



Údarás Náisiúnta
Cáilíochtaí na hÉireann
National Qualifications
Authority of Ireland



Referencing of Latvian education system to the EQF

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What is referencing?

- “Referencing is a process that results in the establishment of a relationship between the levels of the European meta-framework (EQF) and the national qualifications framework (NQF) or system”
- “The referencing process (hence) needs to embrace both objectivity and consensus as elements of trust”
- Source: “Referencing National Qualifications Levels to the EQF” - European Qualifications Framework series note 3

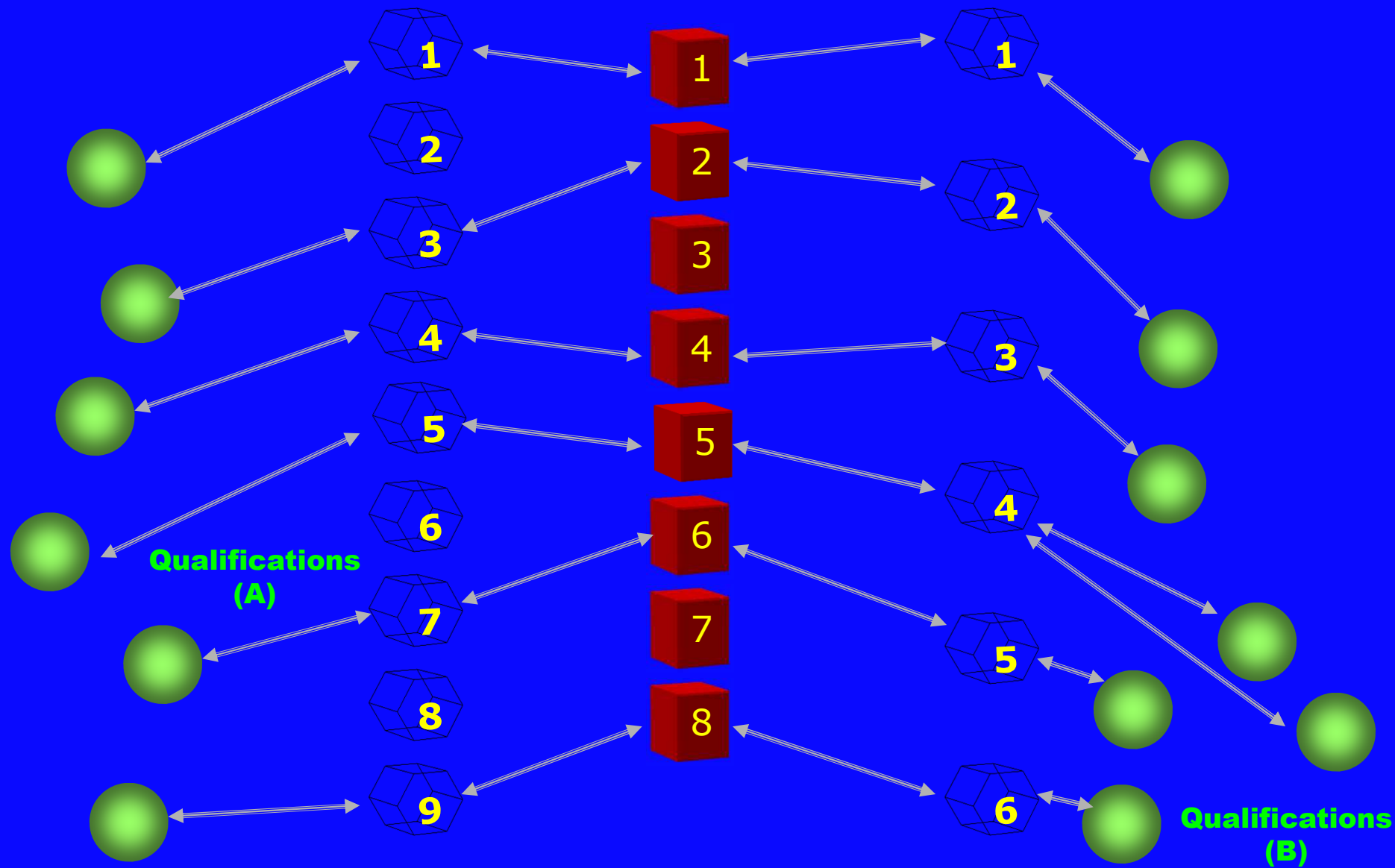


What is referencing?

- “Referencing processes can only capture how the national system relates to the EQF at a given point in time.”
- “...a significant first approximation towards relating a national system to the EQF.... Further adjustments may be necessary...”
- Source: “Referencing National Qualifications Levels to the EQF” - European Qualifications Framework series note 3

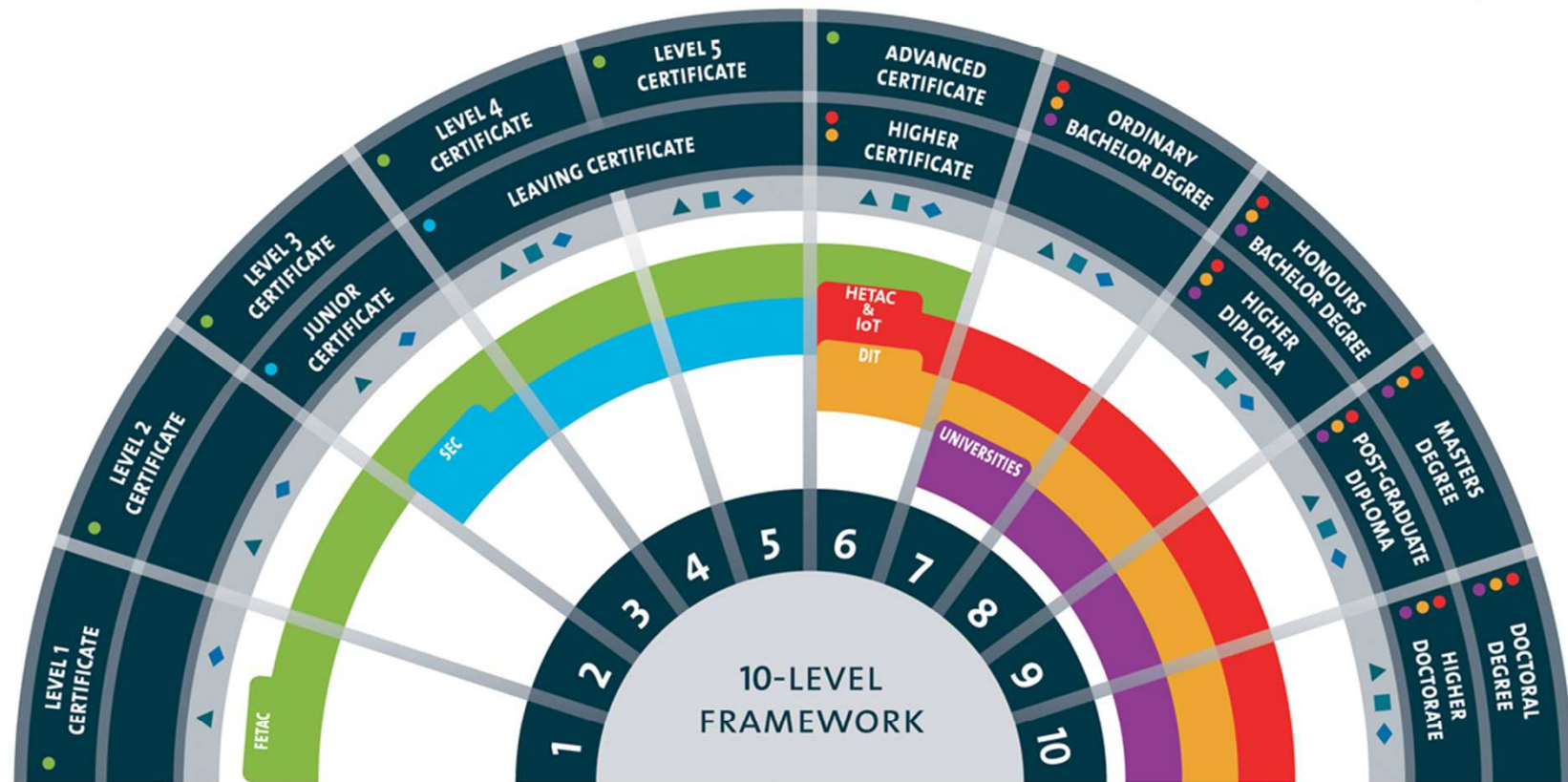
Country A

Country B



NATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF QUALIFICATIONS

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AWARDING BODIES

- FETAC - Further Education and Training Awards Council
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (*Department of Education & Science*)
- HETAC - Higher Education and Training Awards Council
- IoT - Institutes of Technology (*make their own awards at specified levels under Delegated Authority from HETAC*)
- DIT - Dublin Institute of Technology
- Universities

AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four types of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards: are the principal class of awards made at a level
- ▲ Minor Awards: are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- Supplemental Awards: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- ◆ Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement



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Ireland's experience

- 2003 - National Framework of Qualifications launched
- 2006 - Verification of Compatibility with Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area ('Bologna')
- 2009 - Referencing to European Qualifications Framework (June)



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EQF levels	EHEA Framework (Bologna)	NFQ Levels	NFQ Major Award-types
1		1	Level 1 Certificate
		2	Level 2 Certificate
2		3	Level 3 Certificate, Junior Certificate
3		4	Level 4 Certificate, Leaving Certificate
4		5	Level 5 Certificate, Leaving Certificate
5	Short Cycle within First Cycle	6	Advanced Certificate (FET award); Higher Certificate (HET award)
6	First Cycle	7	Ordinary Bachelors Degree
		8	Honours Bachelor Degree, Higher Diploma
7	Second Cycle	9	Masters Degree, Post-Graduate Diploma
8	Third cycle	10	Doctoral Degree, Higher Doctorate