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Dr Heidi Bolton is the Senior Manager: Research at the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). SAQA oversees the implementation and further development of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) – the system for education, training, development and learning-at-work in South Africa. Dr Bolton oversees research and development that supports, informs and provides the evidence base for SAQA's work. Her responsibilities include overseeing and collaborating in SAQA's long-term research partnerships and shorter studies, ensuring the integration of research findings into national policy development and implementation, and NQF as well as NQF research capacity development. Recent research foci include flexible learning-and-work pathways, flexible learning and teaching practices, articulation, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT), forms of knowledge, national education and training systems, and the related partnerships and networks established for this work within and between countries. Previously she was Senior Researcher at Umalusi, Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training, worked as an academic textbook publisher, and has taught adults, and at school and university levels.

