



# Qualification Benchmarking

# Welcome to Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking

Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking is an independent evaluation process which fully assesses an academic qualification so that it can be reliably compared with others in the UK education system or with others worldwide.

This brochure explains its benefits and outcomes to providers and awarding bodies, and offers a short summary of the process itself.

# Why Ecctis?

**Ecctis is a gold-standard provider of services in the recognition and evaluation of qualifications and skills.**

The Ecctis established methodologies reflect the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention and represent international best practice.

Ecctis qualification evaluations are globally respected and referenced, and are continually reviewed and updated to reflect the fast-changing nature of education systems.



Operating worldwide from a UK base, and with representation in Australia, China, and India, the Ecctis membership and client list spans 62 countries and 5 continents.

Ecctis has a 25-year-long and proud track record in managing official UK national agency functions in international qualification evaluation and recognition – this unique experience, knowledge and profile underpins our qualification benchmarking work for you.

# About Qualification Benchmarking

Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking makes it easier for stakeholders in international education to understand how the academic standing of particular qualifications compares with more widely known national and international qualifications.

This becomes more important with the growing number and diversity of educational institutions and qualifications.

Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking uses an independent and objective evaluation process, improving international understanding of the academic level of a qualification, and boosting confidence in it.



# Benefits of Qualification Benchmarking

## Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking:

- Supports the international recognition and portability of qualifications
- Improves the international reputation of qualifications in an increasingly competitive landscape
- Encourages international co-operation between education providers – for example, through articulation arrangements
- Informs qualification development with expert recommendations on programme design, assessment, and underpinning quality assurance.

# Qualification Benchmarking outcomes

An Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking exercise successfully resulting in comparability entitles providers to:

- Display the Ecctis **Benchmark Certificate** for their benchmarked qualification(s), confirming Ecctis' findings on comparability to the appropriate education system reference points
- Have their benchmarked qualification(s) included on the Ecctis **Qualification Benchmarking register** of benchmarked qualifications
- Have their Qualification Benchmarking outcomes shared with our global community of international credential evaluators, government ministries and authorities, and educational institutions, to inform their recognition decisions.



**Providers of benchmarked qualifications will receive the following deliverables:**

- A **Benchmarking Report**: a confidential evaluation report setting out the key findings, including suggestions for development where appropriate, and detailing the comparability of the qualification in the context of the education system selected as benchmark
- An **Executive Summary**: a publishable short document outlining the key findings and the comparable level of the qualification – useful for your own dissemination and promotion.

Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking comparability findings are normally subject to a 5-year validity period. In specific circumstances the validity period may be of shorter duration.



# How Qualification Benchmarking works

Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking  
comprises five key stages:

# 1

**Proposal definition:** this initial exploratory stage serves to agree the scope of the qualification benchmarking exercise, for example the number of qualifications to be benchmarked and the number of reference points / education systems to be used as benchmarks.

# 2

**Information submission:** once the scope of the exercise has been agreed, providers will be briefed about the information and qualification materials they will be required to submit to inform the benchmarking exercise.

# 3

**Desk-based analysis:** when the qualification benchmarking exercise formally commences, the benchmarking team will begin reviewing and evaluating the qualification. Additional information may be requested at this stage.

# 4

**Follow-up meetings:** the desk-based analysis is typically followed up by meetings with key stakeholders involved in the development and delivery of the qualification. These serve to clarify any questions arising from the desk-based analysis and to triangulate evidence. These might take place remotely or in person, as part of a review visit.

# 5

**Benchmarking Report:** on conclusion of the Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking exercise, the Benchmarking Report will be finalised, including the comparability outcomes, and suggestions or recommendations for further development.

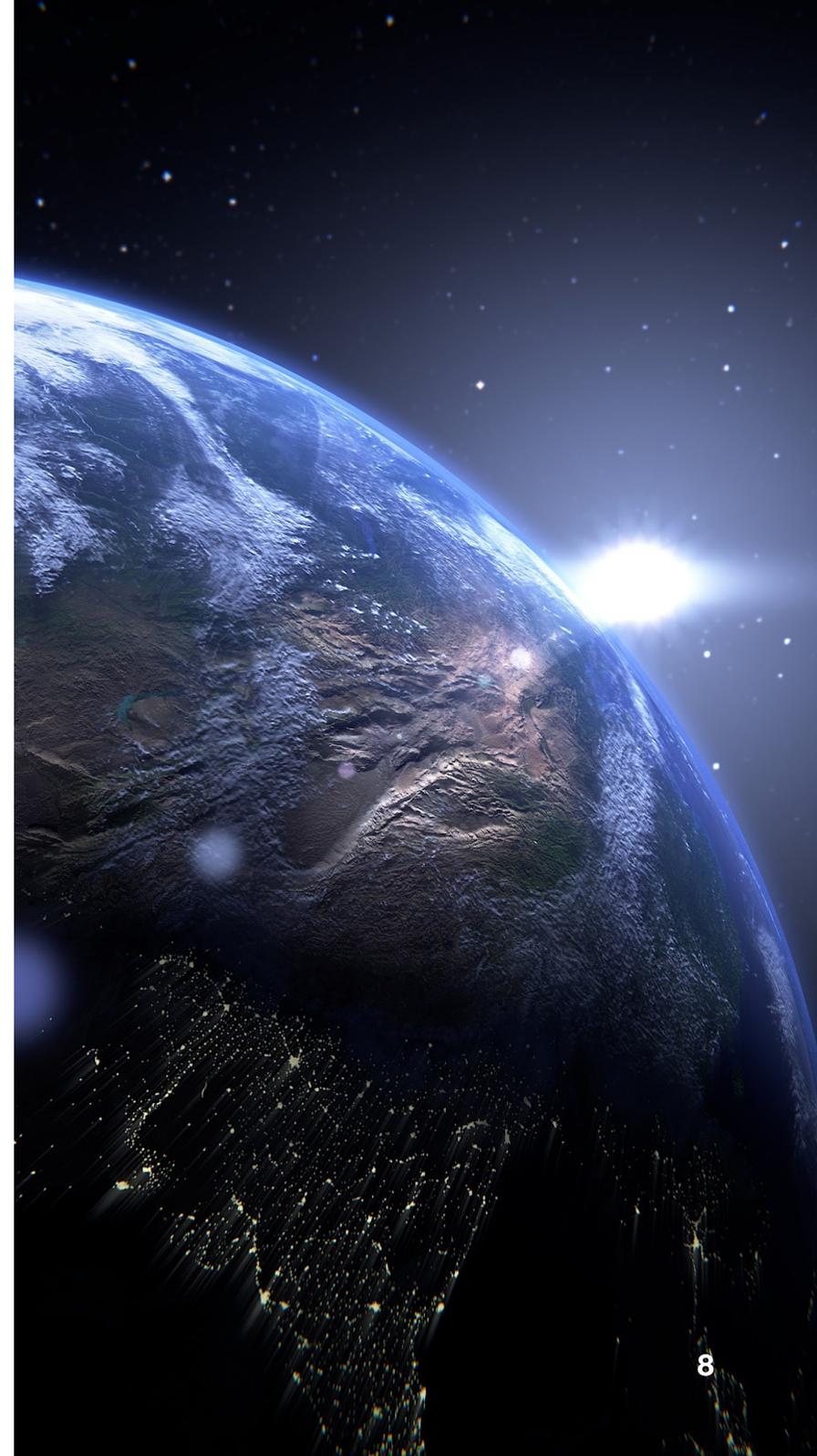
# About Ecctis

**Ecctis is one of the world's leading providers of services in the recognition and evaluation of qualifications and skills – a globally trusted reference point for education and skills standards.**

For 25 years, since 1997, Ecctis has managed and delivered official recognition services on behalf of the UK Government, including the UK ENIC national recognition agency function (formerly known as UK NARIC).

At Ecctis, we offer a range of global solutions to support the international recognition of qualifications of demonstrated quality and standards. This includes our Ecctis Qualification Benchmarking service. Ecctis has a long, successful track record in international consultancy and development, with a global network and client base spanning 62 countries and 5 continents.

We have undertaken research, evaluation, and benchmarking studies of academic, vocational, and professional qualifications for a diverse range of clients including awarding bodies, higher education institutions, professional bodies, education and training providers, government ministries, and national agencies around the world.





Suffolk House, 68-70 Suffolk Road  
Cheltenham, GL50 2ED UK

[www.ecctis.com](http://www.ecctis.com)

For further information and enquiries, contact: [projects@ecctis.com](mailto:projects@ecctis.com)