen reciprocal understanding and strengthen reciprocal trust in each other's quality assurance systems. Carrying out joint review activity through participation of QAA reviewers in HKCAAVQ accreditation panels facilitated the benchmarking of standards and processes. Based on peer-review evaluation, it is possible to conclude that HKCAAVQ reviews and judgements can be relied upon for the purpose of UK quality assurance by QAA. This means that QAA can recognise HKCAAVQ accreditation decisions, avoiding the need in the future to review UK TNE provision already accredited by HKCAAVQ.

OVERVIEW REPORT

COUNTRY REPORT:
Hong Kong
 Administrative Region of the
 People's Republic of China)

<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/international/transnational-education-review/review-of-tne-in-hong-kong>

Reflections: Challenges and Solutions



Challenge	Solution
Different Purposes for NQFs	Use of comparability studies between the HKQF and overseas QFs

Source of image: <https://pastorprogress.net/gospel-article-challenges-barrier/>

Challenge	Solution
Substantial differences between the totality of the qualification and the targeted level of the HKQF	Benchmarking or comparability studies to facilitate reciprocal trust



Source of image: <https://diamondbooks.org.uk/overcoming-challenges/>

Project Outcomes of Comparability Studies

New Zealand Qualifications Framework

“the analysis shows that the frameworks can be considered comparable.”

Education Bureau, Hong Kong Qualifications Framework and New Zealand Qualifications Authority (2018), Referencing report of Hong Kong Qualifications Framework and the New Zealand Qualifications Framework , P8

European Qualifications Framework (EQF)

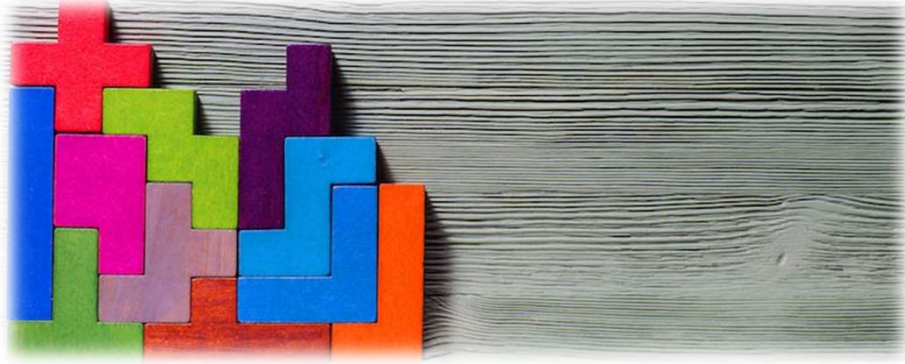
“The results of the Study of the HKQF and the EQF will provide a trustworthy translation mechanism to determine how specific Hong Kong qualifications correspond to qualifications awarded by European countries.”

Education Bureau and European Commission (2016), Comparability Study of the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF) and the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), P.89



Challenge	Solution
Voluntary Quality Assurance System under the HKQF	Incentive schemes by Hong Kong Government for providers

Source of image: <https://www.nairaland.com/3866549/5-common-academic-challenges-affect>



Challenge

No Perfect Matches in
NQF Collaboration

Solution

Seeking common
ground while
retaining differences

Source of image: <https://blog.hubspot.com/blog/tabid/6307/bid/33820/5-major-challenges-marketers-face-and-how-to-solve-them.aspx>

Thank You

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