

1. Target Audience

Higher Education Institution staff, such as

- Vice-Rector for Teaching and/or International Affairs
- Head of international mobility
- Teaching Staff or Programme Director
- Learning Technologist or Academic Support Staff

2. Summary

The ECCOE project has developed a range of tools, guides and services to help HEIs and other learning providers collaborate to support the take-up of Digital Micro-Credentials. This guide provides examples of successful collaboration during the project lifetime, which can serve as inspiration for others and showcases the ECCOE tools and services which can support this.

3. Expectations

1. A HEI is seeking to develop micro-credentials, either within an existing partnership (e.g. European University Alliance) or wishes to identify partners to develop a new project.
1. The HEI / learning provider / Alliance / project wishes to improve its portfolio of Learning Opportunities to offer more choice and specialisations to learners

4. Prior Knowledge

1. Awareness of micro-credentials and their potential
2. Knowledge about recognition/accreditation procedures in the institution and in partner institutions
3. Institutional strategy in line with micro-credentials
4. Funding opportunities or in-house financing

5. Description of the Activity

1. ECCOE partners reach out to identified HEIs or Alliances, or are contacted by them
2. HEIs or Alliances identify key people / roles
3. ECCOE partners offer advice on strategy, give demonstrations and produce mock credentials to generate interest and get HEIs/Alliances on board
4. ECCOE partners draw up a bespoke programme or contract to accompany the HEIs/ Alliances with different levels of support

6. Description of the ECCOE system functionalities

ECCOE provides templates and guidelines for

1. Issuing Digital Credentials in the form of EDC Europass Digital Credentials for Learning
 - a. Model Digital Credential
 - b. [ECCOE Translations¹](#)
2. Model Credit Recognition Agreements (MCRA)
 - a. MCRA tool ([Google Sheets prototype²](#))
 - b. MCRA [Wordpress Tool³](#), Password: MCRA2020)
 - c. [MCRA User Guide⁴](#)

¹ <https://eccoe.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/28/2022/07/ECCOE-Translations.xlsx>

² https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qAIY_iT67gUC4m4PB8BET0q9c6bRtBLsduttoMQo70/edit?usp=sharing

3. A Directory of Learning Opportunities

<https://eccoe.eu/eccoe-catalogue-of-learning-opportunities/>

7. Case Study Description

1. An association of HEIs wanted to develop a micro-credential offer to provide lifelong learning opportunities
2. The national ECCOE partner was invited to give a series of presentations to different groups of stakeholders from the Association and from their wider network
3. The presentations and demonstrations covered awareness raisin about micro-credentials from strategy to implementation,
4. The ECCOE partner produced mock credentials to show what they would look like to learners achieving them
5. The ECCOE partner also accompanied learning technologists and programme managers in improving the descriptions of specific fields such as learning outcomes, learning activities and assessment
6. A document was drawn up specifying the roles and responsibilities of each of the stakeholders: (1) the issuing organisation; (2) the organisation responsible for delivering the training and assessment; (3) the organisation responsible for sealing the credentials on behalf of the issuing organisation
7. A roadmap was drawn up to plan the work from conception to full implementation

8. Description of the Result

1. HEIs / Alliances implementing micro-credentials reach a broader spectrum of learners (lifelong, non-traditional)
2. HEIs / Alliances increase their network through implementing mutual recognition practices
3. HEIs / Alliances contribute to increasing student mobility by facilitating the recognition of achievements through micro-credentials
4. HEIs / Alliances support employability by providing learners with trustworthy, reliable and data-rich digital micro-credentials aligned with labour market and societal needs

9. Useful Links

ECIU University Micro-Credentials: a vision for European learners, values and priorities

<https://www.eciu.org/news/presentation-of-the-third-eciu-university-micro-credentials-paper-a-vision-for-european-learners-values-and-priorities>

https://assets-global.website-files.com/551e54eb6a58b73c12c54a18/62ab225477535859cb10972f_Paper%203%20ECIU_corrections.pdf

Adoption of European Council Recommendations on Individual Learning Accounts and Microcredentials

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/06/16/council-recommends-european-approach-to-micro-credentials/>

³ https://eccoe.eu/outputs/io2/mcra_fp/

⁴ <https://eccoe.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/28/2020/12/MCRA-User-Guide.v.1.4.pdf>