MICROCREDENTIALS FOR BASIC SKILLS TEACHERS

Zoltán Várkonyi
Secretary General

December 5, 2023, Bratislava

European Basic Skills Network

w w w . b a s i c s k i l l s . e u

The European Basic Skills Network

- Supporting excellence, policy design & implementation

- **80+ members** of policy-makers and providers from **32 countries** + associated members

  - **ministries & government** institutions

  - **adult education networks & stakeholders** (national, regional level)

  - **higher education & research** institutions

- **Core Basic Skills**: Literacy, Numeracy, Oral Communication and Digital Skills

Additionally, Second language, Life Skills, Entrepreneurship, financial and health literacy, environmental awareness, media literacy & digital and online safety, active democratic citizenship.

European Basic Skills Network

European Basic Skills Network

The overall **aim is** to ensure that all **European inhabitants have the basic skills they need** to have access **to lifelong learning**, ensure their employability and be active citizens.

‣ Knowledge exchange
‣ Development of a European consensus at the policy level
‣ Support capacity building & professionalisation

Epale events

EBSN Cafés

Project generation, policy innovation

Advocacy, Promotion & Awareness raising

Annual conferences

EBSN
Professional
Development
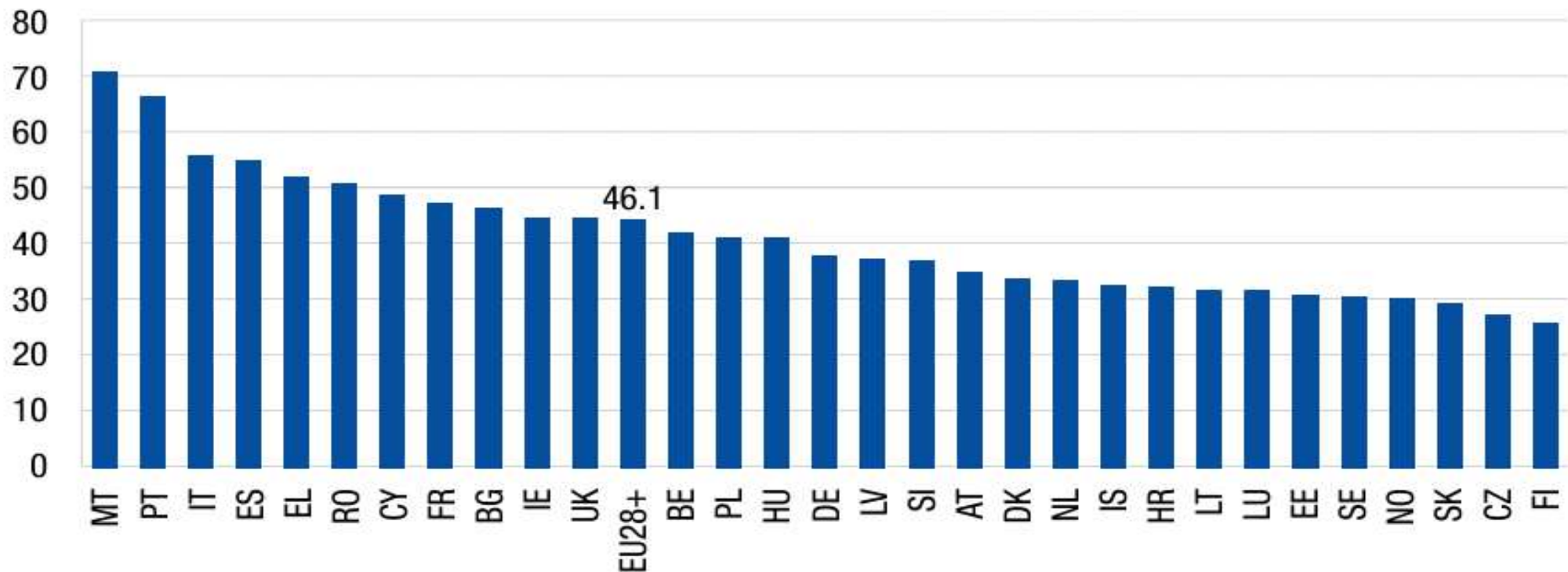Series

EBSN
Capacity
Building
Series

58 million adults are living with insufficient basic skills in Europe.
Who are they?

58 million adults are living with insufficient basic skills in Europe.

Figure 1. **Estimated adult population with potential for upskilling by country (%), EU-28+**

46.1

MT PT IT ES EL RO CY FR BG IE UK EU28+ BE PL HU DE LV SI AT DK NL IS HR LT LU EE SE NO SK CZ FI

(*) EU-28+ = EU-28 plus Island and Norway.
Source: Cedefop calculation based on LFS 2016, CSIS 2015, OECD PIAAC 2012 and 2015.

Responding to needs: EBSN Professional Development Series (PDS)

Council Recommendation on Upskilling Pathways 58 million adults

National policies for UP:
- high quality basic skills training
- digital approaches

EAAL 2020-30: Need for Professionalization &

Council Recommendation on Microcredentials

EBSN Professional Development Series

✓ easy access, low costs

✓ flexible pathways

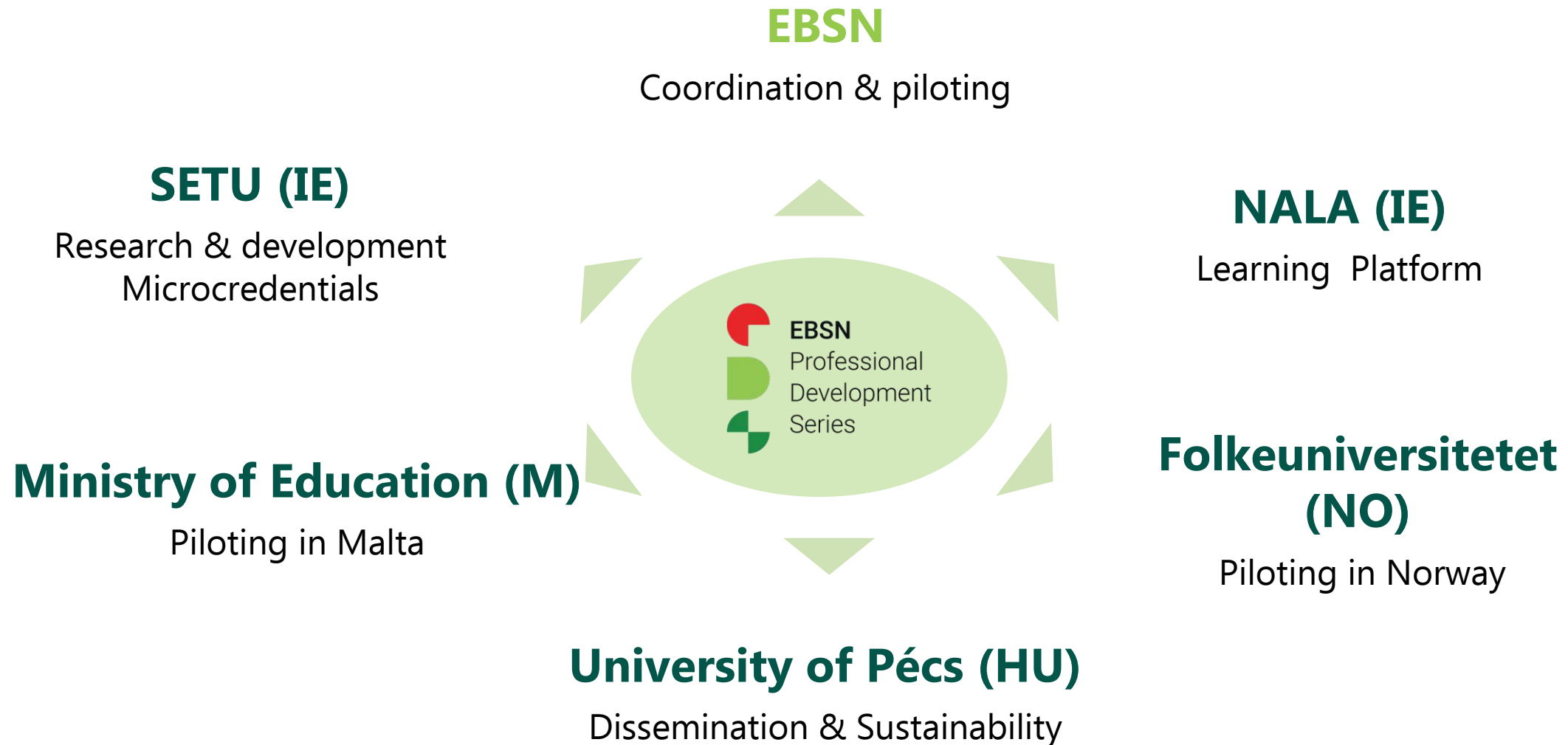**Recognition** by National or Regional Authorities

Adaptation and integration to national framework for CPD

Accreditation by Higher Education Institutes

The Council Recommendation on Micro-credentials

▸ Offer an opportunity to provide short targeted courses to basic skills teachers in accessible formats

▸ Delivered in <u>flexible</u> modes (primarily online)

▸ Can be <u>accessed</u> easily and at a low cost

▸ Can be <u>recognized</u> and <u>accredited</u> and aligned to national and European Qualification frameworks

▸ May offer an opportunity to be <u>stackable</u> ie to accumulate micro-credentials towards an award

Development Partnership

EBSN
Coordination & piloting

SETU (IE)
Research & development
Microcredentials

NALA (IE)
Learning Platform

Ministry of Education (M)
Piloting in Malta

Folkeuniversitetet (NO)
Piloting in Norway

University of Pécs (HU)
Dissemination & Sustainability

EBSN Professional Development Series

EBSN PDS: 6 MOOCS & OERS

Erasmus+

EBSN Professional Development Series

European Basic Skills Network

Basic Literacy

Facilitating the Learning Process

Empowering Adult Learners of Basic Skills

Approaching Digital Teaching & Learning

Digital Basic Skills Programs for Adults

Diversity & Interculturalism

Each course

25 hours

8 weeks

EBSN Microcredentials

1 ECTS

National / Specific contexts

- **Contextualisation**, adding national / specific content
- Volume & course structure
- **Language**
- **Flexible Implementation** arrangement (online / blended)
- **Accreditation -** agreements with national authorities or education providers

Micro-credential Descriptor	
Proposed Name	Facilitating the
Micro-credential contact in SETU	Dr Helen Mur Ms Laura Wid
SETU School or Department	Department o
Micro-credential contact(s) Email	helen.murphy
Delivery Method	This micro-cre learning cont Management expected to ir webinars and learning resou engage with th (live) sessions
Target learners	The target lea adult and furt education teac in upskilling te
Micro-credential Description (rationale and target learners)	The provision digital skills) a inclusive soci economic and

Learning Outcome(s) / Achievement(s)	On su able t 1. 2.
Description of the Learning Process	There effort • • • • The le values cultur This m devel setting
ECTS credit amount	1 ECTS
EQF Level	This m Frame and d Centre Techn (NALA

Entry Requirements (Ireland)	Leaving Certificate or equivalent. Applicants with 3 years work experience in the sector may use the SETU Recognition of Prior Learning process to apply to this micro-credential.		
Assessment / Evaluation	Assessment method	%	Outcomes assessed
	Continuous Assessment	100	1, 2
Assessment Evidence	Learners will be required to evidence their achievement of the learning outcomes by contributing to discussion forums, completing knowledge checks, engaging with the resources and utilizing the tools, technologies and techniques introduced during the micro-credential.		
Micro-credential Tags * (Keywords (skill, context, etc.))	Empowering learners, adult literacy, motivating learners, innovative pedagogies, further education training, adult learners		
Stakeholders involved	This micro-credential has been developed by the School of Education and Lifelong Learning in SETU, and the University of Pecs, Hungary as part of Erasmus+ funded project "European Basic Skills Network Professional Development series" in partnership with the Directorate for Research, Innovation, Lifelong Learning and Employability (DRILLE), Malta, Folkesuniversetet, Norway, the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) and Progress Consult, Hungary. Lead contributors in the development of this micro-credential were Mr Neill Wylie, (SETU) Dr Balazs Nemeth, Ms Edina Kovacs and Dr Krisztina Toth (University of Pecs).		
Head of School or Academic Unit in SETU	Dr Helen Murphy		

Micro-credential Initiatives:

‣ European micro-credential initiatives & frameworks

‣ National micro-credential policy initiatives & frameworks

‣ Institutional micro-credential policy framework initiatives

PDS Microcredentials Exploitation Framework: flexible pathways

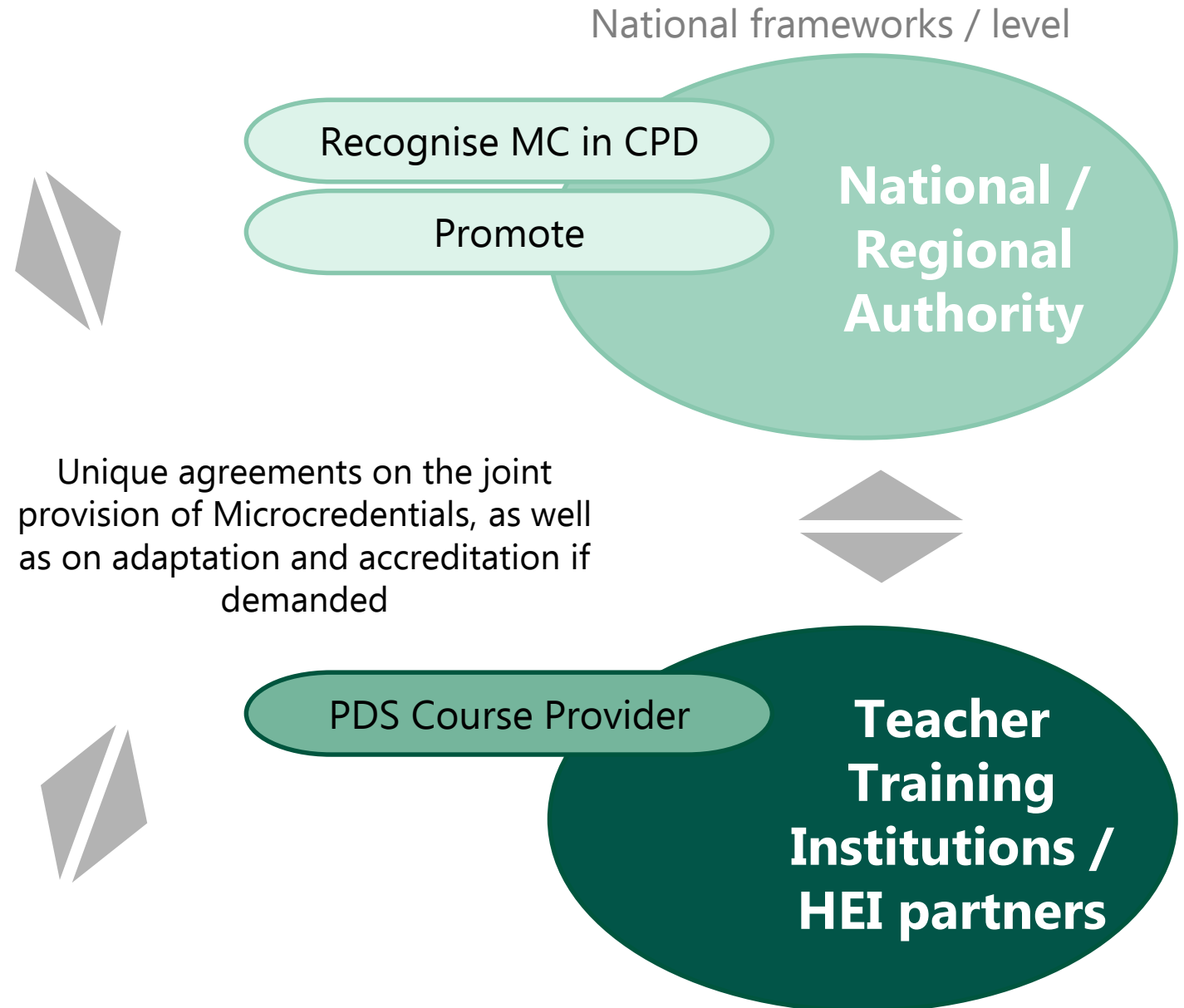European Basic Skills Network

European Frameworks & Tools & Platforms:

National frameworks / level

European Digital Credentials for Learning
EUDI Wallet, Europass, Epale ...

Recognise PDS MC in CPD

National / Regional Authority

EBSN PDS

PDS Promoter

PDS Course Provider

PDS Microcredential issuer

Unique agreements on the joint provision of Microcredentials, as well as on adaptation and accreditation if demanded

Recognise PDS MC 1 - 6 ECTS

Teacher Training Institutions / HEI partners

PDS Microcredentials Exploitation Framework: flexible pathways

European Frameworks & Tools & Platforms:
European Digital Credentials for Learning
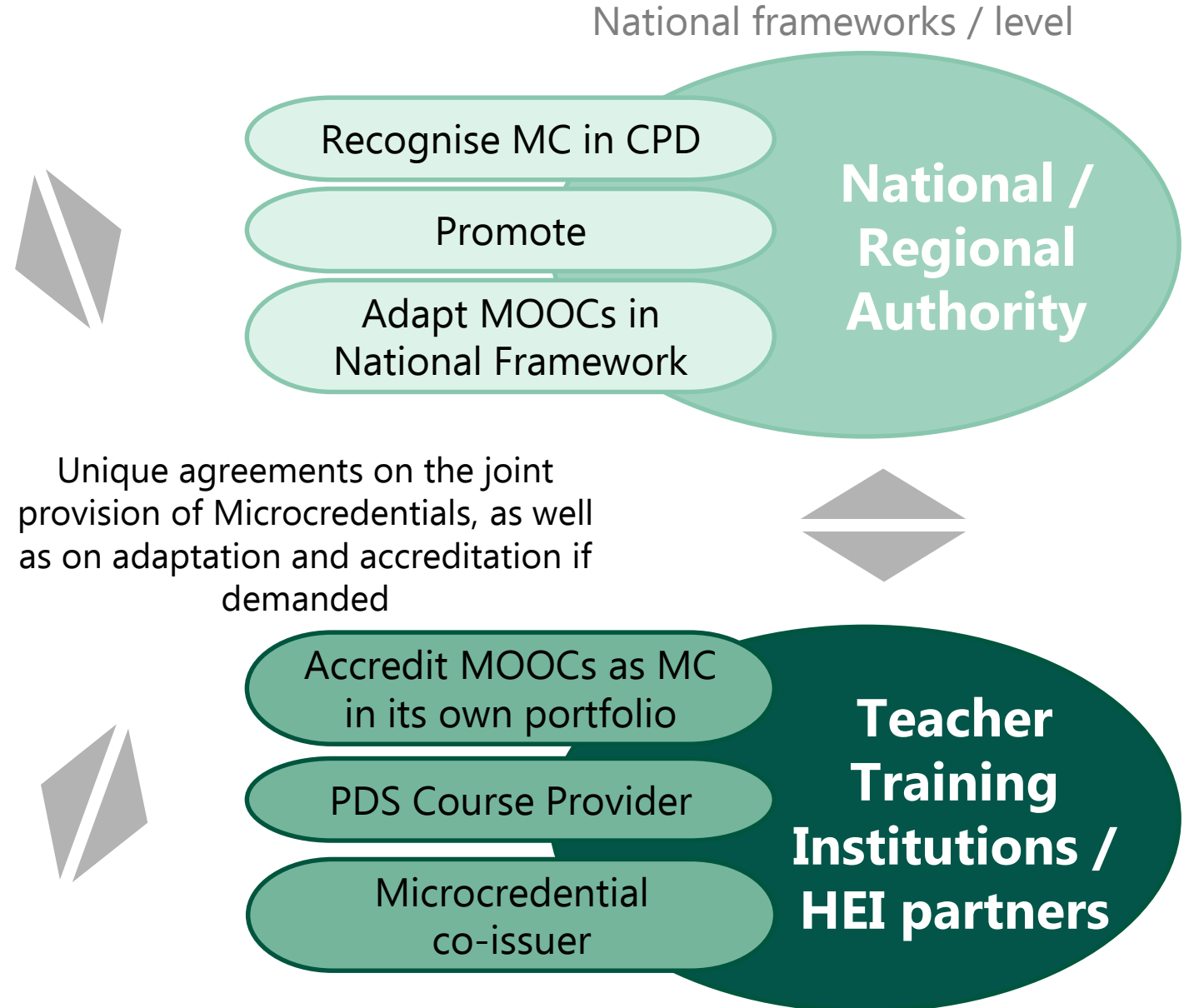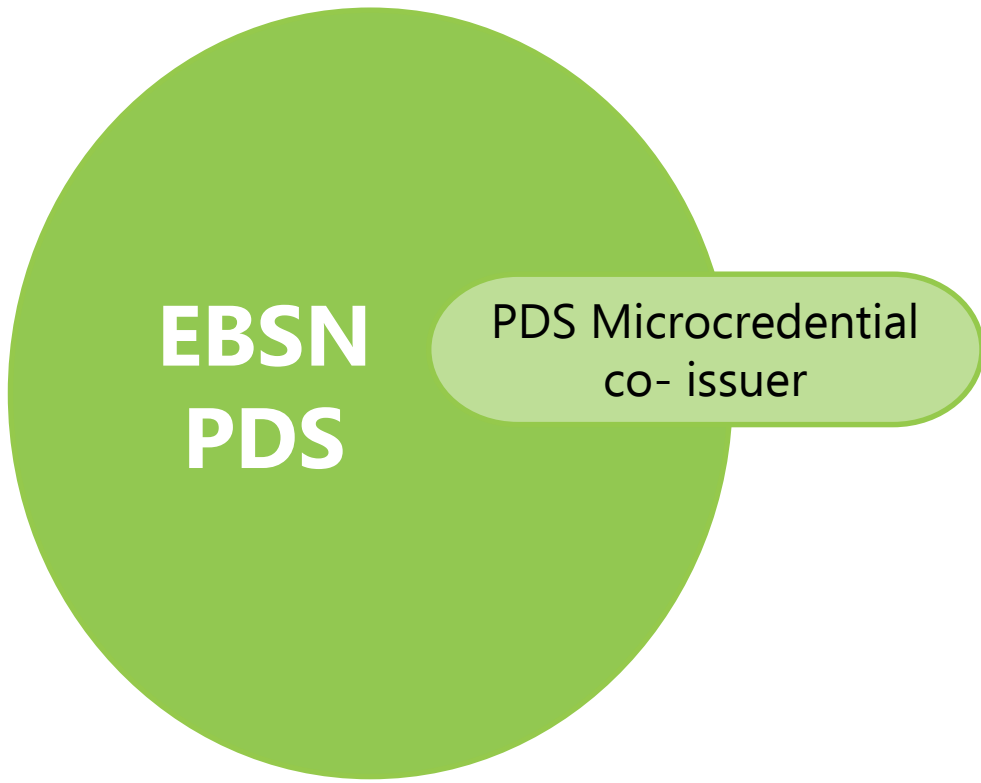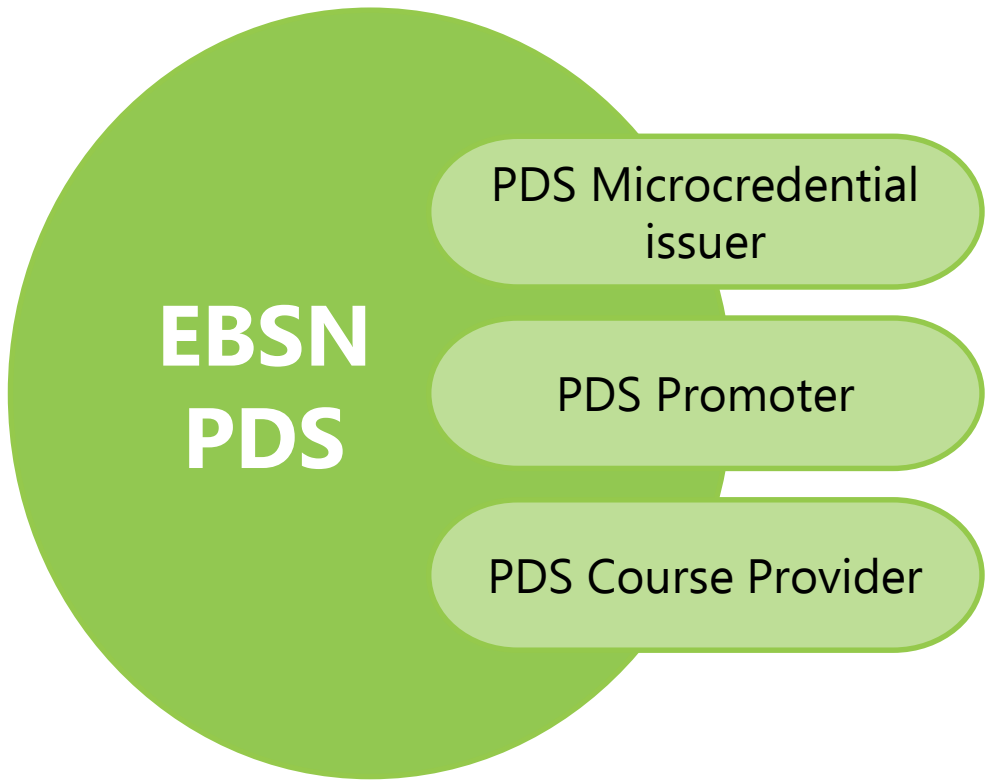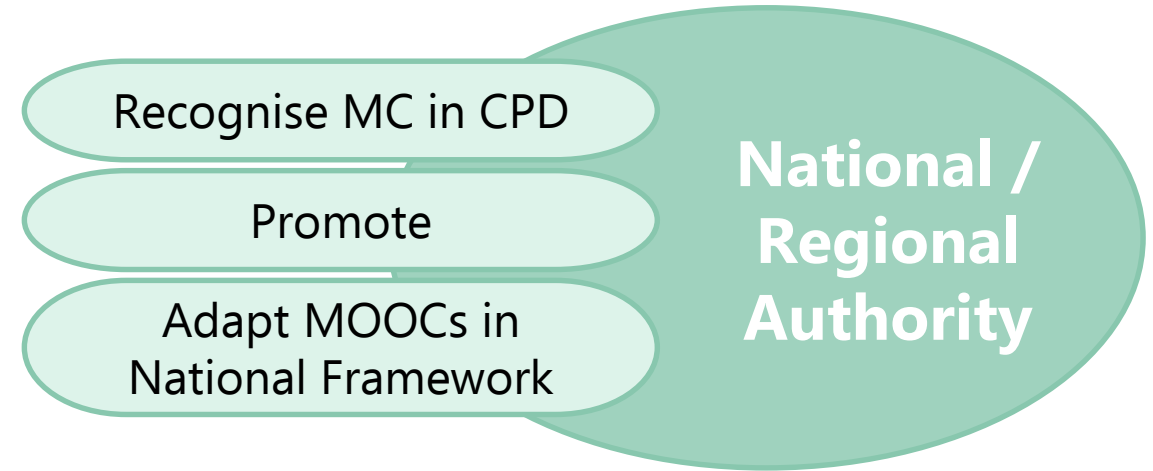*EUDI Wallet, Europass, Epale ...*

National frameworks / level

Recognise MC in CPD

Promote

National / Regional Authority

EBSN PDS

PDS Microcredential issuer

Unique agreements on the joint provision of Microcredentials, as well as on adaptation and accreditation if demanded

PDS Course Provider

Teacher Training Institutions / HEI partners

European Basic Skills Network

PDS Microcredentials Exploitation Framework: flexible pathways
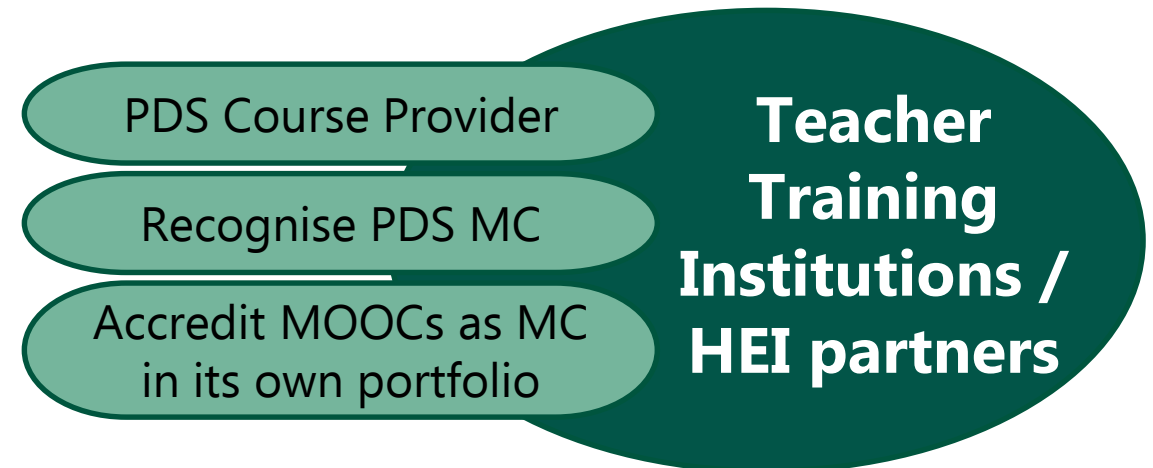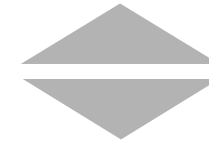
European Basic Skills Network

European Frameworks & Tools & Platforms:
European Digital Credentials for Learning
EUDI Wallet, Europass, Epale ...

National frameworks / level

Recognise MC in CPD

Promote

Adapt MOOCs in National Framework

National / Regional Authority

EBSN PDS

PDS Microcredential co- issuer

Unique agreements on the joint provision of Microcredentials, as well as on adaptation and accreditation if demanded

Accredit MOOCs as MC in its own portfolio

PDS Course Provider

Microcredential co-issuer

Teacher Training Institutions / HEI partners

PDS Microcredentials Exploitation Framework: flexible pathways

European Basic Skills Network

European Frameworks & Tools & Platforms:
European Digital Credentials for Learning
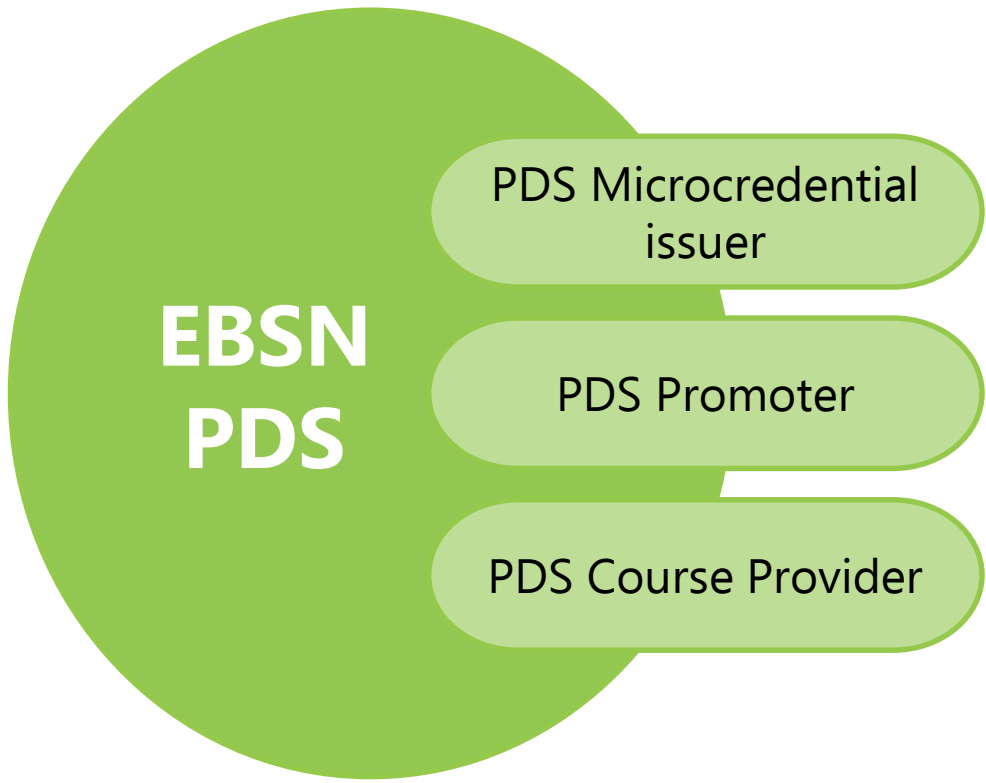*EUDI Wallet, Europass, Epale ...*

National frameworks / level

National / Regional Authority

- Recognise MC in CPD
- Promote
- Adapt MOOCs in National Framework

EBSN PDS

- PDS Microcredential issuer
- PDS Promoter
- PDS Course Provider

Unique agreements on the joint provision of Microcredentials, as well as on adaptation and accreditation if demanded

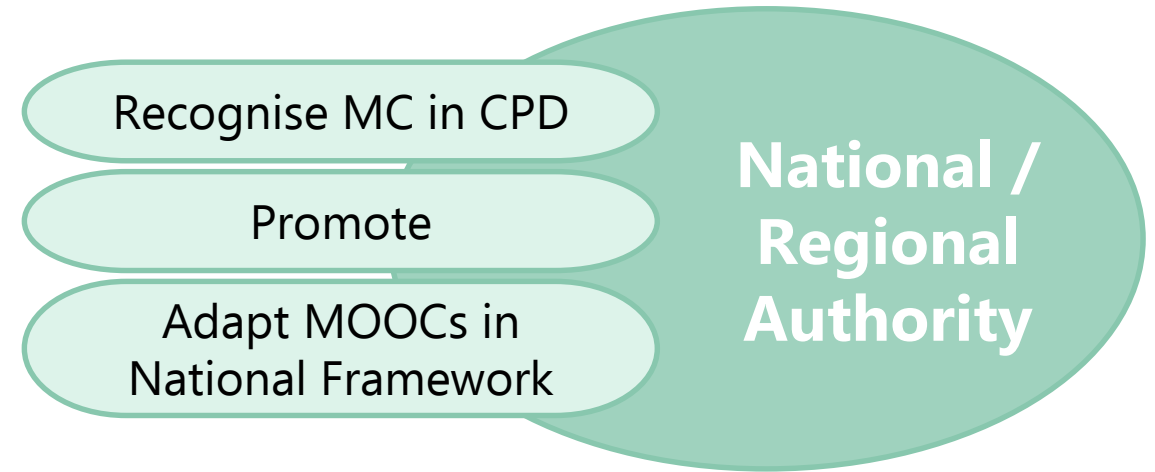**Teacher Training Institutions / HEI partners**

- PDS Course Provider
- Recognise PDS MC
- Accredit MOOCs as MC in its own portfolio

PDS Microcredentials Exploitation Framework: flexible pathways
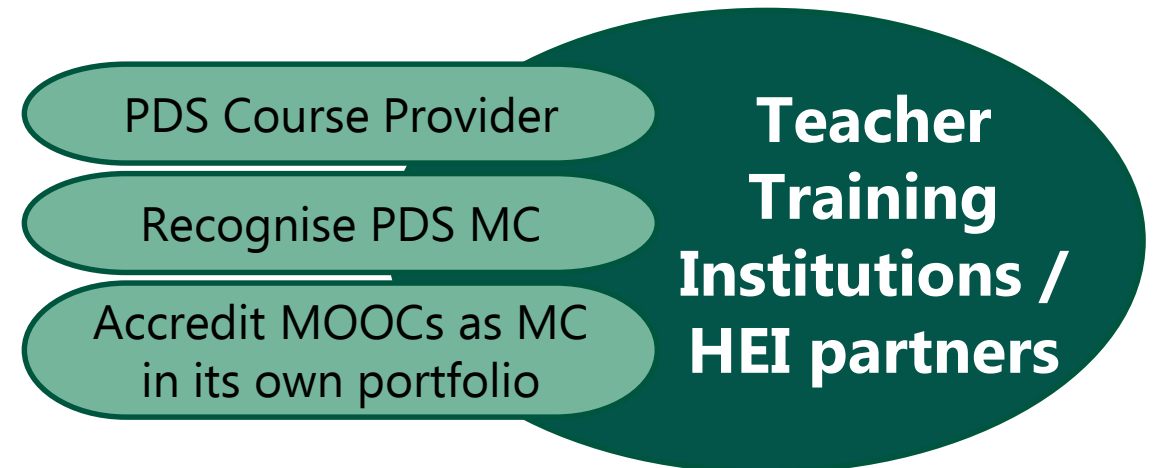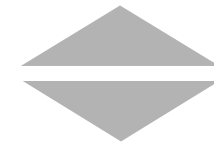
European Basic Skills Network

European Frameworks & Tools & Platforms:
European Digital Credentials for Learning
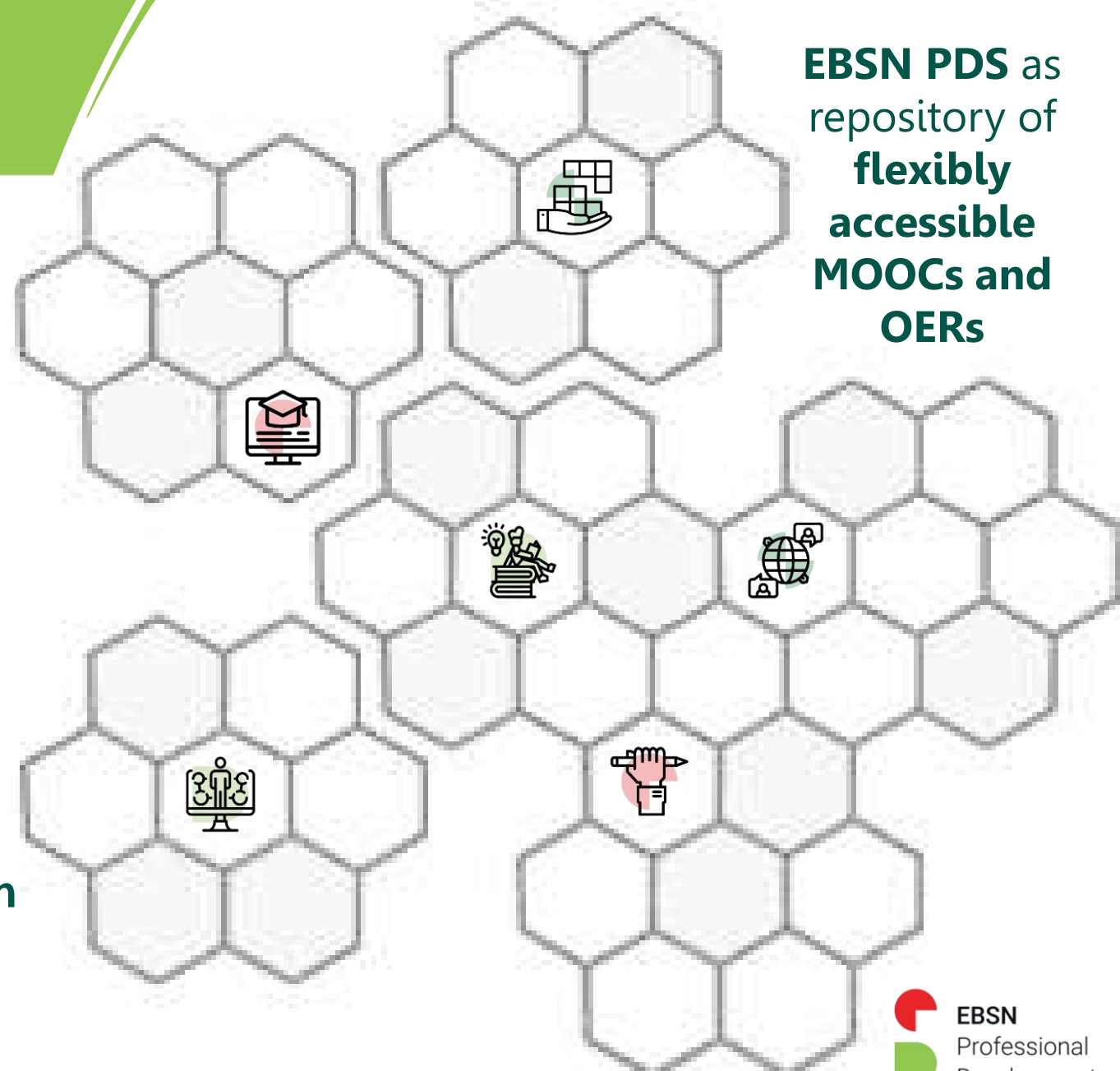*EUDI Wallet, Europass, Epale ...*

National frameworks / level

Recognise MC in CPD

Promote

Adapt MOOCs in National Framework

National / Regional Authority

EBSN PDS

PDS Microcredential issuer

PDS Promoter

PDS Course Provider

Unique agreements on the joint provision of Microcredentials, as well as on adaptation and accreditation if demanded

PDS Course Provider

Recognise PDS MC

Accredit MOOCs as MC in its own portfolio

Teacher Training Institutions / HEI partners

Enhanced Vision of EBSN PDS

EBSN PDS as repository of **flexibly accessible MOOCs and OERs**

‣ **Co-creation of state of the art learning** units and **open educational resources**

‣ **Fast responding** to emerging needs

‣ Multiple **co-operation** with content developers, providers of teacher training programs

‣ **Adaptable** to national contexts

‣ **Recognised** in multiple contexts via Microcredentials

‣ **Establish cooperation for the recognition of PDS MC, and with course providers**…

EBSN
Professional
Development
Series

EBSN Further Initiatives on Microcredentials

New focuses:

‣ EBSN **Microcredentials for Professionalisation**

‣ **Microcredentials for Basic Skills: Recognition in Adult Basic Education**

‣ **Basic skills in Pact for Skills – BS Microcredentials for Pacts**

‣ **Adults with low basic skills in the Twin Transformation**

European
Basic Skills
Network