2003



After an extensive period of public engagement and consultation, the NFQ was established as the single national entity through which all learning achievement may be measured and related to each other.

2006



The NFQ was self-certified as compatible with the Qualifications Framework in the European Higher Education Area (QF-EHEA), the first national Qualification Framework to complete this exercise.

2009



The NFQ was referenced to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) for Lifelong Learning the first national Qualifications Framework to complete this exercise.

An international panel was commissioned to carry out a study on the impact and implementation of the Irish NFQ.

The report 'Framework Implementation and Impact Study' was published.

2012

The Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act reaffirms the statutory basis of the NFQ and entrusts maintenance and development of the NFQ to QQI.

2017



QQI publish a 'Policy Impact Assessment of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications'.



QQI publish 'National **Qualifications Frameworks:** Reflections and Trajectories -Qualifications Policy Insights' as a companion paper to the Policy Impact Assessment of the NFQ

2018



QQI publish 'At a Glance: Policy Impact Assessment of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)' which provides an overview of findings, conclusions and implications from the impact analysis.

2019

QQI is enabled, via amended legislation, to create a category of Listed Awarding Bodies (LABs) that are interested in voluntary, regulated access of their awards within the NFQ.

2020



QQI 'Green Paper on the Qualifications System' outlines the Irish qualifications system and poses some broad questions on possible opportunities for its enhancement.

The companion 'Technical Paper on the Qualifications System' provides more depth.



A single updating report rereferencing the NFQ to the EQF and re-confirming compatibility of the NFQ with QF-EHEA was completed in 2020.

2022

QQI publish 'Evaluation of the Comparability of the Advanced Certificate and Higher Certificate Qualifications' which contains findings and recommendations from a commissioned review to determine whether significant differences exist between the learning associated with these programmes, as implemented at Level 6 on the NFQ.

2023



2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the Irish NFQ. A report '20 Years of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications - A Story of Collaboration and Co-operation 2003-2023' was published in early 2024.



QQI publish 'From Counting to Cultivating Successful Participation. A Review of the Landscape of Practice Supporting Access Transfer and Progression in Irish Education and Training'.



