

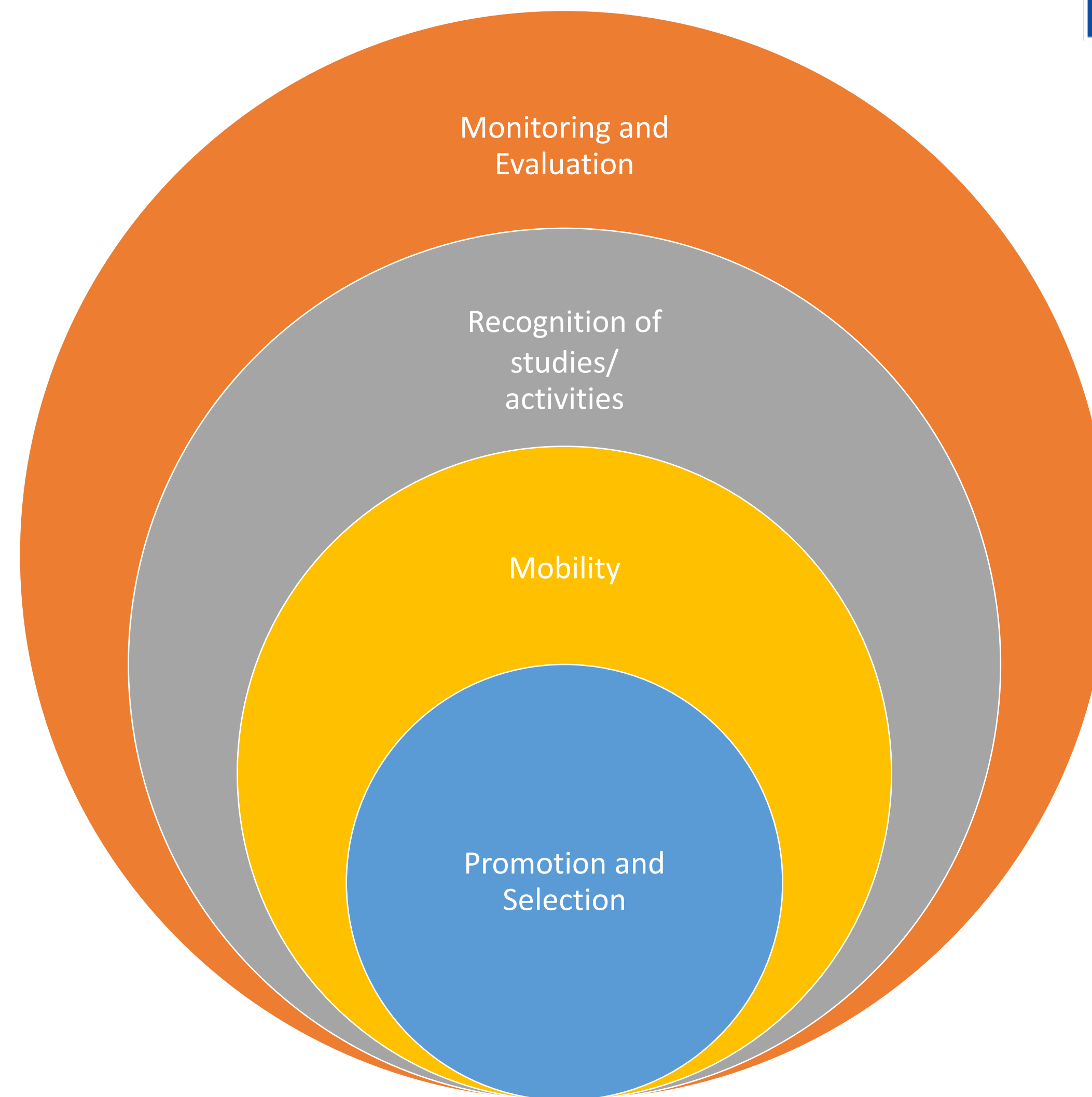


Workshop 1 Mobility Management: Promotion & Selection, Recognition of Studies, Impact

2023 MOBAF Projects Kick-off
Meeting, Brussels
21/3/2024



Mobility management: An overlapping process



Communication,
Promotion &
Selection of the
scholarship
holders



Recognition of
studies

Impact

Promotion and Visibility

Based on the Call document and the Article 17 of the Grant Agreement, the consortium must:

"Develop a clear promotion and visibility strategy for the partnership including, in particular, a dedicated partnership website referring explicitly to the "Intra-Africa academic mobility scheme" and providing comprehensive information about the partnership from the academic, financial and administrative points of view. This must include a solid promotion strategy reaching as many potential scholarship candidates/applicants as possible on the African continent."

Devellopping a clear promotion strategy

Management

Targets

Key actors

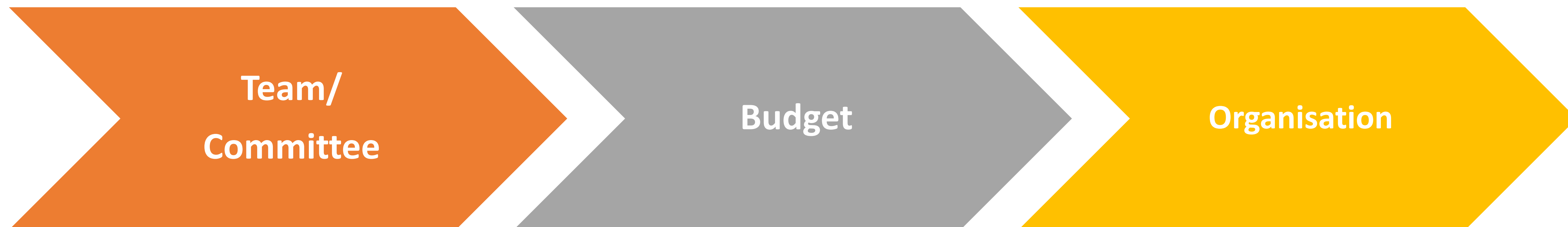
**Key
messages**

Timing

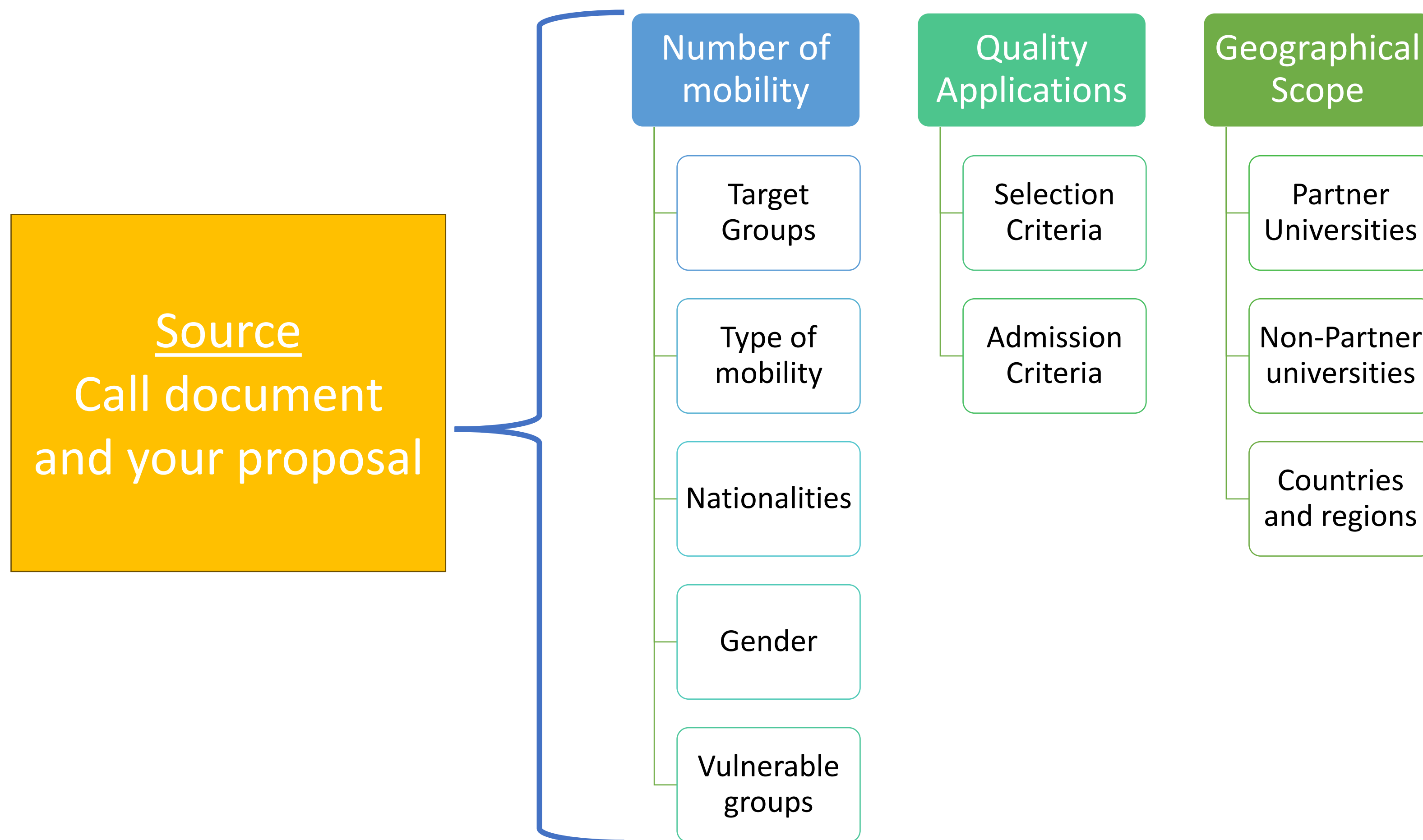
Visibility

**Promotion
tools**

Promotion: Management



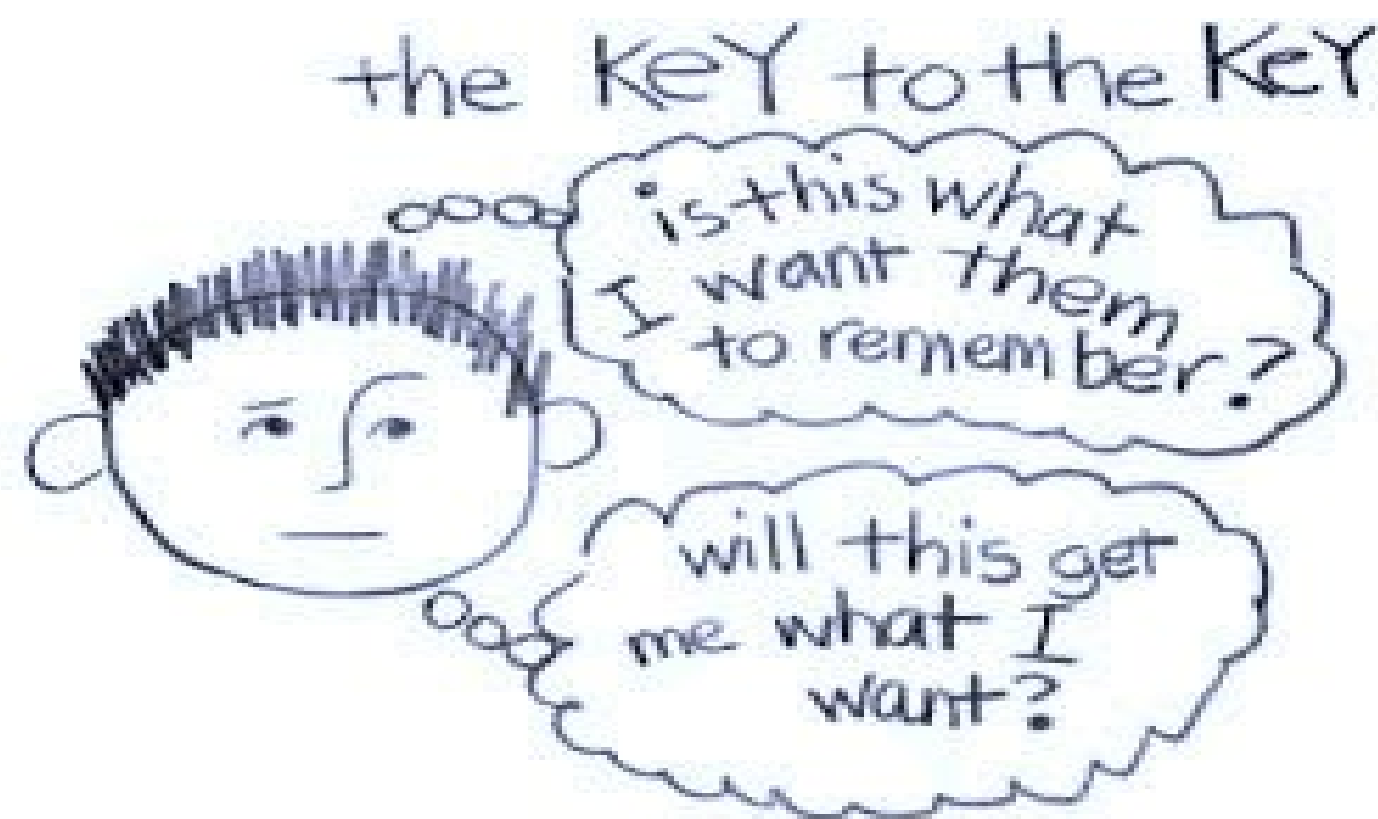
Promotion Targets



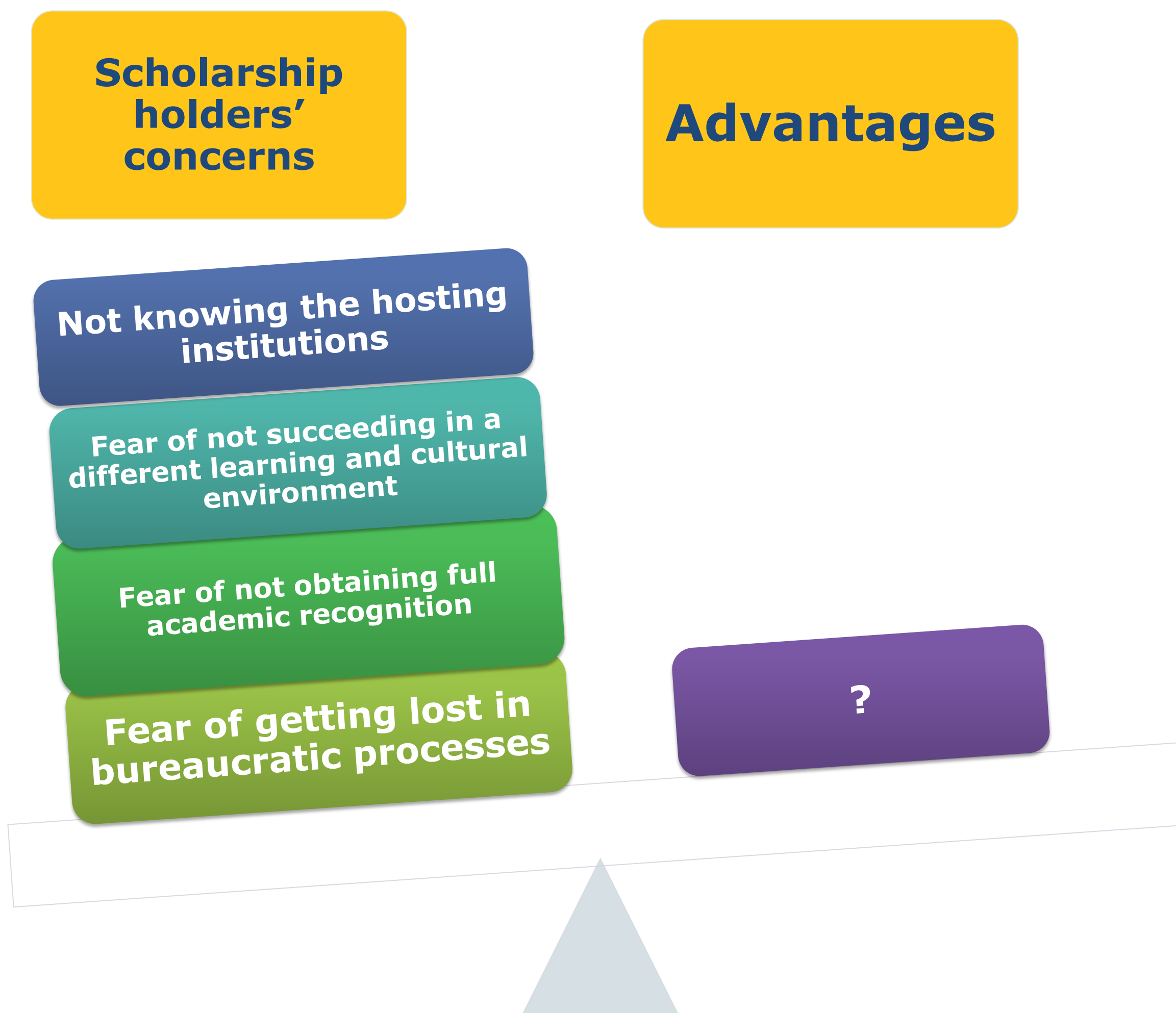
Promotion Key Actors



Promotion: Key messages to the candidates



Key messages

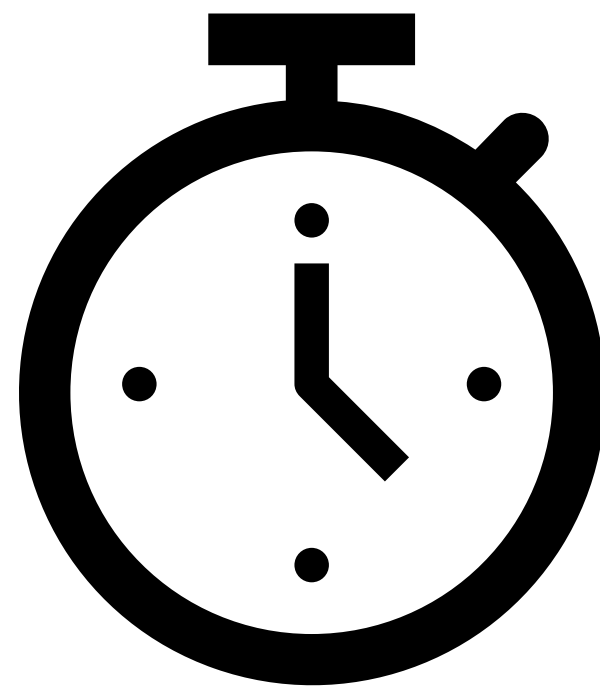


PROMOTION: Case Study

Which key messages should be provided to the Scholarship candidates?



Discussion



10 minutes in groups

Promotion

- Key messages to students

Simple and clear

- target groups
- selection criteria and process
- application process
- academic offer
- benefits
- encouraging the participation of disadvantage groups
- ***Contact person for questions and assistance***

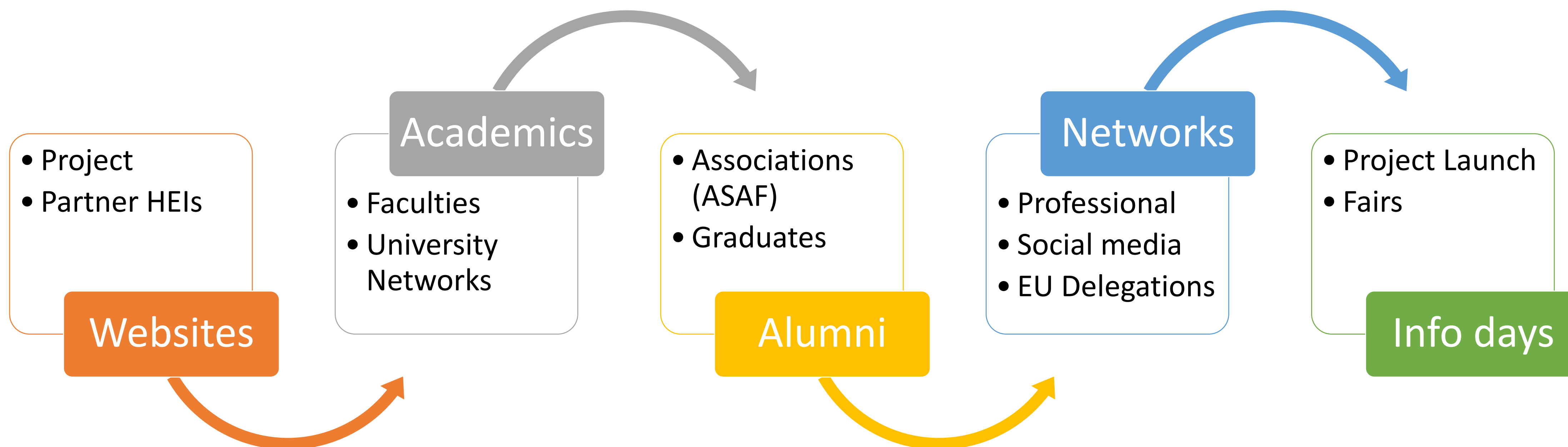
Promotion

- Key messages to students – examples:
 - ✓ The Intra-Africa mobility is **funded by the EU**.
 - ✓ The Intra-Africa **scholarship** covers travel, insurance, subsistence allowance, participation costs. It contributes to research costs.
 - ✓ **Guidance and support** is provided to all scholarship holders before, during and after the mobility.
 - ✓ The mobility allows students to **experience** different research, teaching and learning methods, as well as to meet different cultures and languages.
 - ✓ **Guidance** on how the studies during the mobility will be **recognised**.

Promotion: Timing



Promotion: Channels/Tools



Project Website



Quality Websites

Clear information about the project and available scholarships (cf. key messages):



- Number of scholarships per type and availabilities at each partner
- Scholarship conditions and components
- Clear eligibility conditions and selection criteria
- Services offered at each university
- Key documents like scholarship/mobility agreements and learning agreements

Visibility

European flag and funding statement

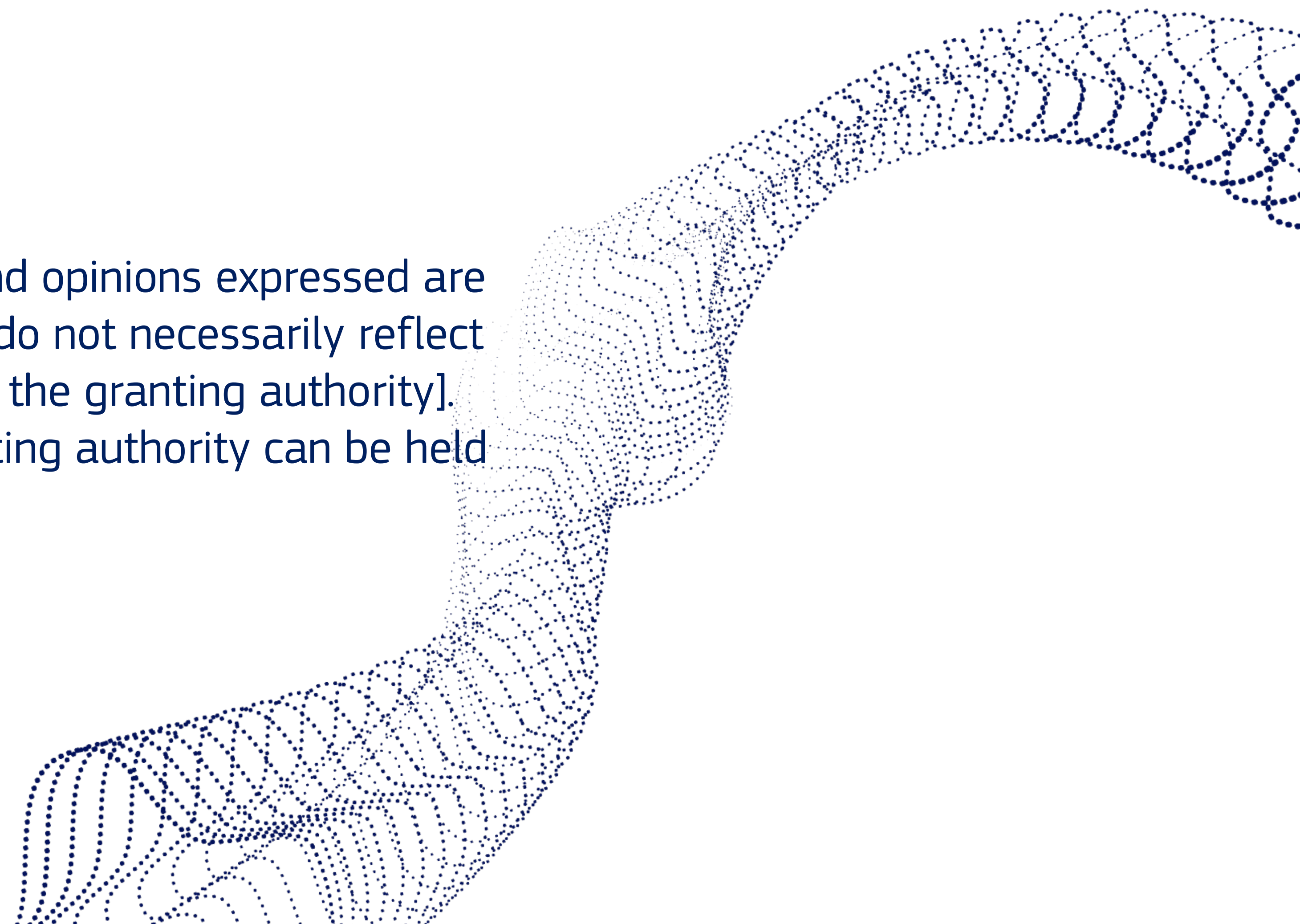
Correct logo to be used on the project website:

European flag emblem and multilingual disclaimer - European Commission
(europa.eu)

Visibility

DISCLAIMER

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”



Website – Basic Features

[Home](#)[Scholarships](#)[Key
Documents](#)[Apply Now](#)[News](#)[FAQs](#)[Contact](#)

Co-funded by
the European Union

Quality Websites

- Basic information on the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme and a link to the page
- Correct definitions of target groups
- Detailed and clear information on the eligibility and selection criteria
- Information on the academic offer and recognition of studies
- Information on the available number of scholarships and selection calendar
- Information on the institutional services offered to incoming students
- Key documents; e.g. scholarship agreements, learning and traineeship agreements
- Information data protection

Art. 15.2 of the Grant agreement **provides that beneficiaries:**

- Shall inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority (EACEA) and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement ([Portal Privacy Statement](#)).
- May grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is **strictly necessary** for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement.

Beneficiaries must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes.
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed.
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date.
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed.

! Non compliance can lead to grant reduction, termination etc !

Data Protection

Recommendations:

- Have a legal basis when processing personal data
- Be transparent with data subjects and inform them before processing (→ privacy statement)
- Define a clear and explicit purpose of the processing of personal data
- Do not process more personal data than what is strictly necessary to achieve the defined purpose
- Do not keep personal data longer than necessary, within the limits of your contractual obligations of keeping records and supporting documents
- Use secure drives, networks & offices, control access rights to prevent unauthorised access/processing of personal data
- Give reference to the Portal's Privacy Statement to inform on the processing of data by the Agency

**Communication,
Promotion &
Selection of the
scholarship
holders**



**Recognition
of studies**

Impact

Selection process

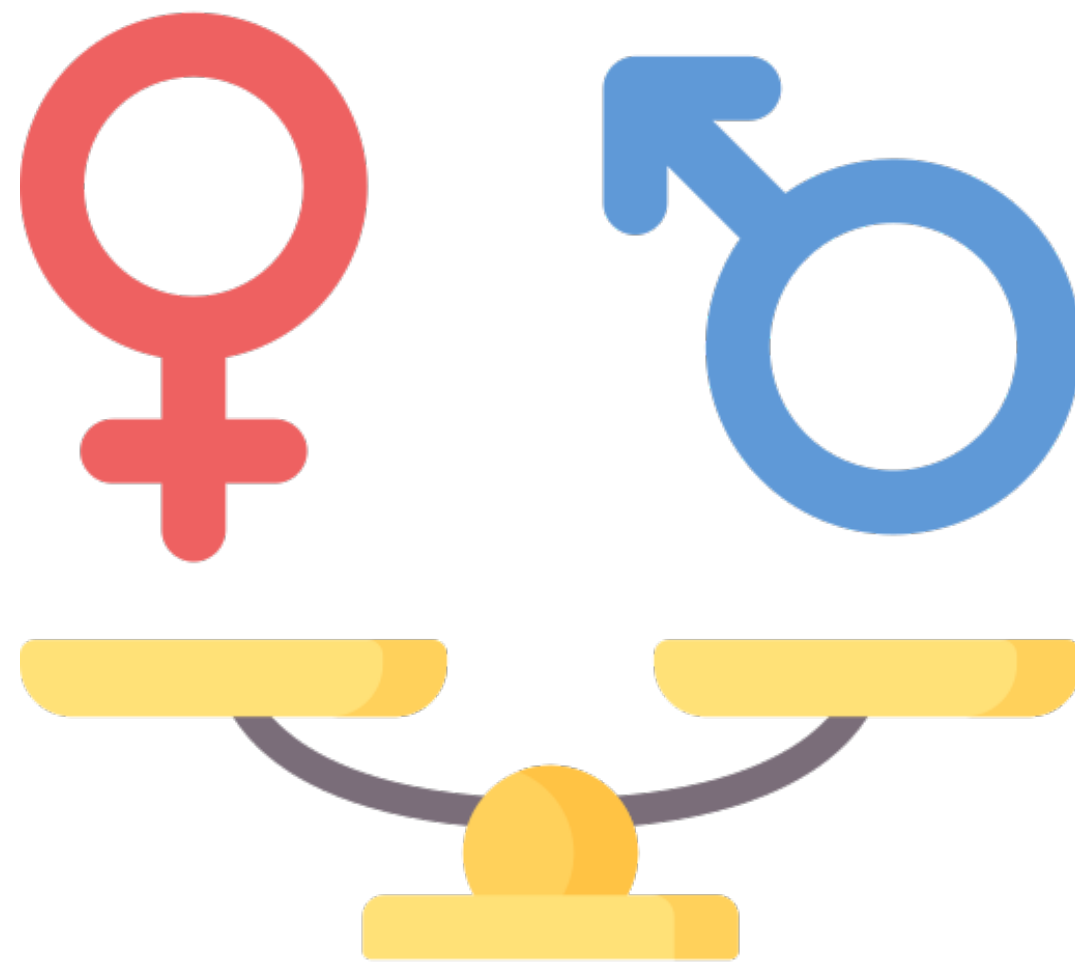


Joint

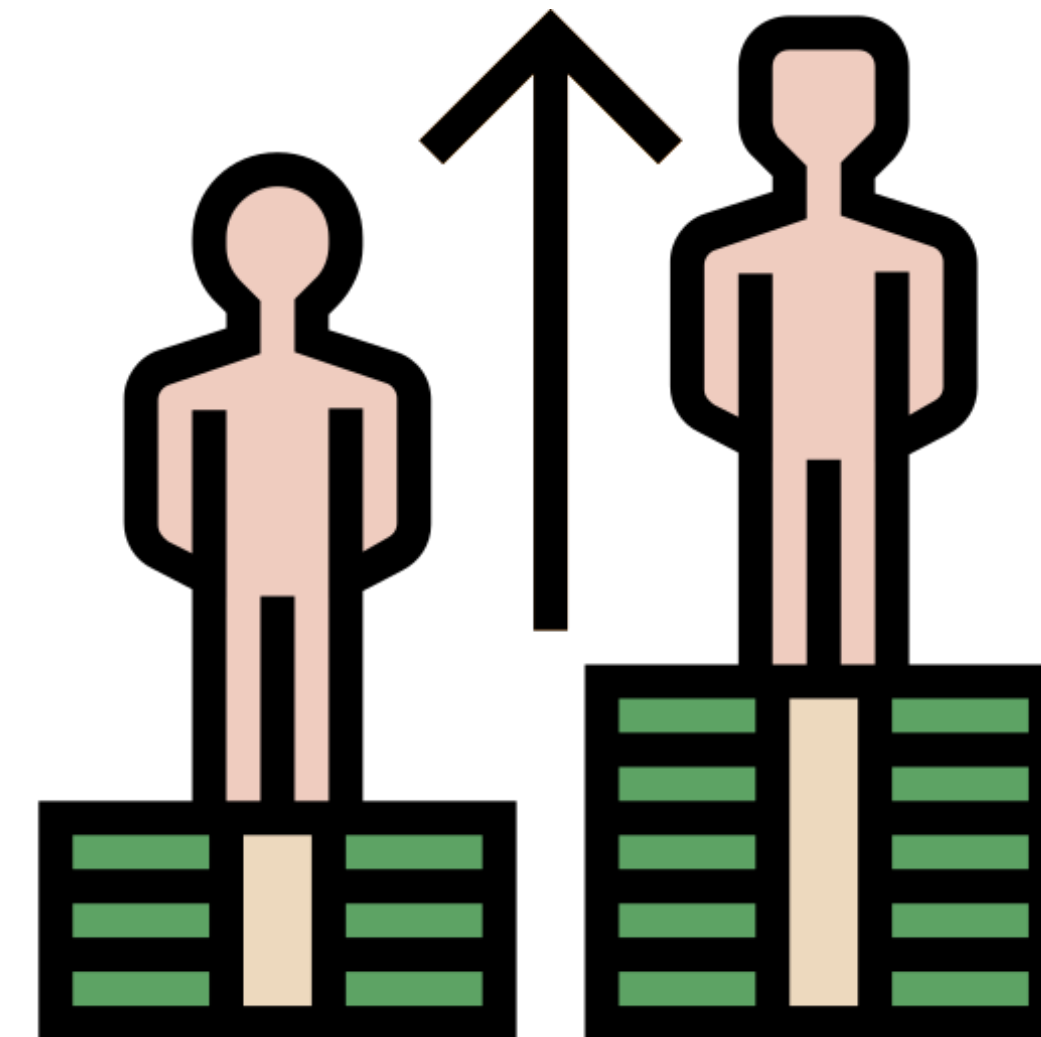


Transparent

Selection process



Participation of
women



Vulnerable groups

Selection process



- Call for scholarship applications

- ✓ Open ~ 45 days
- ✓ Clear and comprehensive information

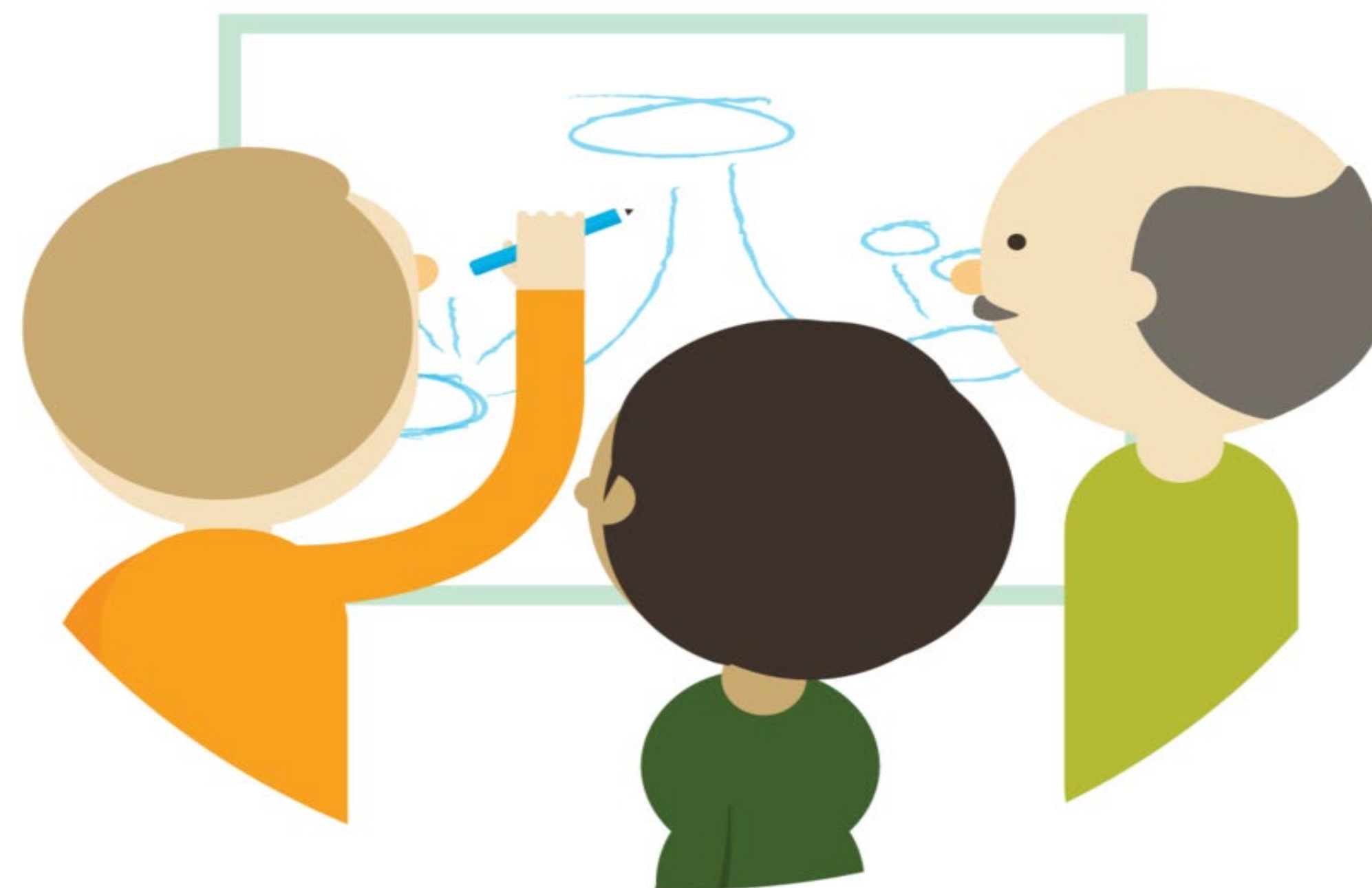


Selection process: Group exercise

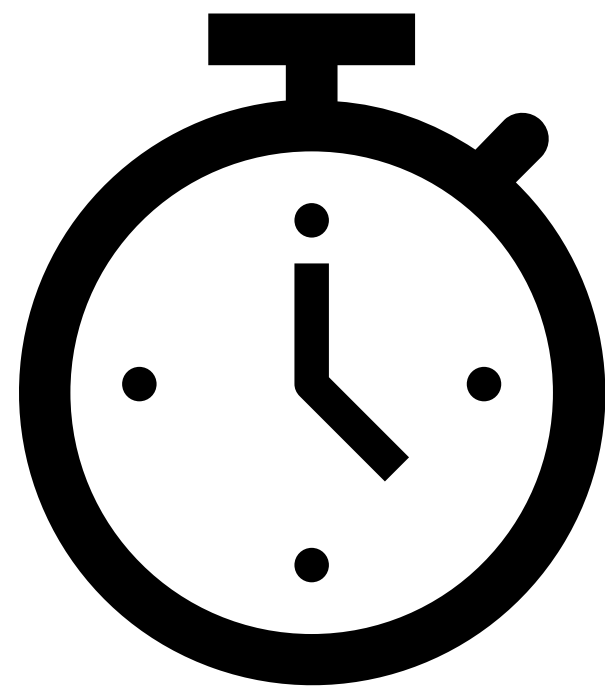


Scholarship holders selection process:

- ✓ Steps ?
- ✓ Actors involved ?
- ✓ Specifics for trainees/staff?



Discussion



15 minutes in groups

Selection process



Selection process



- **Who?**
 - For TG1 – by the home HEI
 - For TG2 – by the selection committee
- **Eligibility criteria**
 - Proof of nationality/residence is provided
 - Fulfillment of the TG and mobility type requirements
 - The correct application form is used and completed
 - All required documents are provided
 - The application deadline is respected

Eligibility check – avoiding irregularities selection



To request the students (**both at application stage and in the student agreement**) :

- to declare not to have already benefitted from a previous scholarship under the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme 2021-2027.
- To commit not to benefit from another EU funded scholarship scheme to follow the same academic programme during the mobility period
- To reimburse the scholarship in case of incomplete or false declaration.

Selection process



Evaluation of
eligible
candidates

- **Who?**
 - Hosting partner institutions
- **Selection criteria**
 - Includes admission requirements of each host HEI
 - Academic performance (transcript results)
 - Personal motivation
 - Match between the home and host HEIs
 - Relevance and quality of study/research plan
 - Language skills

Selection process

Selection of
scholarship
holders

- **Who?**
 - Selection Committee/Board
- **Considering:**
 - cross-cutting issues (gender balance, socio-economically disadvantaged applicants, candidates with vulnerable status, etc.)
 - mobility distribution range as the call
 - balance between sending/hosting partners
 - Recommended percentages per nationality, gender, credit seeking mobility, etc

Selection process:

Final decision on ranking lists



Scores awarded



Proposal of ranking
lists (main, reserve)
per mobility
type/host/TG



Selection of
scholarship
holders

Selection process



Notification of
results

- Letters to all applicants:

- ✓ Acceptance letters

- ✓ Rejection letters

- ✓ Letters to candidates in reserve list



Selection Process

- Acceptance Letter
 - ✓ Information on host university and course/research
 - ✓ Start date and duration of the mobility
 - ✓ Scholarship amount and modalities
 - ✓ Information on admission
 - ✓ Logistics and institutional services
 - ✓ Contact persons (home and host)
 - ✓ Data Protection

Selection process

Appeal
procedure

- Appeal procedure - clearly announced:
 - ✓ in rejection letters
 - ✓ on the partnership web-site
- Appeal committee

Agreements

Commitment
towards/
between

- Individuals
- Institutions

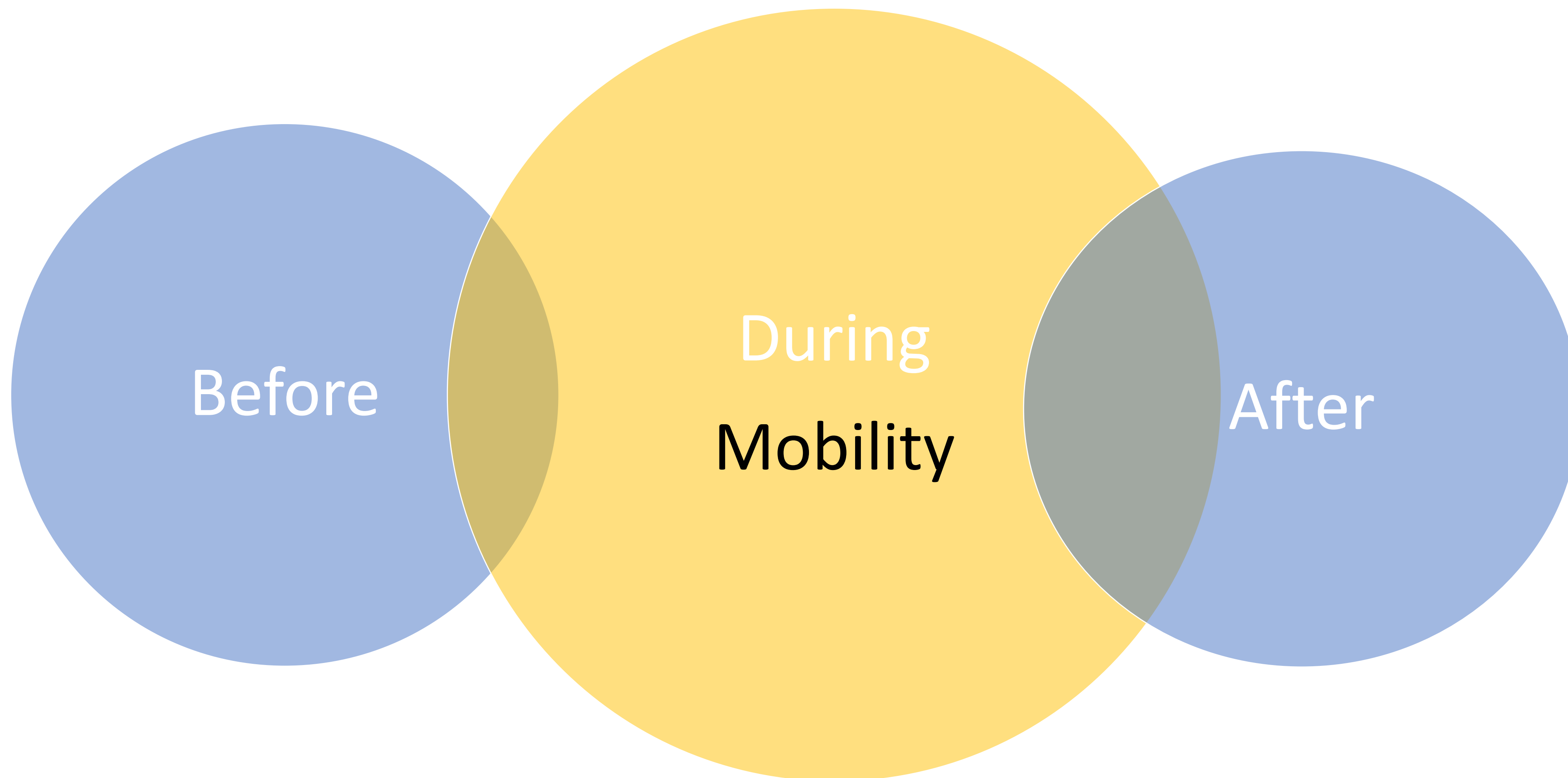
Scholarship and mobility agreements

- **Before** the start of the mobility period
- **General** information on the mobility period
 - Personal data of the student/trainee or staff member
 - Home and host HEI (or host organisation)
 - Mobility period
- Scholarship conditions - **rights**
 - Stipends
 - Travel arrangements and visa costs
 - Insurance scheme (contact person and coverage)
 - Details on tuition fees and contribution to research costs
- **Payment modalities** (regularity – at least every 3 months - and exchange rate applicable)
- **Data Protection**

Scholarship and mobility agreements

- Commitment → obligations
 - During mobility
 - Academic requirements (cf. Learning agreement or study/research plan) for students
 - Research/work plan for staff or training plan for trainees
 - Follow-up methodology on and modification to the study/research or work plan
 - Reporting on the advancement of mobility period abroad
- Management of interruption of the mobility or drop-out from the scholarship
- End of mobility: Reporting; Final academic and administrative aspects

Institutional services



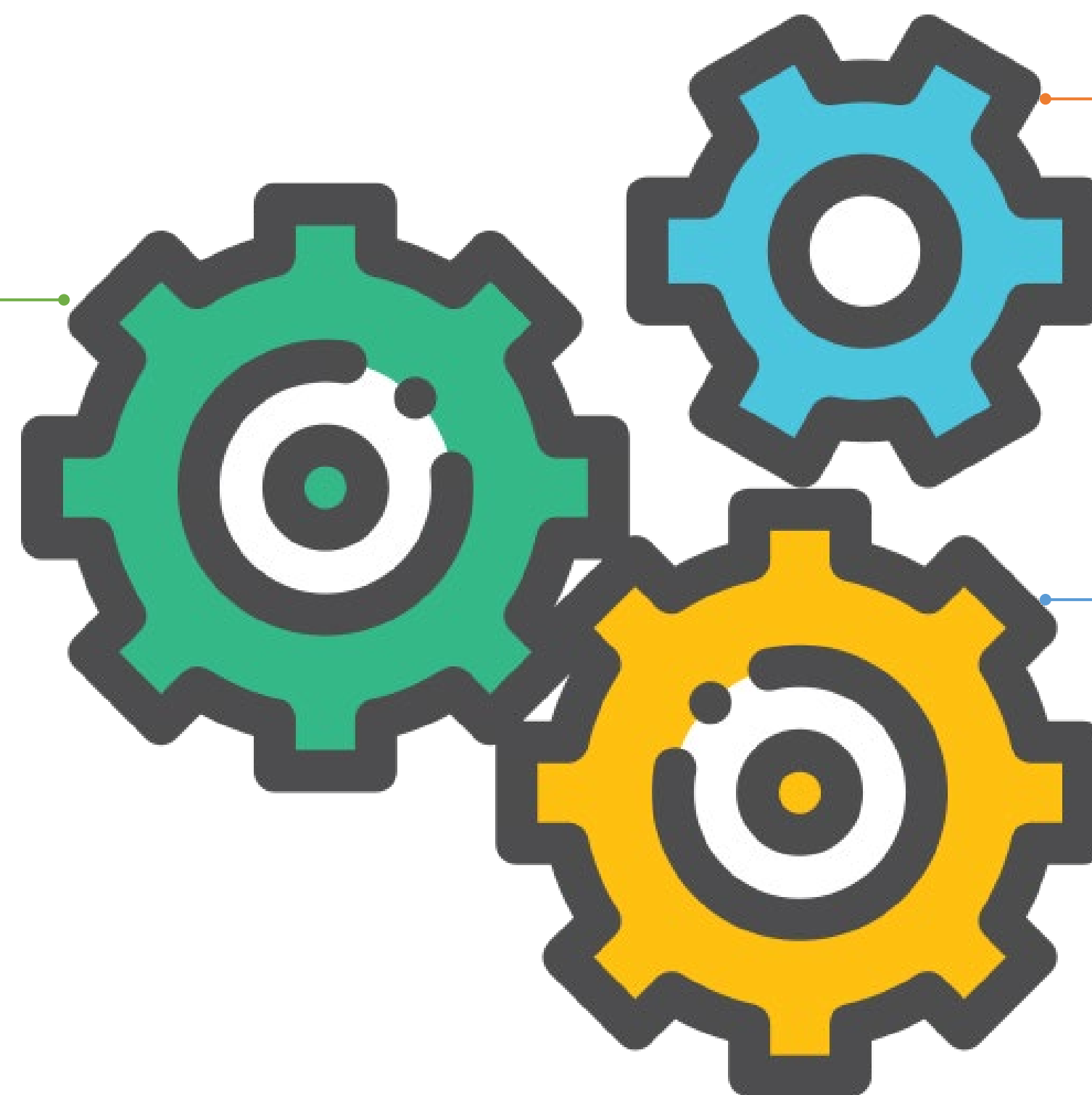
Institutional services

- **Visa support**
- **Travel** arrangements in cooperation with the scholarship holders
- **Welcoming/departure** events or cultural events
- **Welcome** guides for each partner
- Arrangement of the **accommodation**
- **Insurance scheme**(Annex 5 of the GA)

Institutional services

- Information on the **project website**:
 - Scholarship conditions
 - Academic offer per partner
 - Contact details of the partner institutions
 - List of services available at each partner
- Scholarship and learning/traineeship/mobility **agreements**
- **Language** courses (Instruction and local language)
- Guidelines on **recognition process** and **follow-up**
- **Tutors/mentors** for each student
 - Support in registration
 - Intercultural learning (e.g. buddy system)
 - Academic advisors

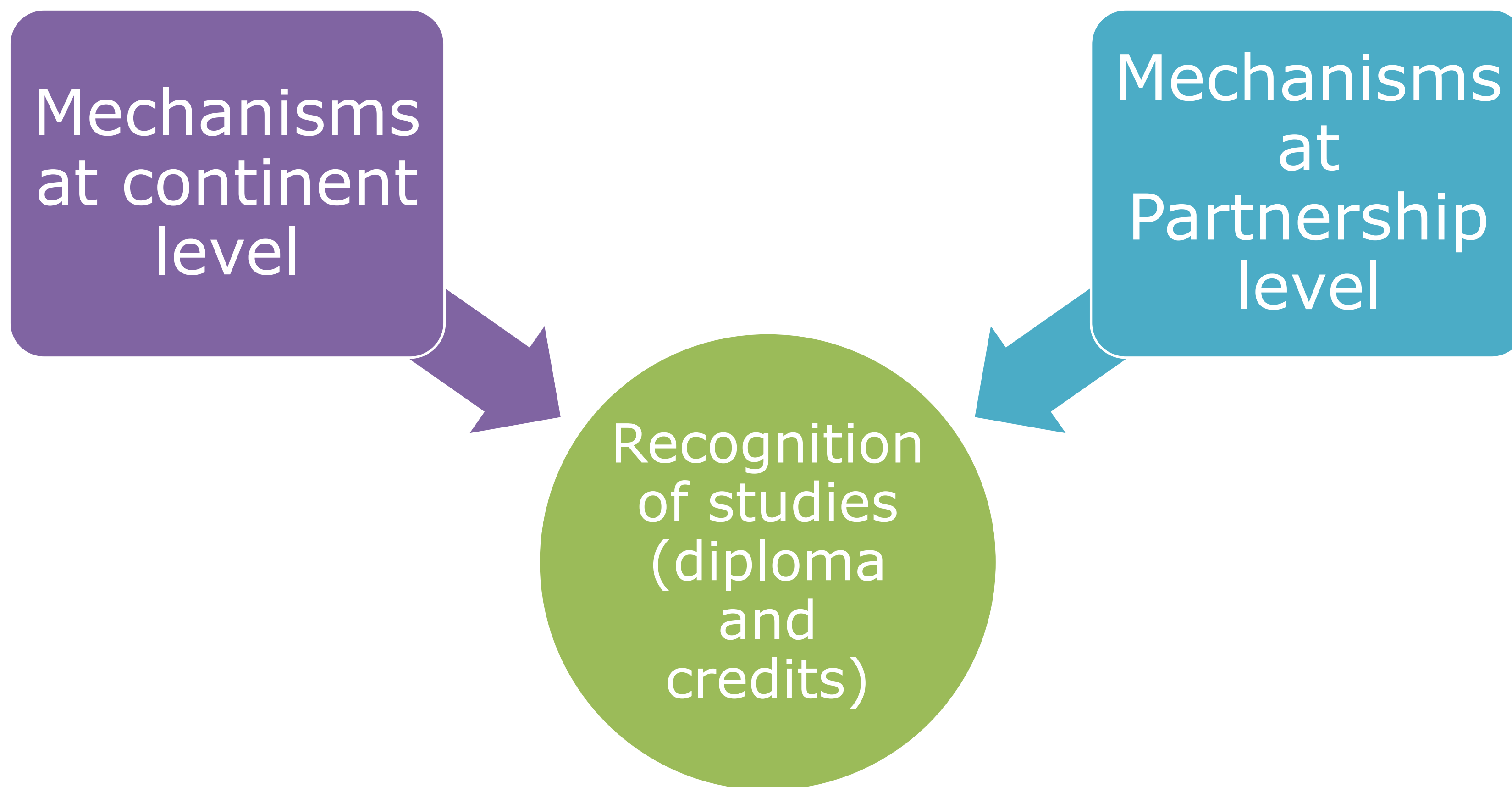
Communication,
Promotion &
Selection of the
scholarship
holders



**Recognition
of studies**

Impact

Recognition of studies



Existing frameworks

- Addis Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications in Higher Education in Africa
 - 1981: To promote regional cooperation and academic mobility
 - 2014: Ratification of the revised Convention
 - Key instruments:
 - African Regional Qualifications Framework
 - Development of an African Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

Existing frameworks

- **Southern** African Development community: Protocol on Education and Training, 1997
- **East** African common Market Protocol, 2009
- **East** African National Regulatory Agencies for HE
- Economic community of **West** African States
- **Francophone** Africa: Conseil africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement supérieur – CAMES, 1968

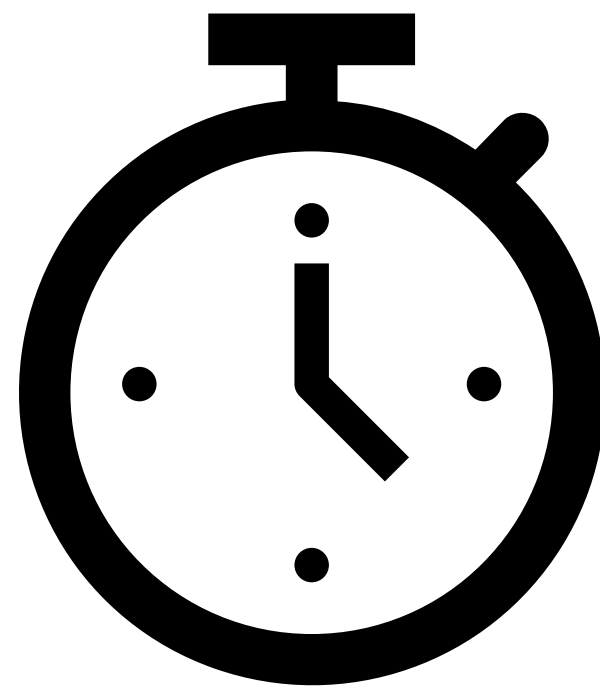
Existing Frameworks

- **Tunung Africa:** Harmonisation of higher education
 - Contribution to the development of a qualifications framework in eight subject areas
 - collaboration with nearly 100 African universities, the AAU and other higher education partners
- **A proposal on African Credit Transfer System (CATS) at continent level**

Recognition: Discussion in groups

**How to ensure recognition of
studies between two different
universities?**

Discussion



15 minutes in groups

Recognition of studies

Credit
conversion
tables

Comparable
and compatible
curricula

Learning
Agreement

Research plan

Transcript of
records

Diplomas and
supplements

- Learning Agreement for all types of mobility
 - At the time of application (if possible)
 - Ensure the compatibility of studies at home and host HEIs
 - Follow-up on learning agreement (students' performance)
 - Any addendum to learning agreement?
- Credit-seeking mobility
 - Transcript of records
 - Credit transfer/conversion system between home and host HEIs
- Degree seeking mobility
 - Diploma and/or diploma supplement (detailed)
- Detailed learning outcomes to ease the recognition

Recognition of studies - Tools



- Masters: Learning Agreement
 - Agreed and signed by home, host and student (credit seeking)
 - Clear, compatible and comparable learning outcomes
 - Compatibility of curricula
 - Credit transfer systems
 - Detailed transcript of records (signed by host)
 - Diploma and diploma supplement

Recognition of studies - Tools

- Doctorates: Research plan/Learning agreement
 - Research or course based?
 - Diploma and diploma supplement

- Special attention to **Target Group 2** students
→ Non-partner home HEI!

- **Traineeship** agreements and Mobility Agreements for **Staff**
 - Training plan or Teaching assignment
 - Mobility period as part of academic studies for Trainees and for academic/administrative career of the staff

Recognition of studies - Tools



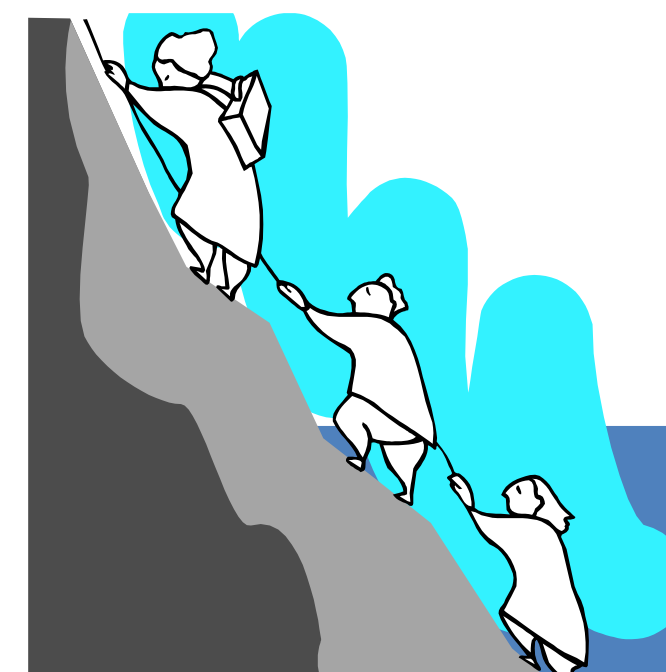
- **Existing links** between partners HEIs (or with non-partner HEIs)
 - Bi-/multi-lateral agreements on transfer of credits
 - Joint research projects or publications, etc.
- Arrangements with HEIs of **Target Group 2 students**
 - Compatibility of curricula
 - Role of academic advisors
 - Infrastructures to continue the research/study after credit-seeking mobility

Recognition of studies



Opportunities

- Contribution to the harmonisation of higher education
- Models for a CATS
- Internationalisation of the curriculum
- Promotion of comparability of study programs and qualifications
- Development and visibility of quality assurance and the bodies in place



Challenges

- Differences among education systems
- Lack of well functioning quality assurance and accreditation systems
- Collaboration between partners
- Absence of continental qualification framework
- Deficiency of updated data and reliable information on HE programs

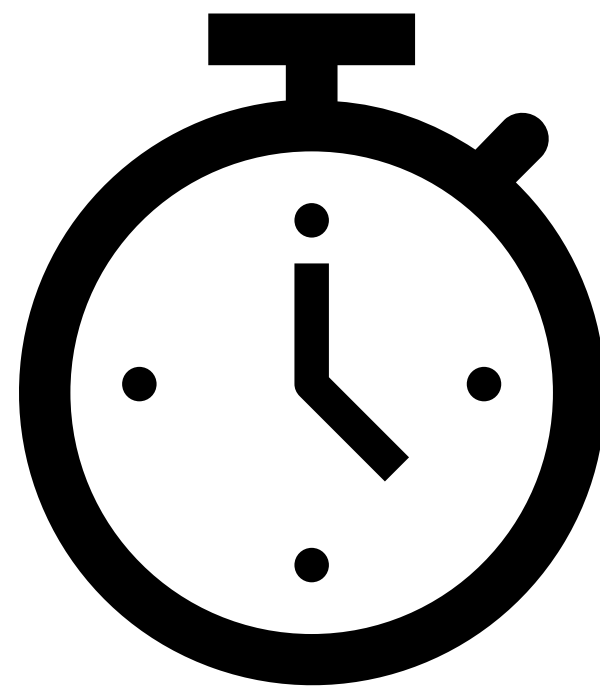




IMPACT

**Which tools will you use to
measure the impact of your
project?**

Discussion



15 minutes in groups

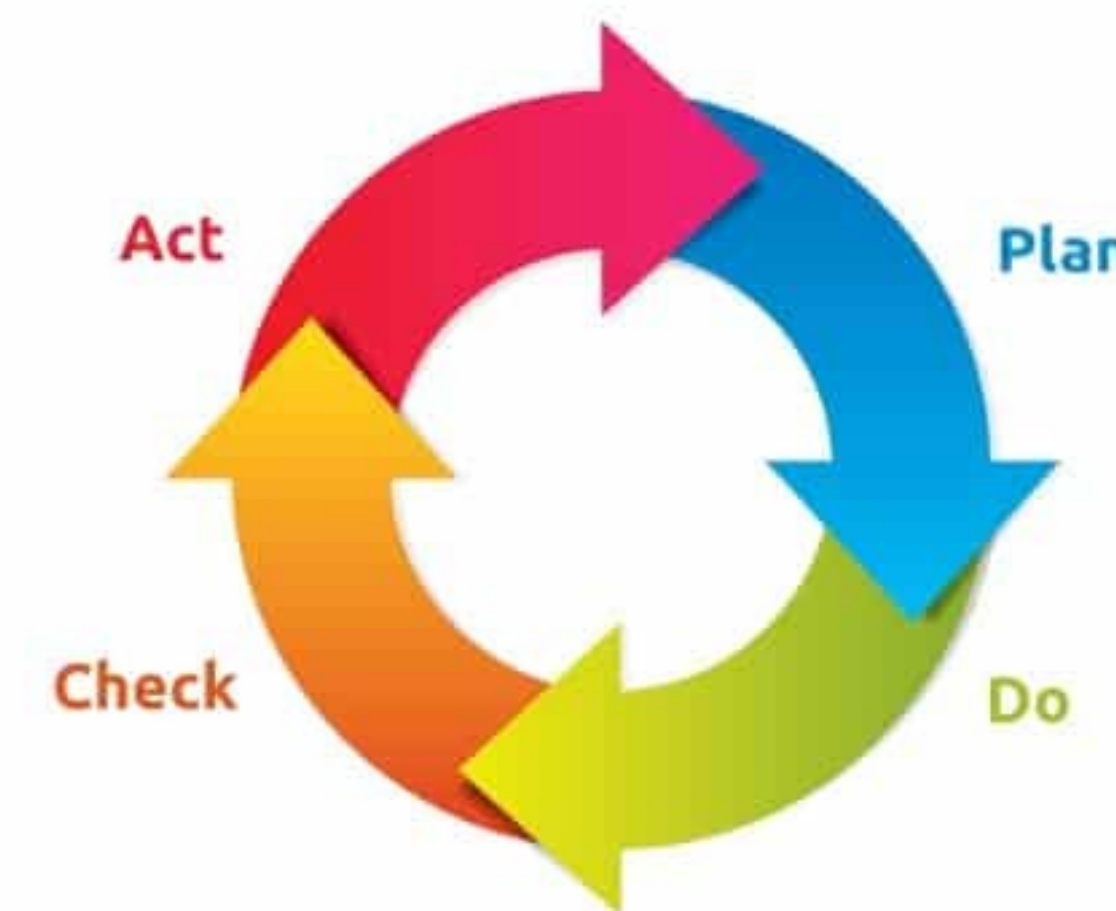
Quality assurance



*“Activities implemented to ensure that requirements and goals will be fulfilled. It entails systematic measurement, comparison with a standard, **monitoring of processes** and an **associated feedback loop**”*

Project's overall quality assurance

- ✓ Continuous process performed during the project
- ✓ Development of QA plan and tools
- ✓ Involvement of all project partners
- ✓ Involvement of final beneficiaries



Quality assurance

Intra-Africa partnerships should establish a holistic strategy and appropriate tools to evaluate the quality of:

- A. mobility implementation**
- B. academic offer and activities**
- C. project management and implementation**

Quality assurance



- A. Institutional services and facilities for mobility implementation**
(application process, pre-departure information, welcoming/departure events/guides, visa, travel, accomodation, insurance, project website, student and mobility agreements, language courses, tutoring/mentoring, recognition process, etc.)
- B. Academic offer and activities** (accredited programmes publicised on the website, monitoring of academic advancement / exam results / post-mobility achievements)
- C. Project's overall implementation** (respect of deadlines, procedures, quality of outputs, etc.)

➤ Which internal evaluation tools?

- Surveys/questionnaires for students, staff and partners
- Roadmap with benchmarks
- Regular reporting (i.e. start, progress and final on academic activities, on mobility implementation, etc.)
- Post-mobility follow-up
- Other tools

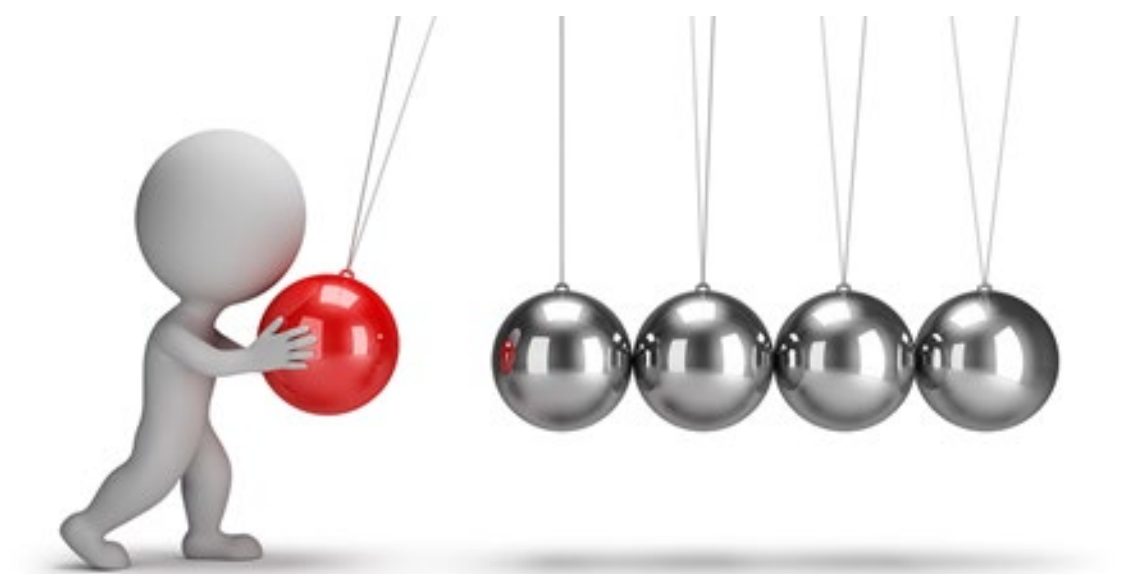
➤ Which external evaluation?

- Peer-review by academic/administrative staff from non-partner HEIs/
- From other ongoing projects
- Representatives from national authorities / business sector
- National QA Agencies for HE

→ Integrated international dimension of the project

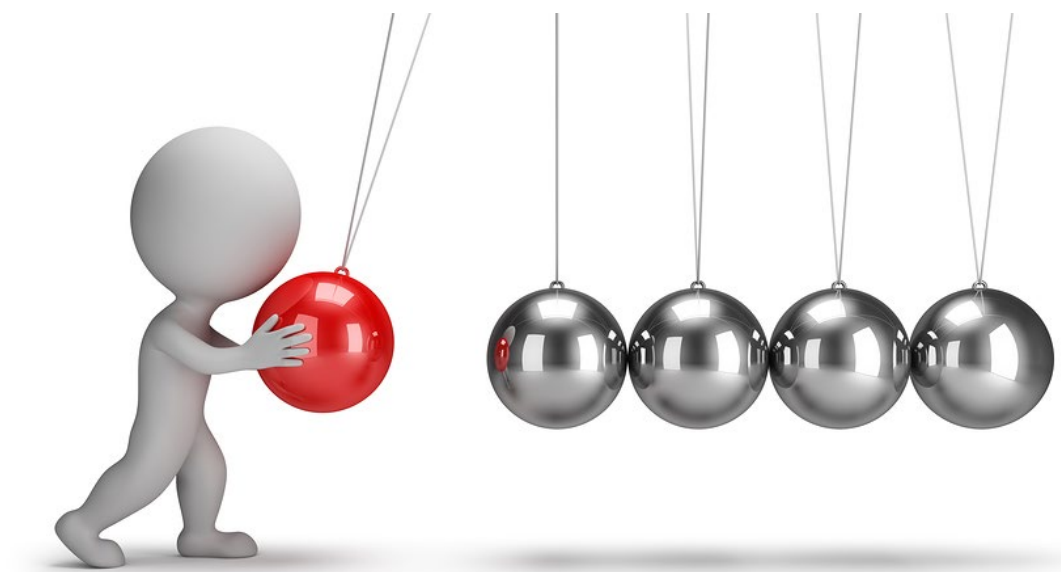
- EACEA (contractual)

Impact



- Project impact at **individual level** (students and academic/administrative staff members):
 - Personal development (inter-cultural competences, social and communication skills, including linguistic benefits, soft skills)
 - Professional gains (e.g. upgraded qualifications, skills, expertise, knowledge)
 - Career/employability benefits

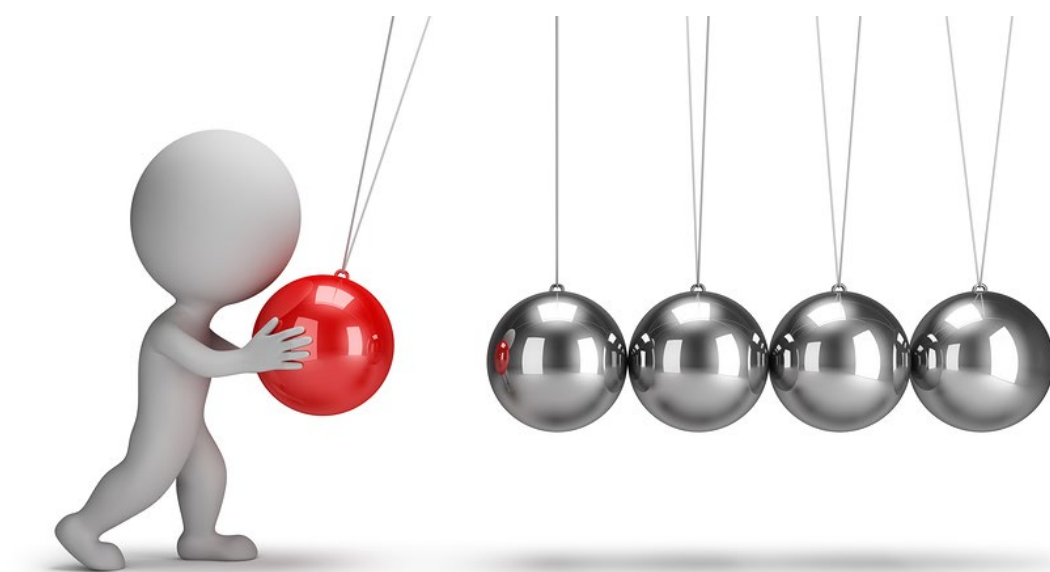
Impact



➤ Project impact at **institutional level**:

- **Capacity building** (e.g. establishment/development of new units, development of management capacity, transfer of know-how, improvement of services offered and/or administrative procedures)
- Improved **academic quality** / strengthened **research capacity and innovation** (curricula development, research cooperation)
- **Internationalisation** (fostering linguistic diversity and international cooperation, increasing attractiveness to international students, recognition of studies among partners etc.)

Impact



➤ Project impact at **national/regional level** ?

- Contribution to internationalisation of higher education systems
- Impact on regulations/legislations (e.g. credit recognition, quality assurance frameworks)
- Contribution to the development/cooperation priorities of the countries involved
- ...

Impact



Impact assessment

The partnership should establish:

- Method and tools
- Qualitative and quantitative indicators
- Sources

