

BQA NCQF Qualification Template

DNCQF.FDMD.GD04

Issue No.: 01

QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION SECTION A							
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER		Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources					
TITLE		Diploma in Agricultural Extension				NCQF LEVEL	6
FIELD	Agriculture and Nature Conservation	SUB-FIELD		Agricultural Extension			
New qualification		✓	Review of existing qualification				
SUB-FRAMEWORK		General Education			TVET		Higher Education
QUALIFICATION TYPE		Certificate			Diploma	✓	Bachelor
		Bachelor Honours			Master		Doctor
CREDIT VALUE						240	
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION							
<p>Rationale</p> <p>The certificate qualification in general agriculture and animal health were designed to provide a wide spectrum of skills and knowledge in agriculture and basic sciences to prepare the graduates to function as extension generalist in the planning and implementation of agriculture extension programs at the now Ministry of Agriculture Development and Food Security. The expansion of the extension system at all levels called for increased training to prepare Frontline Extension Workers to cope with new and changing responsibilities in the modern-day extension management and supervision (Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, 2003). The recently introduced Government schemes such as ISPAAD and LIMID, with challenging responsibilities that require upgrading of technical competencies of staff at all levels. The rapidly changing social and natural environment in Botswana; the irreversible technological changes in agriculture; the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS on agricultural production, agricultural workforce and rural communities and the unpredictable climate conditions in Botswana need highly trained workforce in agricultural extension to face the new challenges in Botswana's endeavour to meet the national food security needs (National Extension Conference, 1995; UNAIDS, 2002; and Ministry of Finance and Development planning, 2003; Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, 2016).</p> <p>Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with advanced knowledge, skills and competences to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and close gaps in Botswana's Agricultural Extension system. Demonstrate an understanding on the nature of agricultural extension, principles and practices and its role in agricultural development. Apply skills for agricultural technology dissemination and adoption. 							

- Disseminate updated agricultural information that farmers and people in agriculture-related industries require to increase food production and quality of life.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- Certificate V (NCQF level 5) in a related field.
- For those who have CAT (Credit Accumulation and Transfer) or Recognition of Prior Learning shall be considered through the Educational Provider's admission policies.

QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION		SECTION B
GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)		ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
1. Demonstrate advanced agricultural knowledge, skills and in planning agricultural extension work.		1.1 Develop agricultural extension program 1.2 Monitor implementation of program 1.3 Evaluate agricultural extension program
2. Master appropriate skills and competencies in linking stakeholders in various agricultural development initiatives.		2.1 Implement stakeholder linkages 2.2 Create research, extension and farmer linkages for effective technology development and disseminations. 2.3 Apply appropriate agricultural extension teaching methods and strategies to enhance agricultural productivity.
3. Provide effective leadership in the process of participatory technology development and dissemination.		3.1 Apply data collection and analysis techniques 3.2 Analyze data to provide support and participate in the development of an extension area program 3.3 Prioritize farmers and other stakeholder needs. 3.4 Mobilize stakeholders for implementing agricultural development programs and projects.
4. Disseminate improved agricultural technologies		4.1 Apply effective Extension communication skills 4.2 Supervise field implementation of improved agricultural technologies.
5. Develop sustainable agricultural production systems		5.1 Implement agricultural development programmes (LIMID, ISPAAD) 5.2 Promote use of leguminous crops in the cropping system 5.3 Promote crop-livestock husbandry practices
6. Apply advanced project management skills in agricultural development		6.1 Train farmers in agricultural enterprise and resource management

	6.2 Demonstrate knowledge in commodity marketing and pricing 6.3 Apply record keeping principles 6.4 Apply principles of produce processing for value addition 6.5 Demonstrate knowledge on proper grading and packaging of produce
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QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE SECTION C			
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects / Units / Modules /Courses	Title	Level	Credits
	N/A	N/A	N/A
CORE COMPONENT Courses	Principles of extension and comparative Extension Education	5	12
	Introduction to Rural Sociology	5	12
	Introduction to Adult Education	5	12
	Computing and Information Studies	5	12
	Agricultural Extension Administration and Supervision	6	12
	Project Management	6	12
	Data Collection and Analysis	6	12
	Rural Youth Extension and Program	6	12
	Extension Program Planning and Evaluation	6	12
	Community Organisation and local leadership	6	12
	Audio Visual Aids in Extension	6	12
	Agricultural Extension Practical	6	24
	Development Communication in Agricultural Extension	6	12
	Total		168
ELECTIVE COMPONENT Subjects / Units / Modules /Courses	Optional set 1		
	Management of small-scale farm Enterprises	5	12
	Agricultural Marketing		
	Optional set 2		
	Dairy Production	6	12
	Livestock Production Processing		
	Optional Set 3		
	Wildland Fire Management	6	12
	Crop Production		
	Optional Set 4		
	Farm Structures	6	12

	Tractor and Machinery Operations		
	Optional Set 5		
	Pig and Rabbit Production	6	12
	Poultry Production		
	Optional Set 6		
	Soil and Water Conservation	6	12
	Forest and Range Ecology		
	Total	72	
	TOTAL		240

Rules of combinations, Credit distribution (where applicable):

Role of Combination = Fundamental (F) + Core (C) + Elective (E)
= 0 + 168 + 72
= 240 credits

Credit Distribution

Level	Total Credits
5	60
6	180
TOTAL	240

Combination rule for options:

It is compulsory for candidates to choose one course from each of the 6 optional sets.

ASSESSMENTS AND MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

ASSESSMENTS

The Formative assessment = 50 %

The summative assessment = 50%.

All instructors assessing learners against this qualification shall be required to have some competencies as an assessor and should have also registered as an assessor with the Botswana Qualification Authority (BQA).

Any institution providing learning that will lead to the achievement of the qualification will be required to register with the Botswana Qualification Authority (BQA).

MODERATION

Internal moderation shall be carried out by engaging experienced staff in the field of learning for tests and examinations

External moderation will be carried out by engaging experienced external experts in the field of learning on the final examinations.

- An instructor or any individual moderating the assessment of a learner against this qualification must be duly accredited as a moderator at the Botswana Qualification Authority (BQA).
- Moderation will be overseen by BQA accredited moderators.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (if applicable)

The Recognition of Prior Learning will be applicable for the qualification/award in line with Education and Training Provider and BQA policies.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)
<p>Vertical Progression Holders of qualification can further their studies as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc/BA in Agricultural Extension, • BA Adult Education, • BA Rural Development Studies • BA Rural Sociology <p>Horizontal Progression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma in General Agriculture • Diploma in Animal Health and Production • Diploma in Horticulture • Diploma in Forestry and Range Resources <p>Employment Pathways Holders of the qualification can serve as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm managers, • Cooperative development advisors • Animal Production Officer • Beekeeping Officers • Agricultural Advisors in Non-Governmental Organisations • Agricultural Consultants
QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION
<p>Qualification Award Graduates will be awarded Diploma in Agricultural Extension on attaining a minimum of 240 credits and meet all the rules of combination.</p> <p>Certification There will be issuance of Certificate and transcript at award.</p>
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY
<p>The proposed qualification is largely similar to the examined qualifications in terms of course content and qualification purpose. Nonetheless there were some relatively minor dissimilarities noted. The examined qualifications are SAQA National Diploma in Agricultural Extension; University of Nigeria Diploma in Agricultural Extension; Egerton University Diploma in Agricultural Education and Extension.</p> <p>Areas of similarities in terms of course content: The SAQA qualification offers the following modules which are similar to those in the proposed qualification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension principles and extension teaching methods • Communication in extension • Data analysis and computing • Extension organization management • Agricultural extension philosophy • Rural social systems

In addition, the purpose of the proposed qualification compares favourably with those of the examined qualifications. For example, the purpose of the proposed qualification is to:

- Fill identified gaps in Botswana's agricultural system
- Provide learners with broad understanding on the nature of agricultural extension, principles and practices
- Equip graduates with skills for agricultural technology dissemination and adoption
- Supply continuously updated information that farmers and people in agriculture – related industries require to increase food production and quality of life.

In comparison, the purpose of the SAQA qualification is to:

- Apply integrated knowledge, skills and values of the principles and philosophy of extension in an intervention
- Design a farm plan based on natural resources for the development and implementation of a sound production strategy to ensure sustainable resource utilization

The purpose of the Egerton University qualification which is equally similar to the purpose of the proposed qualification is to:

- Produce individuals who have undergone training in technical agriculture, extension education, agricultural education and communication skills to meet the demands of modern agriculture
- Acquire skills of setting up and managing agribusiness

Areas of dissimilarities

The proposed qualification and the University of Nigeria qualification offer the following modules which are not offered by Egerton University:

- Extension administration and supervision
- Community organizations and local leadership
- Rural extension youth programs

In the same vein the University of Nigeria qualification has the following modules not offered by the proposed qualification and University of Egerton qualification:

- Psychology in extension
- Advanced rural sociology

The SAQA qualification offers the following modules not offered in the proposed qualification and University of Nigeria qualification:

- Community analysis
- Current issues in rural development

Duration

- The proposed qualification is to run for two (2) years
- The Egerton University qualification runs for three (3) years
- The SAQA qualification runs for one (1) year
- The University of Nigeria qualification runs for two (2) years
- In addition, the Egerton University qualification has significant agricultural education component while the other three do not.

REVIEW PERIOD

After every 5 years.