



Challenges and Opportunities of Microcredentials

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What is a Microcredential?

Technical (digital) format for **certificates**



- "The **record of the learning outcomes** that a learner has **acquired** following a **small** volume of learning. These learning outcomes have been **assessed** against transparent and clearly defined **standards**"

Educational (packaging) format for **courses**

C 243/10 EN Official Journal of the European Union 27.6.2022

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 16 June 2022

on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability
(2022/C 243/02)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 149 and 292, 165 and 166 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

1. Within Europe, a growing number of people need to update and improve their knowledge, skills and competences to fill the gap between their formal education and training and the needs of a fast-changing society and labour market. The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the digital and green transitions have accelerated the pace of change in how we live, learn and work. They have also highlighted the need for people to be better equipped to deal with current and future challenges. The pandemic has affected the career prospects of both young people and adults. It has also increased unemployment and damaged the physical, mental and emotional well-being of hundreds of millions of people in Europe.





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What is a Microcredential?!



Most definitions of micro-credentials denote **an organised learning activity with an associated credential** – the credential recognises a skill or competency that has been acquired through an organised learning process and validated through an assessment. Consequently, the term “micro-credential” is commonly understood to refer to both **the credential itself** and **the education or training programme** which leads to the credential award.

OECD EDUCATION POLICY PERSPECTIVES © OECD 2021

doi.org/10.1787/f14ef041-en



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Opportunities of Microcredential Courses



- Reskilling and upskilling
- Job market oriented
- Flexible
- Stackable
- Along the life
- Up-to-date
- Relevant
- Affordable

The Benefits of MICRO CREDENTIALS



IN-DEMAND
Micro credentials address specific skills that industries need.



STACKABLE
Micro credentials add up. Together, they can count toward a degree.



FAST
Micro credentials are short-term programs.



AFFORDABLE
They cost less because they are hyper-focused.



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Opportunities of Digital Microcredentials



- Verifiable
- Portable
- Shareable
- Detailed
- Persistent
- Self-sovereign

- More than just Digitizing



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More than just Digitizing



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More than just Digitizing



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Socializing!



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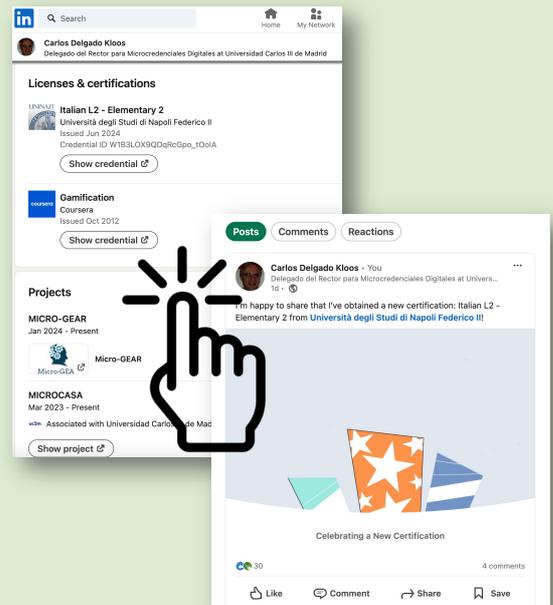
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Growth Hacking!



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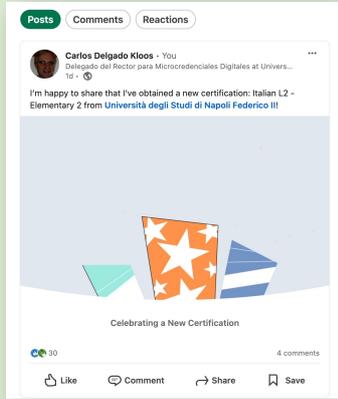
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Impact



Post analytics Export

Carlos Delgado Kloos posted this · 2w

I'm happy to share that I've obtained a new certification: Italian L2 - Elementary 2 from Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II!

Discovery 👁

1,000
Impressions

Engagements 👍

	Category	Value	%	
Reactions	Company size	1001-5000 employees	26%	40 →
	Company size	10,001+ employees	15%	
	Company size	11-50 employees	12%	
Comments	Company size	51-200 employees	10%	7 →
	Company size	5001-10,000 employees	7%	
Reposts	Job titles	Professor	12%	0 →
	Job titles	Teacher	3%	
	Job titles	Lecturer	3%	
	Job titles	Software Engineer	2%	
	Job titles	Co-Founder	2%	
	Locations	Greater Madrid Metropolitan Area	36%	
	Locations	Greater Boston	3%	
	Locations	Greater Barcelona Metropolitan Area	3%	
	Locations	Berlin Metropolitan Area	2%	
	Locations	New York City Metropolitan Area	2%	
	Companies	Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	8%	
	Companies	UNESCO	1%	
	Industries	Higher Education	29%	
	Industries	Software Development	11%	
Industries	IT Services and IT Consulting	10%		
Industries	Research Services	6%		
Industries	Telecommunications	4%		



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Opportunities: Reflection

- You could do all this before
- The difference is the reduction of friction



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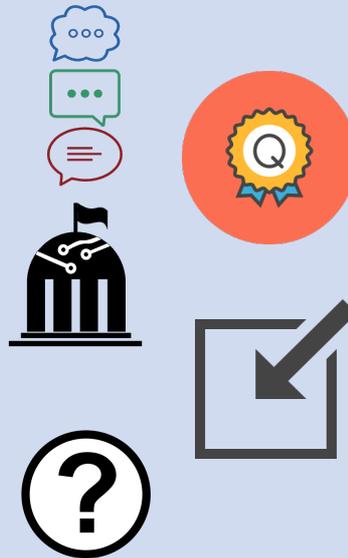


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Challenges of Microcredential Courses

- Fragmentation
- Quality assurance
- Governance
- Adoption
- Open questions



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Fragmentation

- Number of ECTS credits
 - ES: <15, NL: 3-30, BE: 3-20, ...
- Educational level
 - Higher education, professional education, ...
- Legal underpinning or not



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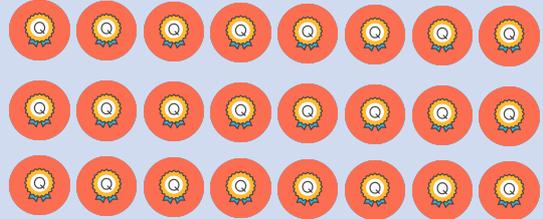
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Quality Assurance



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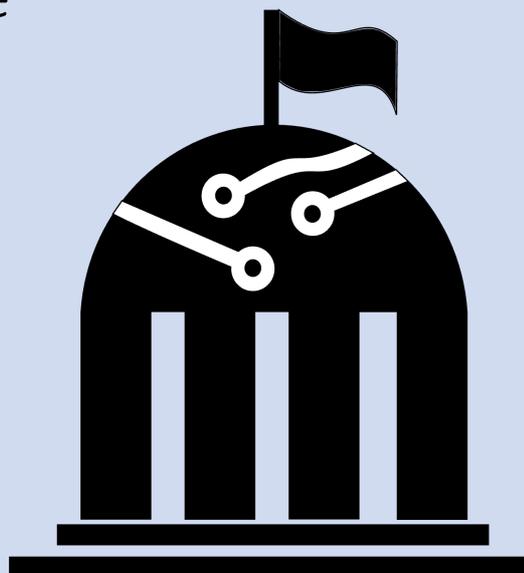
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Governance



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Adoption



THE STRAITS TIMES

SINGAPORE

Universities must change or lose their place to alternative education providers: OECD education chief



Sandra Davie
Senior Education Correspondent

PUBLISHED 30 JAN 2022, 8:00 PM SGT



In the third of a four-part series on the changing role of universities, OECD's education chief Andreas Schleicher talks to The Straits Times' senior education correspondent Sandra Davie on how universities have to evolve to stay relevant.

For some time now, people have been questioning the value of universities. The challenge became more robust in the last two years as the Covid-19 pandemic hit and universities began to deliver their programmes online, said a global education expert.



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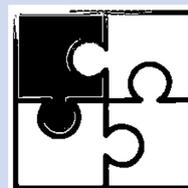


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Open Questions



- Stackability
- Recognition of prior learning
- ...



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Challenges of Digital Microcredentials



- Fragmentation
 - Initiatives
 - Interoperability
 - Complexity



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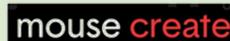


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Fragmentation: Initiatives



OPEN BADGES

Data & Information Inside

Alignment	Expiration Date
Badge Criteria	Issued Date
Badge Description	Issuer
Badge Name	JSON-LD
Digital Signature	Recipient
Evidence	Verification



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Fragmentation: Technology

OPEN BADGES

Data & Information **Inside**

- Alignment
- Badge Criteria
- Badge Description
- Badge Name
- Digital Signature
- Evidence
- Expiration Date
- Issued Date
- Issuer
- JSON-LD
- Recipient
- Verification



Welcome to Inxignia

Inxignia is a platform that gives you a way to collect, manage, and share your education achievements as digital badges and authenticate them with micro credentials to ensure their authenticity to be used in an e-portfolio to show your competencies to society.



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Thank you!

Terima Kasih

