

2024 Conference on “Micro-credentials: What, Why, Who and How?”

*Making Microcredentials Matter
A Global Perspective from the World Alliance for
Microcredentials*

Oonagh McGirr



13-14 November 2024,
Radisson Blue Hotel Larnaca, Cyprus



Mission to make MCs matter

Once upon a time in Aotearoa

- 2018 Pilot for NZQA
- 2019 approved and listed
- 2019 Major Reform of Vocational Education
- 2020-2022 game changes
- 2023 - emerging findings from current practice

Significant take-up across industry and PTEs



Mission to make MCs matter

- What are they?
 - Nano, mini, bite-size qualifications
 - Support recognition of skills and competencies
 - Real-time, responsive and relevant
 - Skilling / re-skilling / upskilling
 - Support development, improvement and transformation
 - Career planning, uplift and change
 - Customisable, portable and stackable

MCs unite agility, need and focus



Mission to make MCs matter

Why?

- Economic development and Labour market demands
- Industry 5.0 workforce transformation
- Earning plus earning and learning
- The need for speed!
- Agency and self-actualization
- Bringing lifewide learning to life



**MCs offer a cost-effective solution
to meet multiple demands of real-
time scale for growth**

Mission to make MCs matter

How (so)?

Predicated on

- Simplicity of design process and expedited delivery
- Partnership to unite individuals, industry and education
- Accreditation which corroborates mutual trust and value
- Stakeholder needs for skills recognition
- Practitioner engagement with lifewide learning

MCs require, support and embody cross-sector collaboration



Mission to make MCs matter

Who?

- Industry / employers / PMEs
- Training bodies, education entities, professional bodies
- Public and private sector
- Individuals, cohorts, groups
- Employees, employers and enthusiasts

**MCs (are) unilateral, multipurpose
and regenerative in nature**



Mission to make MCs matter

So what?

- Acknowledgement and recognition of extant capability
- Identifying gaps in skills and competences
- Forecasting needs and preparing for them
- Developing series of discrete, incremental and embedded microcredentials
- Growing portfolios for professional development
- Enabling individual enrichment through achievement and agency

**MCs support growth across careers,
sectors and economies**



Mission to make MCs matter

Summary

- **Microcredentials are:**
 - Empowering, enabling and enhancing
 - Adaptable, accessible and flexible
 - Customisable, niche and responsive
 - Key in the shift from stakeholder to shareholder

MCs realise potential, afford possibility and enable empowerment



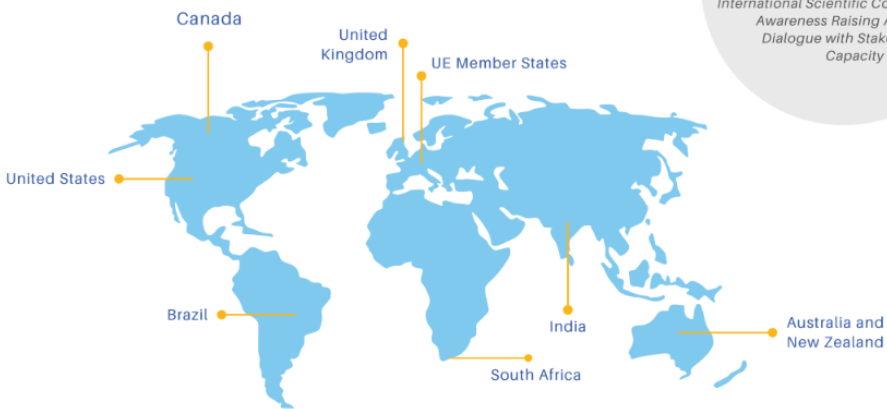


World Alliance for
Microcredentials

Join the Movement

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Our Scope



WORK PROGRAMME
International Scientific Committee
Awareness Raising Activities
Dialogue with Stakeholders
Capacity Building

WAM
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ADVOCACY PLATFORM





World Alliance for
Microcredentials

LIVED EXPERIENCES OF MICROCREDENTIALS PIONEER STORY

WAMBINAR

22/11/2024

10:00 | 12:00 CET

