

Co-funded by the Tempus Programme of the European Union



#### Tempus Project No. 543817-TEMPUS-1-2013-1-SE-TEMPUS-SMHES Implementation of National & Sectorial Qualifications Frameworks in Armenia (ARMENQA)

### CONFERENCE ON "ISSUES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL & SECTORIAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORKS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM OF ARMENIA"

Yerevan, 3-4 March, 2016

### RATIONALE, GOALS AND MAIN OBJECTIVES OF "ARMENQA" PROJECT

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## THE "ARMENQA" PROJECT

- National
- Type Structural Measures
- Category Higher Education & Society
- Duration 3 year (12.2013-12.2016)





# **PROJECT GOALS**

- Enhancing employability of Armenian HEIs' graduates
- Facilitating recognition of Armenian qualifications in the labour market nationally and internationally

- i. Increased employability
- ii. International mobility of graduates
- iii. Eased & smooth recognition of qualifications





- 18 organizations involved in the Project
- 5 from EU countries (4 Universities and 1 State agency)
- 13 from Armenia (8 Universities, 1 Ministry, 1 State agency and 3 NGOs)
- Contractor & coordinator is Linkoping University (Sweden)
- YSU and ASPU are local (Armenian) coordinators





### **EU Partners**

- 1. Linkoping University, Linkoping (Sweden) Contractor/Project Coordinator
- 2. Ghent University, Gent (Belgium)
- 3. Hochschule Osnabruck, University of Applied Sciences, Osnabruck (Germany)
- 4. Aarhus University, Aarhus N (Denmark)
- 5. National Qualifications Authority, Bucharest (Romania)





### **PC Partners (Armenia)**

- 1. Yerevan State University, Yerevan Local Coordinator
- Armenian State Pedagogical University, Yerevan Local Coordinator
- 3. Armenian National Agrarian University, Yerevan
- 4. Gyumri Sate Pedagogical Institute, Gyumri
- 5. Yerevan State Linguistic University, Yerevan
- 6. Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction





- 7. Russian Armenian (Slavonic) University
- 8. Gavar State University
- 9. RA Ministry of Education & Science
- 10. National Information Center for Academic Recognition and Mobility
- 11. National Center for Strategic Research in Higher Education
- 12. Republican Union of Employers of Armenia
- 13. AEGEE Yerevan European Students' Forum





# **Rationale behind the Project**

- Armenian National Qualifications Framework (ANQF) was adopted by RA Government in 2011
- ANQF had little implications for Armenian HE sector
- In 2012 the Ministry initiated a selfcertification process
- Evaluation panel identified a number of weaknesses & shortcomings







## Main Issues with ANQF

- Doesn't focus on Armenian realities & needs
- Revision of ANQF with all accompanying documentations is required
- ANQF doesn't serve as a transformation tool for changes
- Should provide opportunities for revision of existing qualifications and developing new ones
- Should promote flexibility of educational structures & new routes of progression





## **Main Issues with ANQF**

- Descriptors are not consistent with the QF-EHEA
- Tools & procedures should exist for alignment and placement of qualifications
- Body in charge of maintenance of ANQF is needed
- Policies & mechanisms are needed to support LO and ANQF based approaches in curriculum development
- It should be augmented with Sectorial Qualification Frameworks (SQFs)





1. Operationalization of the Armenian National Qualification Framework (ANQF) by creating and utilizing relevant legislative, regulatory and methodological bases & tools

- i. ANQF implementation Strategy, Plan & Tools
- ii. ANQF self-certification report
- iii. ANQF Implementation Manual, Glossary & Information package (guides & kits)





### Capacity building of HEIs and MoES relevant staff, and main implementers in formulating LO based qualification & programme descriptors in line with the ANQF

- i. Training materials & kits
- ii. Trained 50 academic and 35 administrative staff
- iii. Committee responsible for ANQF





 Development of the national model & methodological basis for establishment of Sectorial Qualifications Frameworks (SQFs) in Armenia and their piloting in 5 subject areas

- i. Informed academic staff & students on SQF
- ii. National SQF model
- iii. 5 piloted and approved SQFs in the selected subject areas (Physics, Law, Education, Agriculture and Civil Engineering)





4. Providing reference points, methodological basis & practical tools to Armenian HEIs for developing LO based multi-level study programmes coherent with ANQF, SQFs and relevant to the demands of the labour market

- i. Trained staff on multi-level LO based curriculum development
- ii. Policies & Guidance for LO based curriculum development
- iii. Common programme specification & sample curricula, QA tools on programme level





### 5. Dissemination & Sustainability activities

- i. Project website
- ii. Published ANQF & SQFs information materials (ANQF Strategy & Plan, ANQF Manual, Glossary, Guides & Kits, ANQF & SQFs newsletters, brochures & leaflets)
- iii. Informed stakeholders
- iv. ANQF responsible Committee
- v. Qualified staff for ANQF & SQFs
- vi. Self-certification report
- vii. 5 established SQFs, etc.





# **MAIN OUTCOMES/OUTPUTS**

- 1. Practical tools for implementing the ANQF
- 2. Built on capacity of relevant stakeholders
- 3. SQFs for 5 selected subject areas
- 4. Implemented QFs at institutional level
- 5. Dissemination & Sustainability



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# Thank you !

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