

QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION							SECTION A
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER</b>	BAISAGO University						
<b>TITLE</b>	Master of Science in Development Studies				<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>	9	
<b>FIELD</b>	Humanities and Social Sciences		<b>SUB-FIELD</b>	Development Studies			
New qualification	✓		Review of existing qualification				
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>	General Education			TVET		Higher Education	✓
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>	Certificate			Diploma		Bachelor	
	Bachelor Honours			Master	✓	Doctor	
<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	260						
<b>RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION</b>							
<p>Development specialists have been identified as the cutting edge and priority in all the sectors of the economy as shown in the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC, 2016) Top Occupations in High Demand. To promote community and national development, development leaders need to possess the following skills such as, leadership and communication; critical analysis and creative thinking; project management; teamwork and professional networking; and research, writing and communication among others which are currently lacking in many development leaders in Botswana. To close these skills gap, there is need for a Master of Science Degree in Development Studies which is contextualized to the Botswana environment, where development leaders will be trained on Development Economics; Development Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring; Management, Research Methods, and International Development Issues among others. This is line with vision 2036 of creating a knowledge-based economy. Botswana through Vision 2036 aims at achieving the pillars of Sustainable Economic Development and Human and Social Development. The two pillars emphasise transformation to a knowledge-based economy that would enable citizens to globally compete in driving economic growth and diversification.</p> <p>The qualification is aimed at imparting formal training on development to people either employed in the development sector at various levels of responsibility, or those intending to carve a career in development studies. Candidates will be taught advanced development principles and the qualification has a natural</p>							

base in the study of those disciplines like Development Economics; Development Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring; Management, Research Methods and International Development Issues that are generally accepted as contributing to the various activities of an all-round development practitioner. Specifically, it aims to blend practical work experience with the theoretical aspects underpinning development studies. The qualification will cater for the development training needs of practitioners in the NGO and public sectors, and those intending to have a career in development work, whilst enabling development practitioners to have a grasp of the total concept of development, from both local and international perspectives.

The proposed qualification aims to prepare professionals who could contribute to development sector at local, national as well as at the global levels. The students in the qualification will have a deep understanding of development theories and acquire a wide knowledge of fundamental policy trends in development worldwide. The qualification aims to meet the demands of the local and national needs of development professionals as well as international market by training and educating individuals who have independent research capabilities, highly developed national and international experience to work in international organizations, government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, research institutions, higher education institutions, and related areas.

The purpose of the qualification is to equip learners with necessary skills and competencies to:

- Facilitate the principles and practices of policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation.
- Undertake research in policy analysis.
- Design tools to monitor and evaluate development projects.
- Prepare monitoring and evaluation systems for development programs/projects.
- Recommend strategies to improve the success of development projects.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)**

- i. Candidates should have at least a Bachelor's Degree in Development Studies (NCQF Level 7) or any related field.
- OR
- ii. Applicants who do not meet the requirements above may be considered through RPL and CAT policies for access and inclusion as per BQA/ national policy.

<b>QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>		<b>SECTION</b>
<b>B</b>		
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>	
1. Evaluate different development approaches and policies to be pursued in Botswana.	1.1 Evaluate existing development policies on the Sustainable Livelihoods (SL) and National Developments Plans (NDP's) in Botswana. 1.2 Analyze Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) projects 1.3 Discuss on global initiatives such as Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). 1.4 Formulate development policies in the country.	
2. Conduct research projects for development	2.1 Identify and write the research problem 2.2 Formulate the research objectives 2.3 Formulate research questions and hypothesis 2.4 Review literature for research 2.5 Reference properly in-text and out-of text referencing. 2.6 Formulate research methodology 2.7 Use qualitative and quantitative approaches to development research. 2.8 Use descriptive and inferential statistical techniques in developmental research. 2.9 Select data analysis techniques, including statistical analysis that includes software packages such as SPSS and other Developmental softwares. 2.10 Write Research Project for Development purposes.	

3. Monitor and evaluate development projects.	<p>3.1 Design tools to monitor and evaluate development projects.</p> <p>3.2 Prepare monitoring and evaluation systems for development programs/projects.</p> <p>3.3 Recommend strategies to improve the success of development projects.</p>
4. Conduct Transformation Training & Community Capacity Building.	<p>4.1 Design community training programmes that stimulate people's active participation in issues that affect their lives.</p> <p>4.2 Assess community and national development activities.</p> <p>4.3 Evaluate training programs and methods.</p> <p>4.4 Propose new training methods for development projects.</p>
5. Mobilize resources for development projects both locally and globally.	<p>5.1 Develop sustainable resource mobilization strategies which communities can rely on for sustainable development</p> <p>5.2 Prepare Development budgets.</p> <p>5.3 Select strategies for sourcing resources for development projects.</p> <p>5.4 Distinguish different sources of funds for development.</p>
6. Develop programs for Civil Society and Development.	<p>6.1 Set up programs for civil society and development.</p> <p>6.2 Evaluate community projects.</p> <p>6.3 Design strategies employed by development organizations in implementing health and education programmes.</p> <p>6.4 Distinguish different types of relief programmes in the Botswana context and SADC.</p>

	6.5 Recommend gender policy for development projects.
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QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE			
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects / Units / Modules /Courses	Title	Level	SECTION C Credits
	Not applicable		
CORE COMPONENT Subjects / Units / Modules /Courses			
	Development Theory, Policy and Practice	9	15
	Development Economics	9	15
	Governance and Development	9	15
	The Natural Environment and Development	9	15
	Development Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation	9	15
	Rights Based Programming	9	15
	International Development Issues and Trends	9	15
	Research Methods	9	15
	Management of Development Institutions and Programme	9	15
	Dimensions of Poverty Reductions	9	15
	Civil Society and Development	9	15
	Social & Political Change in Developing Countries	9	15
	Dissertation	9	80
NO ELECTIVE COMPONENT Subjects / Units / Modules /Courses			
Rules of combinations, Credit distribution (where applicable):			
Level 9 =180 Credits			
Dissertation = 80 Credits			
<b>Total = 260 Credits</b>			

## ASSESSMENT AND MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

### Assessment Arrangements

All assessments which are leading to the award of the qualification should be based on learning outcomes and associated assessment criteria. The assessment comprises of formative and summative assessment. Formative assessment contributes 40% while summative contributes 60%.

### **External moderation requirements**

External moderation is a final check, by external subject experts, that the examination and marking is at the right standard for the type and level of the qualification. Assessment and moderation will be carried out by BQA registered assessors and moderators in line with BQA/ national policies.

### **RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (if applicable)**

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) will be applicable for consideration for award in this qualification.

### **PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING, DIAGONAL ARTICULATION AND EMPLOYMENT)**

#### **Learning Pathways**

##### **Horizontal Articulation**

- Master in Economics
- Master in Project Management
- Master of Science in Disaster Management

##### **Vertical Articulation**

- Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies.
- Doctor of Philosophy in Rural Development.
- Doctor of Administration in Public Management.

#### **Employment Pathways**

- Development Advisor
- Diplomat
- Programme Support Officer
- Planning and Monitoring Officer
- Economic Development Officer
- Aid Programme Project Coordinator
- Research/Development Associates

- Community Support Coordinator
- United Nations Consultants

### **QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION**

Candidates meeting the prescribed requirements will be awarded the qualification in accordance with the qualification composition rules and applicable policies. To be eligible for the award, candidates must have successfully completed all core and electives modules and passed examinations in accordance with regulations set by the Faculty. The Master of Science Degree in Development Studies will be awarded to candidates who have obtained a minimum of 260 credits. A certificate will be issued upon the successful completion of the qualification.

### **REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY**

A comparative analysis was conducted between the following;

- 1. Africa University – (Zimbabwe), which offers Master of Science in Development Studies**
- 2. Lund University (Sweden), which offers Master of Science in Development Studies**
- 3. Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (Jamaica), which offers Masters of Science in Development Studies.**

#### **Similarities and Differences Observed**

All qualifications including the proposed are pitched at NCQF level 9. The qualifications also have research methods and dissertation components. Generally, the learning outcomes of all the qualifications are almost identical as they all seek to produce world class professionals in development studies by equipping them with conceptual, analytical and critical skills that are required in development context in both local and international perspectives. Additionally, all the qualifications are offered on full time basis with the proposed qualification and the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies qualification also being offered on part time basis. Although other assessment strategies are not mentioned on sites all the qualifications have research proposal as a pre-requisite for doing dissertation/thesis.

There are also notable differences in qualifications examined. The credit values differ amongst the qualifications where the proposed qualification carries 260 credits, Lund University qualification carries 120 credits and the qualification for the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies has 36 credits. The qualifications also differ in terms of duration where the proposed qualification runs for 2 years on full

time and 2.5 years part time while the qualification for Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies runs for 1 year on full time and 2 years on part time. The African University and Lund University's qualifications both run for 2 years on full time basis.

The proposed qualification compares well with the ones examined in terms of content width and depth although the proposed qualification is tailor made to the Botswana and international context environment. The qualification aims to meet the demands of the local and national needs of development professionals as well as international market by training and educating individuals who have independent research capabilities, highly developed national and international experience to work in international organizations, government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, research institutions, higher education institutions, and related areas.

The progression pathway for all the qualifications together with the proposed is Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies. Furthermore, all the qualifications have similar employment pathways as they aim to cater for the development training needs of practitioners in the NGO and public sectors, and those intending to have a career in development work, whilst enabling development practitioners to have a grasp of the total concept of development, from both local and international perspectives. The key employment pathways that are common include Development Advisor, Diplomat, Programme Support Officer, Economic Development Officer, Aid Programme Project Coordinator and Policy Maker in government agencies, private firms, and NGOs.

#### **REVIEW PERIOD**

This qualification will be reviewed after 5 years upon registration.

**Other information** – please add any supplementary information to help the application for this qualification for NCQF Registration.

Needs Assessment Report for the M.Sc. in Development Studies





**BQA NCQF Qualification Template**

**DNCQF.FDMD.GD04**

**Issue No.: 01**