



CONCEPT NOTE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED PHILIPPINE CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM

Backgrounder:

The Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) was established in 2012 through Executive Order 83 and was further strengthened into a law as Republic Act No. 10968 or the PQF Act. The Member-agencies of the PQF National Coordinating Council (PQF-NCC) include the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Department of Education (DepEd), which chairs the Council.

The NCC initially created the following five (5) Working Groups (WGs) to assist in the institutionalization of the PQF in the PH Education System: 1) Information and Guidelines; 2) Pathways and Equivalencies; 3) Quality Assurance; 4) Registry; and 5) International Alignment and was expanded to include the Working Group on Government-Industry-Education Sector and the Working Group on Lifelong Learning, per IRR of RA 10968.

Development of the Philippine Credit Transfer System

The Development on the Philippine Credit Transfer System was initiated upon the institutionalization of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) through EO No. 83, series 2012. This was reinforced for the TVET and higher education levels through the enactment of RA No. 10647, or Ladderized Education Act of 2014 and was further strengthened through the PQF Act.

The WG on Pathways and Equivalencies with CHED as the lead agency and member agencies namely, DepEd, DOLE, TESDA, and PRC facilitated the formulation of the Philippine Credit Transfer System, with assistance from the British Council in 2017 and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 2018.

In consultation with relevant TVET and higher education stakeholders from academe and industry, a proposed Philippine Credit Transfer System (PCTS): Pathways Between Technical-Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education was drafted in 2018. The proposed PCTS is to be subjected to public consultation by CHED and TESDA before it is approved as a joint policy document and submitted to the PQF-NCC.

Before the finalization of the said proposed PCTS, the matching of learning outcomes between TVET and higher education programs were initially pilot tested for Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Dentistry, Electronics Engineering, Information Technology, Hotel and Restaurant Management (HRM)/Hospitality Management through zonal workshops of CHED and TESDA Experts and selected HEIs in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Conduct of Public Consultation

The draft PCTS document shall be presented in a public consultation to be attended by stakeholders of TVET, higher education, industry sector and other relevant stakeholders.

The consultation aims to achieve the following:

- a. Familiarize participants with the proposed PCTS specifically on credit policy, underpinning principles, credit pathways based on equivalencies, and mechanisms for equivalencies;
- b. Facilitate discussion and gather inputs/comments/recommendations from relevant stakeholders on how to enhance the proposed policy; and
- c. Inform participants on the next steps towards the implementation of the PCTS in Philippine TVET and higher education.

Participants to the Consultation

Participants will be Officials and representatives from Basic education, TVET and higher education institutions and other relevant stakeholders such as:

Technical Vocational Institutions
Higher Education Institutions
Basic Education Stakeholders
Employers and Labor Associations
Professional Associations
Education Committees of Senate and House of Representatives
Relevant Government Agencies: DepEd, TESDA, CHED, PRC and DOLE

The WG-Pathways and Equivalencies shall take the lead in this consultation. Experts involved in the piloting of PCTS are invited to present their initial findings and experience in the matching of learning outcomes to arrive at credit equivalencies from TVET to higher education programs, following the principles and policy of the proposed PCTS.

A copy of the proposed draft PCTS shall be provided to participants with an accompanying link where they can provide their inputs/comments/recommendations in advance for each of the provisions of the said document.

Ways forward

After this public consultation and issuance of a joint CHED-TESDA Memorandum Circular, the following are some of the proposed strategic action in the implementation of the PCTS:

- a. Expand Ladderized Education Program (LEP)
- b. Strengthen Interface of TVET and Higher Education
- c. Explore other Mechanisms for Credit Equivalency for other PQF Levels
- d. Promote and enhance Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)