

## BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

<b>SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS</b>												
<b>QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER (S)</b>	Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources											
<b>TITLE</b>	Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Studies						<b>NCQF LEVEL</b>	10				
<b>STRANDS (where applicable)</b>	N/A											
<b>FIELD</b>	Agriculture and Nature Conservation		<b>SUB-FIELD</b>	Agricultural Extension			<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	360				
<i>New Qualification</i>				√	<i>Legacy Qualification</i>							
<b>SUB-FRAMEWORK</b>	<i>General Education</i>			<i>TVET</i>			<i>Higher Education</i>			√		
<b>QUALIFICATION TYPE</b>	Certificate	I	II	III	IV	V	Diploma	Bachelor or				
<i>Bachelor Honours</i>		<i>Post Graduate Certificate</i>				<i>Post Graduate Diploma</i>						
<i>Masters</i>					<i>Doctorate/ PhD</i>		√					
<b>RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION</b>												
<p><b>RATIONALE:</b></p> <p>Agricultural extension systems are important in the agricultural development agenda of many agrarian countries. Agricultural extension and rural development are professions which create a synergy between research outputs and national policies to assist rural people with training whenever new technologies and innovations are introduced. The experts in these fields need to be trained with technical, managerial capabilities and soft skills for them to operate effectively when dispensing their duties. Training of students in agricultural and rural development at any level will contribute to the pool of extension workers globally for which the ratio of extension workers to farmers currently stands at an</p>												

average of 1:1000, posing a major obstacle to effective outreach and support (FAO, 2024), especially in developing countries.

The introduction of the PhD qualification in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development studies will assist in implementing and addressing the following sustainable development goals: ‘no poverty’; ‘zero hunger’; ‘quality education’; ‘gender equality’; ‘climate action’ and ‘life on land’ under Sustainable Development Goals (SDG,2015).

Southern African Development Community (2013:6) justified establishing a Regional Agriculture Policy by stating that “agriculture remains central to poverty reduction, growth, food and nutrition security in the Region. It provides a livelihood including subsistence, employment, income and wealth creation for nearly 61% of the Region’s 277 million.” Out of this justification, the overall objective of the policy is to contribute to sustainable agricultural growth and socio-economic development in the region. This justifies the need to establish a PhD qualification in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development studies to implement the Regional Policy effectively.

At the continental level, the African Union framework document titled “Agenda 2063 – the Africa We Know” published in 2015, highlighted that among the risks, threats and mitigation strategies faced by the continent was the *failure to harness the demographic dividend* in the member states. The report projects that by 2060 the population in Africa will be 2.7 billion, which is close to one-third of the world’s population. Africa will also account for 28 per cent (1.2 billion) of the global youth population aged between 15 and 29 years.

Against this background, countries should devise strategies and policies that are needed to harness and convert threats and risks associated with the youthful population into opportunities. These opportunities would include expanding education and training, job creation, and improving socially and environmentally responsible investments.

The PhD qualification in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development studies will enable the graduates to develop various skills needed to train and motivate rural farmers, which include youth and women, towards greater productivity in agriculture and rural development, thus improving the livelihoods and quality of life of the rural populace.

**PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)**

The purpose of the qualification is to produce graduate with the most advanced knowledge, skills, and competence to.

1. Select subject matter specialists, agricultural researchers, farmers, and farm input suppliers to generate and package appropriate technologies.
2. Conduct original and scholarly research to develop agricultural policies that address food security in rural areas of Botswana
3. Lead the planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluation of agricultural and rural development programmes.

4. Develop training modules for trainer of trainers in agricultural extension and rural development

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

- Master's/MPhil. degree (NCQF Level 9) in Agricultural Extension and other related disciplines (in NCQF Level 9)
- Access through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) or Credit Accumulation Transfer (CAT) is allowable through institutional policies in-line with national RPL and CAT policies.

<b>SECTION B QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>GRADUATE PROFILE (LEARNING OUTCOMES)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>
<p>LO1: Partner with the subject matter specialists, agricultural researchers, farmers, and farm input suppliers to generate and package appropriate technologies.</p>	<p>1.1 Demonstrate partnership skills in dealing with subject matter specialists, researchers, farmers and farm input suppliers.</p> <p>1.2 Apply acquired knowledge and skills to develop appropriate technologies</p> <p>1.3 Package and implement appropriate technologies to improve agriculture</p>
<p>LO2: Lead the development of agricultural policies that address food security and rural development</p>	<p>2.1 Review and critique agricultural policies for effective agricultural development.</p> <p>2.2 Develop and implement agricultural policies to solve agricultural and rural development problems.</p> <p>2.3 Design policy briefs for government decision</p>
<p>LO3: Provide leadership in planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating agricultural and rural development programmes.</p>	<p>3.1 Demonstrate leadership skills in planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating agricultural and rural development programmes.</p> <p>3.2 Design agricultural and rural development programmes.s.</p> <p>3.3 Apply appropriate research techniques to source, analyze and interpret primary and secondary data for planning, monitoring, and evaluation of agricultural and rural development programmes.</p>

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<p>LO4: Engage in strategic planning processes that align training initiatives with broader agricultural extension and rural development goals.</p>	<p>4.1 Design agricultural training modules for relevant stakeholders in agricultural extension and rural development.</p> <p>4.2 Formulate agricultural training modules for dissemination to relevant stakeholders in agricultural extension and rural development.</p> <p>4.3 Apply appropriate knowledge and skills to monitor and evaluate the implementation of training modules</p> <p>4.4 Lead the development of agricultural extension bulletins, newsletters and fact sheets in agricultural extension and rural development.</p>
<p>LO5: Lead in conceptualizing and conducting original and scholarly research and developing qualifications in extension and rural development studies</p>	<p>5.1 Design research proposals in agricultural extension and rural development.</p> <p>5.2 Conduct consultancy services for relevant stakeholders in agriculture and rural development.</p> <p>5.3 Develop agricultural extension and development programmes.</p>
<p>LO6: Train trainers at tertiary institutions.</p>	<p>6.1 Determine the training needs of trainers of trainers in tertiary institutions.</p> <p>6.2 Develop training programmes in agricultural extension and rural development.</p> <p>6.3 Develop training manuals for trainer of trainers in agricultural extension and rural development programmes.</p> <p>6.4 Facilitate capacity building and training workshops for relevant stakeholders in agriculture.</p>

<b>SECTION C</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE</b>		
	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>

<b>COMPONENT</b>					
		<i>Level [ ]</i>	<i>Level [ ]</i>	<i>Level [ 10 ]</i>	
<b>FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT</b> <i>Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units</i>					
<b>CORE COMPONENT</b> <i>Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units</i>	Ph D Research Thesis			360	360
<b>STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION</b>					
		<i>Level [ ]</i>	<i>Level [ ]</i>	<i>Level [ ]</i>	
1.					
2.					
<b>ELECTIVES/OPTIONAL COMPONENT</b>					

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### SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL

#### TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL

NCQF Level	Credit Value
10	360
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>360</b>

**Rules of Combination:**

*(Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)*

A learner should conduct a study and submit a thesis worth 360 credits to be eligible to graduate with PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Studies

### ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- This is a research qualification; therefore, all assessments will be done using **formative** mode.
- The formative assessment will be weighted at 100%
- The assessment will be carried out by registered assessors who are registered and accredited by persons with doctoral degree in agriculture or related field, in accordance with institutional and national policies.

### MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

- There shall be both internal and external moderation applying institutional policies aligned with national policies.
- Moderation will be carried out by a BQA-accredited individual or any other recognised authority following institutional and national policies
- Assessors and moderators of a PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Studies should have a doctoral degree.

### RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Recognition of Prior Learning for the award of credits towards graduation will be applicable in accordance with institutional policies aligned with national policies.

### **CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER**

There is a provision for awarding part of the credits towards graduation through Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in accordance with institutional policy aligned with national policies.

### **PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)**

#### **Horizontal Articulation**

- PhD in Agricultural Extension
- PhD in Rural Development Studies
- PhD in Rural Sociology
- PhD in Agricultural Education
- PhD in Extension Education

#### **Employment Pathways**

- Researcher
- Strategist
- Rural Development Officer
- Gender and Development Officer
- Social and community development officer
- Training Officers
- Consultants

### **QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION**

Candidates who meet the prescribed 360 credits will be awarded a certificate of PhD (Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Studies). A certificate will be awarded to graduates.

### **SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY**

#### **Similarities**

The developed PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development studies those it is benchmarked from have a maximum of three years to complete the qualification except for the University of Mpumalanga which has a minimum of two years full-time study and three years part-time. For example, University of Cape Coast offers a three-year PhD qualification in Agricultural Extension. The exit outcomes from the developed and benchmarked qualifications emphasise development of

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skills in high impact research, communication, and dissemination of research findings among others in the qualifications.

### Differences

The University of Mpumalanga and the University of Cape Coast offer research-based PhD qualifications and require their graduates to publish one article based on the thesis research to graduate. This differs from the developed PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development Studies qualification which does not require students to publish any journal article as part of the requirement for fulfilling the PhD qualification. The University of Pretoria is the only one among all the Universities consulted which offers some research modules as core subjects that must be done by students before they undertake research which leads to the completion of their PhD qualification.

The proposed PhD qualification combines both agricultural extension and rural development studies which provide opportunities for diversity of employment options and educational advancement. The PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development qualification can horizontally articulate the following qualifications: PhD in Agricultural Extension and Rural Sociology, PhD in Development Studies and PhD in Adult Education. Possible employment routes are economic researcher, strategist, social and community development officer etc.

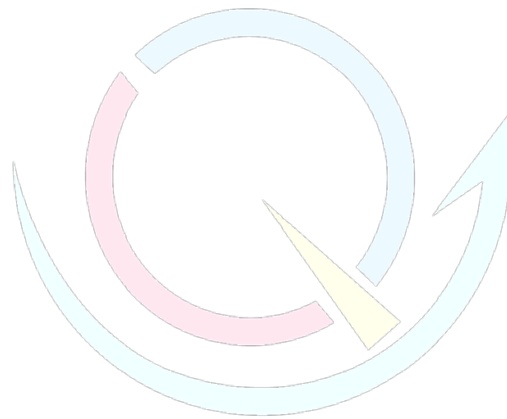
### REVIEW PERIOD

The qualification will be reviewed after every 5 years

### For Official Use Only:

CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	BQA DECISION NO.	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT	

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**BOTSWANA**  
Qualifications Authority