

# The Examinations Council of Lesotho

- The Examinations Council of Lesotho (ECoL) is an educational Assessment body responsible for the conduct of all examinations which candidates take through out the schooling system and national assessment surveys.
- There is no institution in Lesotho which is responsible for quality assurance of examinations hence the accreditation agreement which Lesotho has with Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) at the end of the schooling system.
- There is no institution responsible for the implementation of National qualification framework which was developed some years ago.
- Hence ECoL is the body responsible for implementing the National qualification framework which relate to the schooling System.
- It is also in charge of the schooling years verification of local and foreign certificate.

# ation of Educational Certificates

g to Oxford dictionary, verification is the process of establishing the accuracy or validity and authenticity of something.

that is being dealt with in this case is verification of educational S.

ate is the document proving that a person has completed an educational showing details of performance of this individual.

cate serves as evidence of status of the qualification.

# Verify educational certificates

are an important means of getting better opportunities for livelihood  
we try to get certificates by all means.

some people:

fraudulent certificates

existing certificates (still fraud)

certificates that do not belong to them (still fraud)

have lost certificates so that they can have access to multiple certificates  
they can use as they wish.

Common certificate fraud in Lesotho is designing certificates which have  
copyable figures as that of the real certificate

## **o situation prior to 2014**

ons Council of Lesotho (ECoL) had long time institutionalized  
n processes for local tertiary admissions and for prospective employers.

ECoL engaged in a massive verification of both existing students and  
e applicants from numerous tertiary institutions in Lesotho to establish  
y of qualification used for admission.

ted to do this audit because it seemed some institutions of higher  
oth in Lesotho and South Africa, where some of Lesotho learners pursue  
es were no longer verifying certificates.

# Documents Verification by Institution

Lerotholi Polytechnic			
	Number of Copies submitted	Feedback after verification (actual numbers)	
		Authentic	Fraudulent
	943	880	63
	381	368	13
	1064	1052	12
	1791	1789	2
	932	931	1
	867	867	0

### National University of Lesotho

	Number of Copies submitted	Feedback after verification (actual numbers)	
		Authentic	Fraudulent
	1345	1282	63
	1133	1108	25
	1728	1716	12
	3412	3411	1
	3777	3775	2

### Limkokwing University of Creative Technology

	Number of Copies submitted	Feedback after verification (actual numbers)	
		Authentic	Fraudulent
	588	546	42
	668	645	23

## **s of verification Audit**

n process in 2012, covering all students from the institutions of higher  
Lesotho uncovered many fraudulent copies used in gaining admission  
stitution of higher learning.

n for 2013, onwards which came after the most publicized nationwide  
n process of 2012 found fewer fraudulent documents being used for

s of higher learning were also sensitized about the need to verify copies  
(Results slips) before a prospective applicant could be admitted into the  
s.

ation with other institutions in the region/  
onal institutions

ing entirely surrounded by South Africa (SA), some of its citizens  
outh Africa and other work or seek employment in SA.

ECoL as the authority that issues out certificates has been contacted by  
bodies both public and private to verify results of Lesotho individuals  
admissions into SA schooling system or employment.

certificates for different countries i.e. India, USA, and others.

an MOU with UMALUSI to provide ECoL with verification services  
y with SA qualifications who may want to study or work in Lesotho.



tions in SA which work with ECoL on Verification of qualifications

Integrity Evaluation (MIE). They verify Lesotho qualification with  
tly for those who seek employment in SA.

Mutual Protection Service (EMPS)

is Risk Management and IOS Solution (LNRMIS)

Verifications Services (CVS)

ucation South Africa (HESA)

# MOU 2014

For Work in SA, Lesotho anybody who has Lesotho qualifications is required to submit to SAQA their qualifications for verification.

SAQA normally sends copies of certificates to ECoL for verification before they could go ahead and do the evaluation.

In carrying out the verification task, ECoL has established Verifications and Examinations Administration and Certification Unit.

The turnaround time is normally 24 hours because of our computerized

## VERIFICATIONS DONE POST 2014

	Number of Copies submitted	Feedback after verification (actual numbers)	
		Authentic	Fraudulent
	577	572	5
	95	94	1
	20	18	2
	12	11	1
	14	13	1

ges

t resources to spot rapidly where fraud occurs due to lack of knowledge  
ficate card/ security features

of institutions to provide candidates/individuals certificates for  
n

of names due to Sesotho culture of naming.

. Old records, especially between 60s to 80s still pose a challenge as  
pt in paper form.

# RE PLANS

ent of verification automated system

ent of links to other countries.

aud register to compile list of fraudsters and publicize it.

ional ID numbers for examinations entry.

ertificate security through inclusion of photograph of bearers.