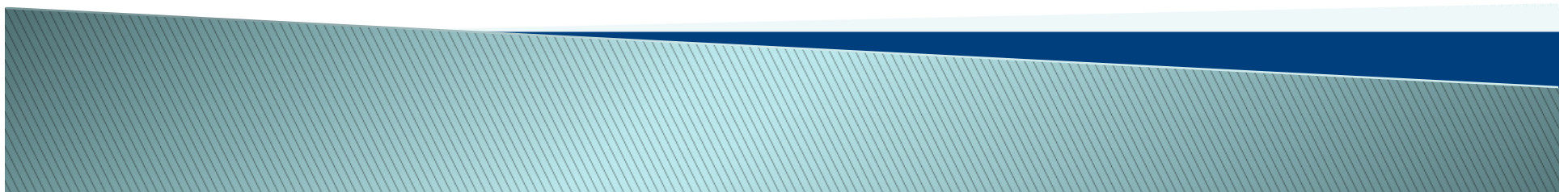


# Added value of the NQF in Austria

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- Increase visibility, appreciation, public perception
  - importance of upper secondary level – many VET qualifications
  - small tertiary level – duration, contents/focus
  - many higher VET qualifications awarded outside the formal education system (e.g. AL institutes, companies, certification bodies)
    - not perceived as being part of the education system
    - not included in education statistics (e.g. ISCED)
    - qualification situation in Austria often underestimated
  - Highly segmented education system – hardly any “bridges” between the formal and non-formal programmes

- Outcome-orientation of NQF – new perspective on qualification
  - Mapping of a broader picture
  - Increase visibility, attractiveness, public perception
  - Parity of esteem: qualifications are equal in terms of their level but differ in terms of their profile/contents
    - particularly relevant for qualifications on NQF-levels 5, 6 and 7
  - Foster the building of “qualification ladders”, i.e. programmes/qualifications that build on each other, and of permeability, i.e. moving from VET to academic programmes

- NQF influence

- Presentation/description of qualifications – more homogeneous way/approach
  - Introduction of new qualifications, modernisation of existing ones
  - Consolidating education subsystem – Higher VET
- Quality assurance
  - Increase QA measures/activities