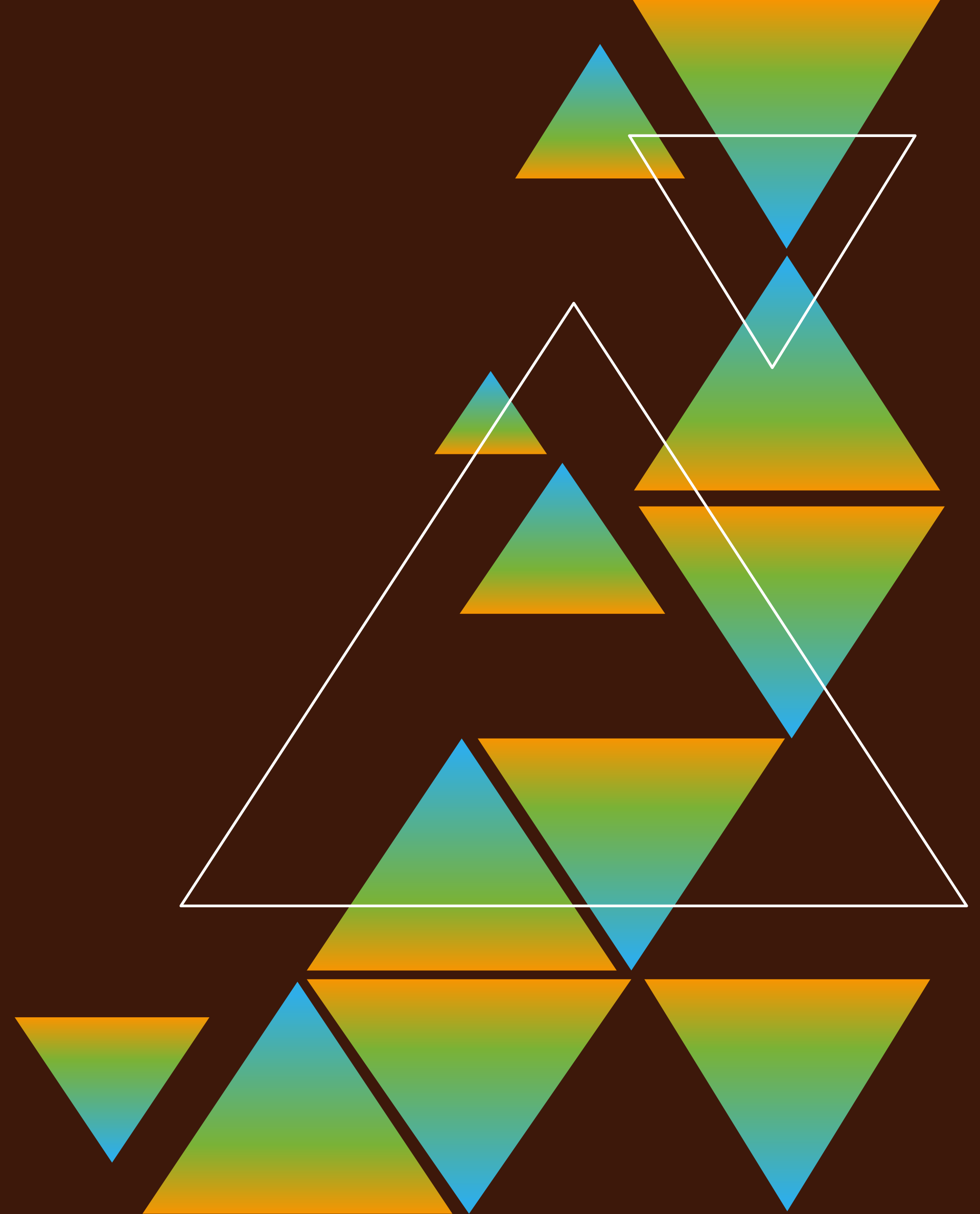




# Potential of microcredentials in Southern Africa

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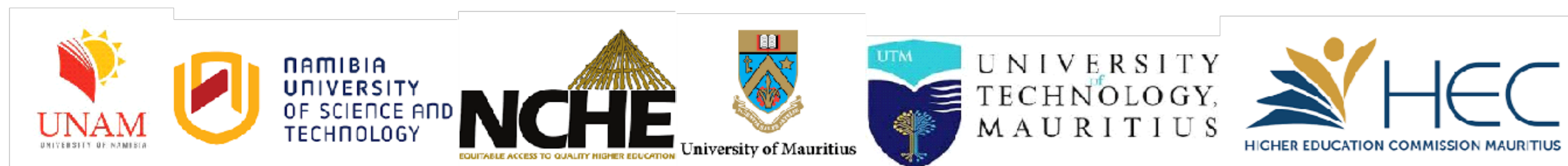
# What is PoMiSA?

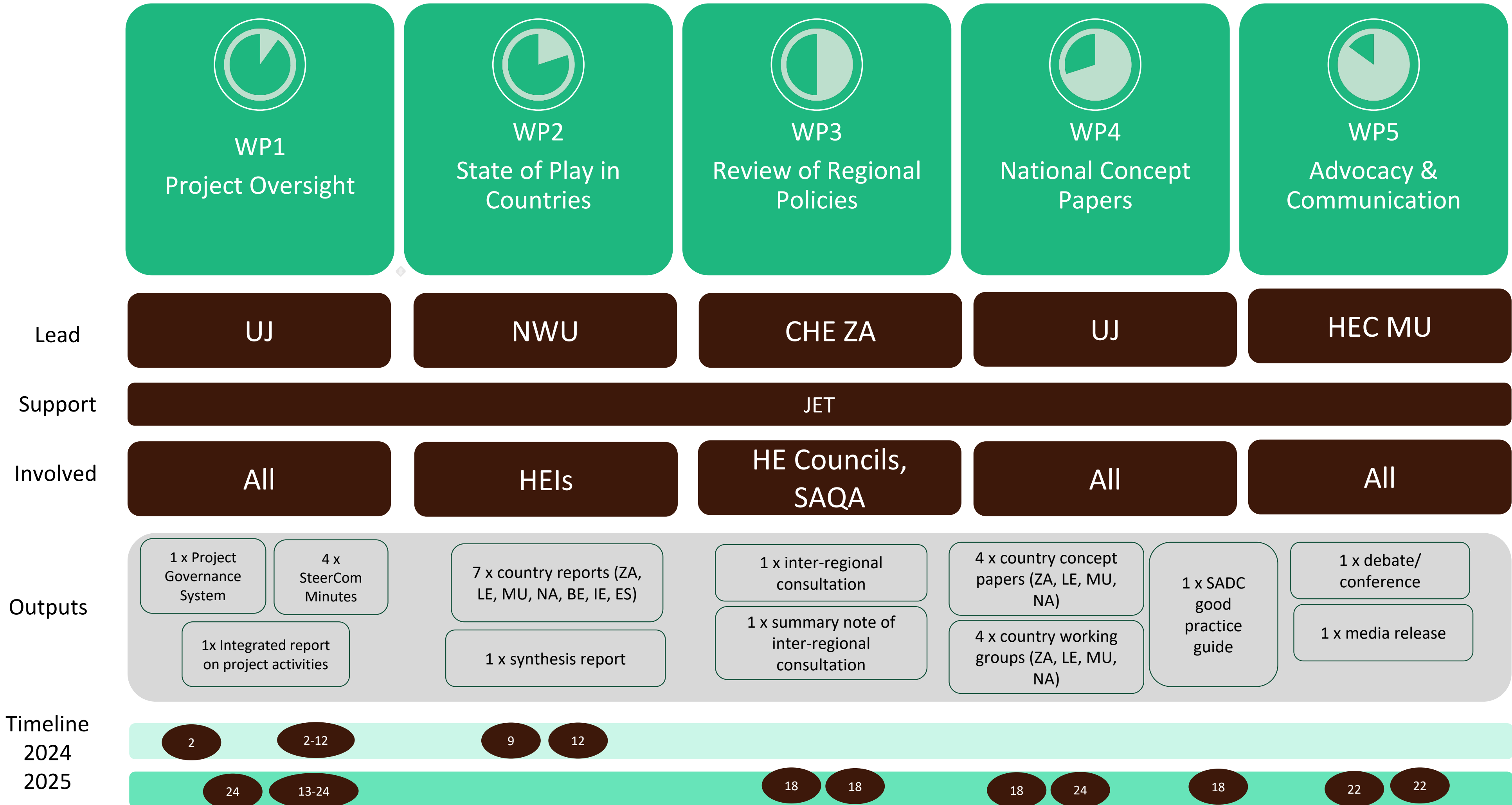


The PoMiSA project represents a **collaborative endeavour** among leading African and European universities, national councils, and strategic partners, aimed at **exploring and leveraging the transformative potential of micro-credentials within the Southern African region.**

The project seeks to establish a **robust framework for the recognition, quality assurance, and regulation of micro-credentials**, ultimately fostering innovation, mobility, and economic growth in the region.

# Project Partners







# A few thoughts on microcredentials

micro.credential

part.qualification

# Continuum of micro-credentials

Characteristics	At least	Middle ground	At most
<b>Features</b>	Record of learning achievement	Have a defined statement of purpose and learning outcomes and address the need(s) of an employer, industry, market, and/or community	Credential of assessed learning issued by a trusted institution
<b>Purpose</b>	Help facilitate lifelong learning by engaging people in learning activities	Just-in-time and flexible learning that addresses personal, societal, cultural, and labour market need	Result in technical skills and in- demand soft-skills that allow individuals to adapt quickly to the ever-changing labour market
<b>Scale</b>	Niche course; small private online course (SPOC) course	Stacked into a larger credential or be included in a working portfolio	Various learning modes, from small units to larger components of a full degree; integrated into a massive open online (MOOC)/national higher education &TVET system/labour market policies
<b>Delivery</b>	Offered over a shorter or flexible period; may or may not be formal; paper-based or digital	Provided on various platforms through collaborations between different organisations, such as businesses, non-profits, and HEIs	Modular, portable, digital, and universal
<b>Rigour</b>	Meets institutional requirements (private or public)	Meets standards required by relevant quality assurance regime	Meets independent standards, including those set by industry and/or professional associations
<b>Portability</b>	Not recognised as stand-alone formal educational qualification	Contribute to or complement other micro-credentials or macro- credentials, including through recognition of prior learning	Have stand-alone value; can accumulate into or be complementary to a formal qualification, larger credential, or degree
<b>Regulation</b>	Exist outside the formal system; unregulated	Early signs of integration into a more seamless regulatory system	Included in mainstream regulatory systems
<b>Ownership</b>	Strong licensing and copyright requirements; student data held by provider, verifications as paid for service	Can easily be shared with employers or social networks through a variety of mediums, including digital platforms	Owned by the learner through adherence to self-sovereign principles



## Learnings: levels of accreditation

- Initial positioning of microcredentials as 'self-attested' and non-formal
- With time can raise formality and endorsement by employers
- As government NQF systems advance recognition of private accreditations locally developed micro credentials can be incorporated

**Formal**

**Strong link to formal employment**

**Non-formal**

**Weak link to formal employment**

### **Accredited qualifications**

NQF-registered qualifications and part-qualifications

### **Endorsed credentials**

Institutional, professional body, or employer endorsed courses and credentials that are not registered on an NQF

### **Self-attested credentials**

Courses and credentials that are not necessarily endorsed by an institution, professional body, or employer, and not registered on an NQF



# Reflection points

# Reflection points: SADC TCCA

1. As TCCA, what is your view on the potential of microcredentials in the SADC region?
2. To what extent has the ACQF, SADC RQF and NQFs already embraced microcredentials?
3. How can the TCCA be involved in PoMiSA?
4. What is your advice to the PoMiSA partners?



**Thank  
you**

