Development of a Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Coast Guard Functions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE OF CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Background</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ The challenge to develop a SQFCGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Learning outcome approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ The construction of the SQFCGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Rationale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nature and Principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Methodology: Phase I – Phase II – Phase III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Structure and contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Visual Identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Governance of the SQFCGF and Apex Body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Conclusions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BACKGROUND

The roots of ECGFA Net project...

EU Policies

inter alia...

- Blue Paper on EU Integrated Maritime Policy
- European Union Maritime Security Strategy
- Bologna and Copenhagen Processes
BACKGROUND

ECGFA Net – spin off project of the forum

ECGFF

2014: Plenary Conference – Civitavecchia
First definition of the 11 Coast Guard Functions

2015: Finnish Chairmanship takes the lead of the Project

UK Chairmanship 2016 – Portuguese Chairmanship 2017 –
German Chairmanship 2018 fully support the Project works

Italian Chairmanship 2019: conclusion of the Project and
presentation of the outcomes at the 11th Plenary Conference –
Venice 12-15 November 2019

co-funded by the European Commission
BACKGROUND

The roots of ECGFA Net project...

ECGFA Net

- EUMSS + Action Plan and Study on the feasibility of improved cooperation between bodies carrying out coast guard functions - ICF International for DG MOVE
- No. 3 Grant Agreements to create a European Coast Guard Functions Training Network
- No. 4 Work Packages (Training Network, Training Portal, Exchange Programme, SQFCGF)
WORK PACKAGE 4
Objective:

DEVELOPING A SECTORAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS
Together with the progress of the project, the development of the SQF has followed three phases.

Janurary 2015 – February 2016

“Basic Elements, Key Recommendations and Methodology for the development of the SQFCGF”
Together with the progress of the project, the development of the SQF has followed three phases.

October 2016 – December 2017

Draft Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Coast Guard Functions
Together with the progress of the project, the development of the SQF has followed three phases.

**ECGFA NET PROJECT**

June 2018 – August 2019

**Sectoral Qualifications Framework**

**For Coast Guard Functions**

PHASE I  PHASE II  PHASE III
THE CHALLENGE TO DEVELOP A SQFCGF

Since the beginning, the definition and development of SQFCGF has been an ambitious challenge requiring to overcome a number of difficulties which impacted on the process and on its outputs.

- Complexity of SQF concept and absence of standards to draft the QF
- Huge and complex field including 11 different functions
- 11 Functions: general definition, but no detailed description of their contents and boundaries
- No single body entrusted with all CGFs both at EU and national levels
A SQF CGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning.

What is a SQF?
A SQFCGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning.

What is a SQF?

Sectoral Qualifications Framework

“Instrument for the development and classification of qualifications, which relates and compares qualifications using a hierarchy of levels of learning outcomes, usually of increasing complexity as a learner progresses up the levels. A sectoral qualification framework refers to one specific sectors”

(ETF -2011)
A SQFCGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning.

What is a SQF?

**Learning Outcome Approach**

L.Os are statement describing significant and essential learning that learners have achieved at the end of a training.
LEARNING OUTCOME APPROACH

A SQFCGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning.

What is a SQF?

Knowledge, Skills and Competences are defined in abstract terms, without referencing to any specific qualification or training path.
A SQFCGF is intended to be a useful tool to facilitate comprehension and interaction among different training systems and thus to increase employability, mobility and lifelong learning.

What is a SQF?

Shift of Training Paradigm
From what trainers have to teach to what trainees need to learn to perform CGF
New approach to design training courses tailored on operational needs
THE RATIONALE OF THE SQFCGF

- Describe different qualifications in a common language that makes them easily comprehensible and comparable across EU.
- Training personnel under a shared framework of learning outcomes while respecting national training systems and needs.
- Increase mobility, interoperability and Erasmus like Programmes.
- Create a synergic platform for joint training initiatives.
- Contribute to quality assurance and certification systems.
- Support the recognition of different types of learning, such as informal and on the job training.

SQFCGF is a dynamic tool for cooperation and interoperability in exchange training programs.

Exchange Program would be facilitated by the presence of a common framework for referencing different qualifications.

coco-funded by the European Commission
Transnational Sectoral Qualifications Framework

meta-framework referred to a specific sector, notably the wide spectrum of Coast Guard Functions, and applicable in different national training systems across EU
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>PHASE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECGFA NET project</td>
<td>1. Define basic elements and key recommendations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Identify different functions, tasks, job competencies and profiles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Sectoral analysis of needs and study visits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Define the goals and the nature of the SQF (basic elements and key recommendations)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Official bodies involved and work plan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Identify the international body / place for the formal discussion on the SQF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Identify a WG/SC to define levels and learning outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Define a clear working plan and different responsibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Identify different stakeholders at national and international level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Development of the CGFSQF structure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Define the architecture of the SQF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Map different E&amp;T systems and qualifications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Identify the number of levels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Draft learning outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Draft the CGFSQF final structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Consultation process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Consult different stakeholders on the drafted CGFSQF</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Receive comments and suggestions by stakeholders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Review the CGFSQF after consultation procedure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Validate the final version of the CGFSQF by WG/SC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Quality assurance elements</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Identify Advisory group (AG) to oversee quality assurance guidelines and minimum quality standards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Map different national quality assurance systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Draft quality assurance guidelines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Adoption of the CGFSQF</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Adopt the CGFSQF by country representatives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Draft a formal document among countries (MoU/Protocol) to define management aspects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. NQFs structures and recommendations</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Define the dissemination strategy at national and international level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Draft a document with basic elements and key recommendations to develop a sectoral NQF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Organise info days and training sessions for national authorities on CGFSQF in the view of NQF development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE SQFCGF

January 2015
LET'S GET STARTED

PHASE I 2015/2016
Define basic elements and key recommendations plan

co-funded by the European Commission
PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE SQFCGF

- WP4 – Italian Coast Guard
- External consultant CIMEA
- ECGFA Net partners

Nice!

- Identification of different functions, tasks, job competences and profiles → Questionnaires
- Sectoral analysis of needs → Study visits
- Definition of goals and nature of the SQF → Research

«Basic elements, key recommendation and methodology»

PHASE I 2015/2016
Define basic elements and key recommendations plan
Identification of the SQF Working Group

- WP4 IT Coast Guard
- National Experts
- External Consultant CIMEA
- EU Agencies - EFCA – EMSA – Frontex – FRA

- no. 3 working group meetings
- (Rome, April – July – October 2017)
- video conferences
- Correspondence/email

Main outcome
Definition of the SQFCGF architecture

- maintained 10 functions separated
- maintained the structure linked to job competences in order to keep operational perspective
- mapped the qualifications (online questionnaires)
- identified four levels (corresponding to EQF levels 4-5-6-7)
### Detailed Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Competences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding of:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ability to:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Be able to:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basic international and national maritime legislation</td>
<td>conduct sampling activities</td>
<td>communicate with ship master or chief engineer, ship agent and waste contractors in accordance with sampling activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a limited range of international and national environmental legislation for delivery of ship-generated waste and cargo residues to Port Reception Facilities</td>
<td>establish radio communication</td>
<td>select a representative sample according sampling techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a limited range of IMO Conventions for marine environment</td>
<td>assess ship’s pre-arrival waste notification note</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases</td>
<td>correlate vessels AIS data with pre-arrival waste notification notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sampling procedures</td>
<td>collect information and evidence for alleged infringements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identify different types of oil and oily mixtures, garbage, wastes and cargo residues to / from the ship</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basic international and national maritime legislation</td>
<td>carry out sampling activities, if needed</td>
<td>communicate with ship master, ship owners, ship agent and waste contractors in accordance with delivery of ship-generated waste and cargo residues to Port Reception Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a limited range of international and national environmental legislation for delivery of ship-generated waste and cargo residues to Port Reception Facilities</td>
<td>establish radio communication, if needed</td>
<td>support experts and/or managers with all information needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a limited range of IMO Conventions for marine environment</td>
<td>assess ship’s pre-arrival waste notification note</td>
<td>carry out agreed tasks on time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases</td>
<td>correlate vessels AIS data with pre-arrival waste notification notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>describe to operators sampling procedures</td>
<td>apply procedures to detect infringements and analyze all relevant collected information and evidence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>describe to operators different types of oil and oily mixtures and garbage (Plastics, Food Waste, Domestic Wastes, Cargo residues, etc) to / from the ship</td>
<td>supervise the operators and organize their daily tasks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>procedures to detect infringements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SQF Working Group
- WP4 IT Coast Guard
- National Experts
- External Consultant CIMEA
- EU Agencies - EFCA – EMSA – Frontex – FRA

Stakeholders list
- ECGFA Net partners
- ECGFF members
- EU Agencies Communities

External assessors

PHASE III – 2018/2019

- June – September ‘18
  Preliminary Revision of the Tables
  Changes in structure - Identified Learning areas

- December ‘18 – March ‘19
  Consultation process – Stakeholder Consultation

- April – May ‘19
  Revision of the SQF tables

- May – June ‘19
  External Assessment

- June ‘19
  Final revision and validation

co-funded by the European Commission
EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

- Assess the consistency of the process
- Examine specific aspects of the SQFCGF, particularly the Los
- Identify lessons learned useful for drafting other SQF at European and international levels
- Make recommendations on next steps

SOME MAJOR CONCLUSIONS

- “The effort made by WP4 has been exemplary considering the many barriers, including discontinuity of the contractual framework, lack of true cross sectoral governance structure”
- “Robust stakeholders engagement was implemented during the process “
- “The organisation of the structure into overarching learning areas assists with comparison and commonality across the 10 functions”
- “There is coherence across the 10 functions and capacity to develop more shared common learning”
STRUCTURE OF THE SQFCGF

10 functions
4 levels
22 learning areas
Learning outcomes
www.ecgff-trainingportal.eu

1. Maritime safety, including VTS
2. Maritime ship and port security
3. Maritime customs activities
4. Prevention and suppression of trafficking and smuggling and Law Enforcement
5. Maritime monitoring and surveillance
6. Maritime environmental protection and response
7. Maritime search and rescue
8. Ship casualty and maritime assistance service
9. Maritime accident and disaster response
10. Fisheries inspection and control

11\textsuperscript{TH} PLENARY CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS FORUM
Venice 12-15 November 2019
THE FUTURE OF THE SQFCGF

European Coast Guard Functions Forum
European Coast Guard Functions Training Network
EU Agencies EFCA, EMSA and Frontex

THE BEST VENUE TO MANAGE AND MAINTAIN THE SECTORAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK FOR COAST GUARD FUNCTIONS IS A COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATIVE FRAMEWORK INVOLVING ALL RELEVANT ACTORS

2019

co-funded by the European Commission
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SQFCGF

• Dissemination and visibility

• Quality Assurance Guidelines

• Basic elements and key recommendation on National Qualification Frameworks
Dissemination activities

- Meetings of the ECGFF since 2015
- Meetings of the MCGFF 2018 - 2019
- Meetings with EU Agencies Communities (2018)
- European Annual Coast Guard event
- Coast Guard Global Summit – Tokyo 2018
- European Maritime Day – Lisbon 2019
- US Coast Guard delegation at ITCG HQs – Rome 2018
- Israeli delegation at ITCG HQs – Rome 2019
- IALA – proposal for info paper to be presented at relevant meeting
The SQFCGF is a unique instrument in the European panorama and its implementation will facilitate mutual understanding of qualifications and will encourage synergies, mobility and interoperability among Organisations with CGFs – Erasmus Programmes.

ECGFA Net was asked to develop a SQFCGF: GOAL ACHIEVED!

However there is the risk for the SQF to remain a theoretical exercise if its future management is not sustained by those institutions that wanted and initiated the process.

Therefore its concrete management strongly needs to be defined within a comprehensive cooperative framework involving all relevant actors.
Good things come to those who can wait ....
Special thanks to:

European Commission – DG MARE
European Coast Guard Functions Forum
ECGFA Net partners
Finnish Border Guard
Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency
National Experts of the SQF Working Group
EU Agencies EFCA, Frontex, EMSA
CIMEA
External Assessors

All national organisations and experts involved in stakeholders’ consultation who remain anonymous, but contributed to the development of the SQFCGF
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND COMMITMENT!!