

**Theme 5-2**

# Micro-credentials : The Seychelles survey

## Conducted in cooperation and technical support of ACQF-II

2nd NQF Forum, Luanda, 05-06 September 2024

# Content of presentation

- Definition & basis
- Objective of the survey
- Development of the survey
- Survey design and instruments
- Roles of the teams
- Challenges encountered
- Survey timeline



# DEFINITION & BASIS

**Definition of micro-credential:** “a record of focused learning achievement verifying what the learner knows, understands or can do and includes assessment based on clearly defined standards and is awarded by an accredited or recognised provider.” – *Seychelles National Qualifications Framework 2024*

During the SNCATS workshop providers expressed great interest in micro-credentials and wanted to implement it immediately. It was necessary to establish what exists in Seychelles first; a survey was planned.

**Ultimate aim of the project:** to inform policy recommendations and support the development of a micro-credentialing system , also aligned with the ACQF.

# OBJECTIVE OF THE SURVEY

To map the current state of micro-credentials in Seychelles; including

- identifying existing micro-credentials and any similar credentials applicable under the national definition of micro-credentials,
- understanding their usage and characteristics,
  - the recipient groups,
  - quality assurance methods,
  - their relationship to the national qualifications framework
  - the possible purposes and policy preferences of education and training providers



# DEVELOPMENT OF **THE SURVEY**



Recognising your Competencies

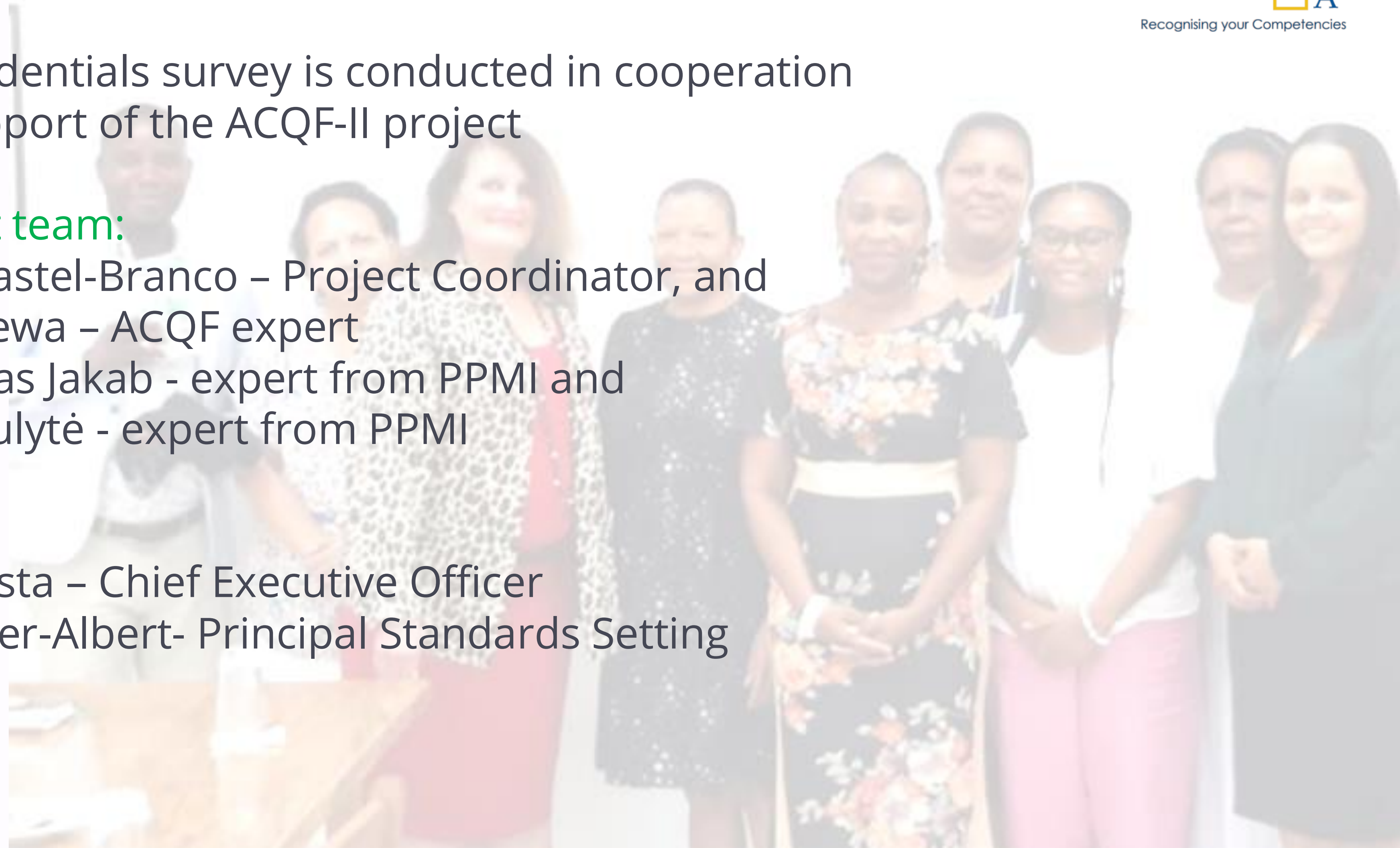
The Micro-credentials survey is conducted in cooperation and with support of the ACQF-II project

## ACQF project team:

- Eduarda Castel-Branco – Project Coordinator, and
- James Mwewa – ACQF expert
- Zalan Tamas Jakab - expert from PPMI and
- Greta Kirdulytė - expert from PPMI

## SQA team:

- Fiona Ernesta – Chief Executive Officer
- Noella Baker-Albert- Principal Standards Setting Officer



# SURVEY DESIGN AND INSTRUMENTS

The primary tool was a questionnaire in excel format, easy-to-use with pre-filled choice options for providers and an online form for beneficiaries of MCs.

The initial drafts were verified by the SQA team before finalising to ensure questions were adapted to local context.

The excel questionnaire for providers was sent to public tertiary education and training providers, private providers, public and private employers and regulatory bodies.

Micro-Credential Survey in Seychelles Questionnaire
<b>Background information on the survey</b> This survey is implemented as part of the project African Continental Qualification Framework (ACQF II), implemented in partnership with the European Training Foundation (ETF) and the African Union (AU).  The present survey is conducted in cooperation with the Seychelles Qualifications Authority (SQA). The primary objective of this survey is to map the current state of micro-credentials in their broadest sense as short learning experiences in Seychelles. In more detail, the survey targets national authorities, education and training providers, companies, employer associations and other types of training providers to gather their views about the state and role of micro-credentials or other similar credentials. The survey will ask about: • The identification of micro-credentials or similar credentials applicable under the definitions presented below • The usage and characteristics of micro-credentials and other types of micro-credentials.
<b>Benefits of participation</b> Participation in the survey will offer several benefits for respondents and the broader education and training sector in Seychelles: • <b>Enhanced recognition:</b> the survey will facilitate the recognition of micro-credentials; • <b>Quality improvement:</b> the survey will assist in identifying best practices and gaps in current offering, enabling providers to enhance the quality and portfolio of their current micro-credentials; • <b>Market relevance:</b> the survey will help in understanding needs and learner preferences, helping to further develop and tailor programmes.
The survey will take approximately 20 minutes. When timing out the survey, please go through each sheet below.  Please be assured that your responses will be treated anonymously. This survey is conducted purely for
<b>Definition of micro-credentials</b> Micro-credentials are short training programmes that give proof of specific skills or knowledge. They can range from short courses, workshops to online classes, but their most important characteristic is that they are short, focused learning experiences. These credentials are valuable on their own but can also be combined with others to build up to larger qualifications. They can often be digital and belong to the person who earned them, making them easy to share. Micro-credentials can come from various sources and do not always need to meet official quality standards or be registered in formal qualification frameworks. We want to know about all types of training programmes that provide a short learning experience, regardless of other characteristics. For further information and formal definitions, please see information provided at the end of this sheet.
<b>In your response, please consider any other terms or concepts that may be used to describe shorter forms of</b>
<b>Additional information on the survey</b> Thank you in advance for your cooperation!  This survey is technically administered by PPMI, the research organisation contracted by the European Training Foundation to support the ACQF II Project. PPMI is a premier European research and policy analysis centre and trusted provider of studies in education and training for organisations like the European Commission and World Bank.  By participating in this survey, you agree that PPMI and SQA will process your answers in line with PPMI's data

# ROLES OF THE TEAMS

The role of SQA: raise awareness about the survey, disseminate the instrument, manage data collection, media sensitisation, provide comments and feedback during the design and reporting processes.

The role of ACQF-II project: draft and finalise questionnaire, manage, store and analyse the survey results.



Recognising your Competencies

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# CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

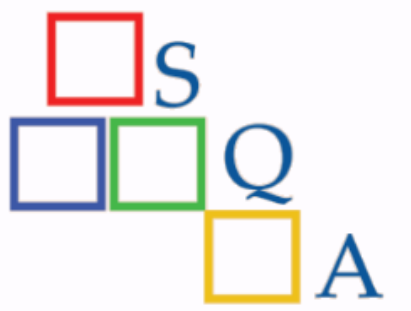
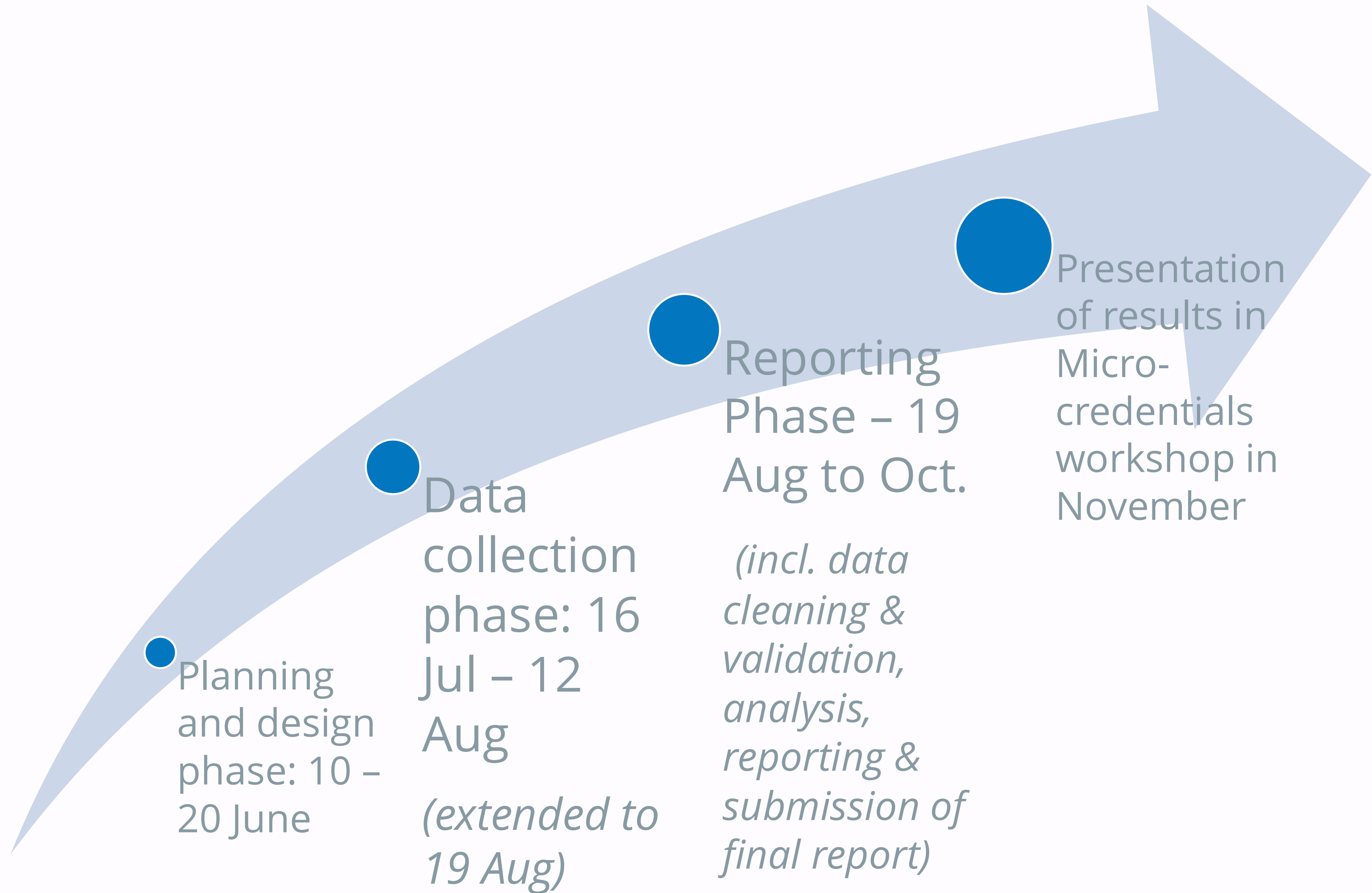
Anticipated	Encountered	Mitigation
Low response rates	Yes - busy schedules and slip of the mind	*Email reminders sent out *Calls were made to some providers
Respondent fatigue	Yes- due to length of questionnaire and poor understanding of MCs	*Most questions were multiple choice *Calls were made to support participants during filling in of questionnaire
Impact of vacations/other periods of absence	National holiday 15 Aug. Participants from Unisey were on annual leave	Deadline was extended by 1 week

Other major challenge: **very small SQA team**





# SURVEY **TIMELINE**





**THANK YOU**

**MERCI**

**OBRIGADO!**

