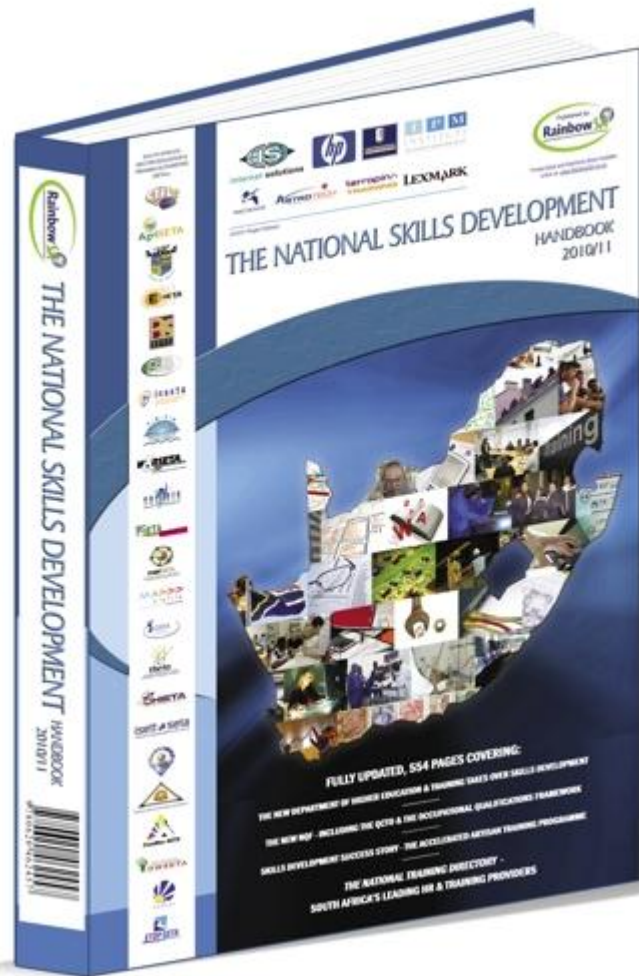


QCTO PREPARES FOR TAKE-OFF



Other resources:

We have made available a list of useful, **free**, documents and strategic summaries of

HR, L&D and Skills Development Professional,

2011 is a very significant year for skills development in South Africa.

This year we will see the commencement of **NSDS 3** (including all the 5-year *sector skills plans* of each of the 21 SETAs) as well as the first year of operation of the Quality Council for Trades & Occupations (**QCTO**), the new quality assurance body which has joined *Umalusi* and the Council for Higher Education (*CHE*) to manage what is known as "the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework of the NQF".

Both NSDS 3 and the QCTO are the culmination of several **years** of research, consultation, planning and refinement, representing the most evolved understanding of skills development to date.

Under the hood of these engines for change, are some **powerful new tools** and **incentives** for skills development professionals and the organisations they support. With careful implementation and concerted engagement from all stakeholders, these tools could contribute significantly to our **job creation** targets and our **economic growth** ambitions.

A sign that the QCTO is nearing full operational status is the **recent release of its draft operational policies** for comment and input. The deadline for submissions is **6 June 2011** (we apologise for the short notice). After consolidating input, the policies will be approved by the QCTO Board and submitted to the Minister of Higher Education & Training for approval. With these policies in place the QCTO can begin reviewing requests from bodies wishing to play the role of Quality Partners - there are over **130 pilot projects** already in various stages of operation, and many more requests to participate.

A new era in skills development is about to dawn.

The current version of the QCTO logo



Listed below are the links to the draft documents. Your SETA is one of the bodies tasked with reviewing these policies and providing input to the QCTO, so this should be your preferred means of submitting comments and input (each SETA typically has a person or team tasked with QCTO alignment):

- [Code of Conduct for Quality Partners](#)
- [Motivation for the Code of Conduct for Quality Partners](#)
- [QCTO Draft Curriculum and Assessment Policy](#)
- [QCTO Draft Fee Structure Policy for Assessment Quality Partners](#)

these and related developments on our [website](#) including:

- How **NSDS 3** prioritises exactly the kind of learning that the **QCTO** is responsible to facilitate - **occupation-focused learning** bridging the world of **theory** and the world of **work** - click [here](#) to read
- A **visual snapshot** of the new SETA landscape - print it out and share it with colleagues in [A3](#) or [A4](#) format
- An **inspirational** look at how the new approach could change our country is available [here](#)
- **Two day information sessions** to help organisations understand the importance and potential **impact to their business** of these new developments. This includes the impact and potential synergies with your HR value-chain and the HR life-cycle, as well as aligning your learning design processes (for courses, programmes and qualifications).
 - these sessions include access to a large **library of support tools**, resources and a discussion forum dealing with the new occupational approach to learning, and its potential benefits to the entire **HR value chain**
 - these sessions are offered **in-house** or as **public** sessions, you can register your interest in a session [here](#)
 - A **brochure** with outcomes and the session outline is available [here](#).
 - We also offer **free** overview sessions for non-profit organisations and labour unions.

(AQPs)

- [QCTO Draft Fee Structure Policy for Development Quality Partners \(DQPs\)](#)
- [QCTO Draft Policy on Delegation of Qualification Design and Assessment to Development Quality Partners \(DQPs\) and Assessment Quality Partners \(AQPs\)](#)

Additional information relating to these documents is posted on the SAQA website [here](#).

If you are wondering what a Quality Partner is, or why there are now three sub-frameworks of the NQF, then we suggest you get a copy of the 2010/11 edition of *The National Skills Development Handbook*. The Handbook includes a **200 page chapter** on the [Occupational Learning System](#) which covers the QCTO and the other role-players in the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework. You can **preview** the Handbook on Google Books [here](#), or order a copy of this 554 page full colour book from our [website](#).

Supporting skills development.

The Team
RAINBOWSA

ISBN 978-0-620-46245-7 (Printed),
ISBN 978-0-620-46246-4 (Electronic)
Copyright 2010-2011 (c) RainbowSA
theteam@rainbowsa.co.za
www.RainbowSA.co.za

Visit our [website](#) to order additional copies or to see our other Handbooks.