Global Dialogue on Micro-Credentials
Initiatives and Perspectives on Small Learning Units from around the World

23 June 2022
Virtual Event
GLOBAL DIALOGUE ON MICRO-CREDENTIALS
Initiatives and Perspectives on Small Learning Units from around the World

In the wake of an increased speed of technology progression, society and the labour market demand increasingly complex skills. The disruptive nature of certain technologies can quickly devalue once-acquired knowledge and enforce reskilling and upskilling efforts. The core principle of micro-credentials is to provide the educational framework for these reskilling and upskilling efforts and to give recognition to newly acquired competences, as learners increasingly want and have to document their personal learning paths throughout their working life. Here, micro-credentials fill a gap between a formal degree-based education, and the fast-changing development of knowledge and labour market needs.

In the European Higher Education Area discussion of micro-credentials has steadily gained momentum over the past year – culminating in the presentation of the European Commission’s proposal for a Council Recommendation on micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability. With Europe due to take an important regulatory step to increase transparency and foster a common understanding of micro-credentials across Higher Education Institutions and across sectors, the seminar within the framework of the DAAD project bologna hub will focus on the global perspectives on Europe’s harmonization efforts and explore with HE representatives of other world regions what challenges remain for the further uptake of these small learning units.

Inspired by the Global Policy Dialogue of the Bologna Process, the event aims at enriching the ongoing discussion on micro-credentials by taking a distinctly global approach. The panel discussions include speakers from all world regions and the breakout sessions will highlight various good practice examples and micro-credential initiatives from the Asia/Pacific region, Africa and the Americas.
### Agenda

**Thursday, 23 June 2022**

All times are Central European Summer Time, CEST (UTC+2)

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>09:30</td>
<td><strong>Opening of Online Platform</strong></td>
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| 10:00  | **Welcome and Introduction**  
Stephan Geifes, Director, Erasmus+ National Agency Higher Education, DAAD |
| 10:10  | **Keynote**: Global Dialogue on Micro-Credentials – A Conversation With Many Threads  
Mark Brown, Director, National Institute for Digital Learning, Dublin City University, Ireland |
| 10:30  | **State of Play**: Council Recommendation on a European approach to micro-credentials for life-long learning and employability  
William O’Keeffe, Policy Officer, Vocational Education and Training Unit, DG EMPL, European Commission |
| 10:45  | **Discussion**: Global Dialogue on Micro-Credentials (Part I)  
- Hazman Shah Abdullah, Emeritus Professor Universiti Teknologi MARA & former Quality Assurance Expert at Malaysian Qualification Agency, Malaysia  
- Koen Nomden, Team Leader, Transparency and Recognition of Skills and Qualifications, DG EMPL, European Commission  
- Julie Reddy, Chief Executive Officer, South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)  
- Wesley Teter, Senior Consultant, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education  
- Facilitator: David Akrami Flores, Head of Section EU04, DAAD |
| 11:30  | **Coffee Break**                                                                            |
| 11:45  | **Breakout Sessions. Perspectives and Initiatives from around the World**                  |
| 1.)    | **Asia/Pacific**  
- Australia’s Micro-Credential Marketplace  
  David Christie, Managing Director, Universities Admissions Centre, Australia  
  Dudley Collinson, Chief Information Officer, Universities Admissions Centre, Australia  
- KMUTT for Lifelong Education (KMUTT4Life*),  
  Bundit Thipakorn, King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Thailand  
- Facilitator: Sebastian Gries, Programme Manager, European Union Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE), Jakarta, Indonesia |
| 2.)    | **Africa**  
- Microcredentials and Digital Badges: Opening Higher Education in South Africa through Innovative Recognition  
  Barbara Jones, Curriculum Development Specialist, University of the Western Cape, South Africa  
- From academia to workplace: A micro-credentialing methodology for improved recognition of HE employability skills  
  Lourdes Guàrdia, Professor and Deputy Dean of teaching at Psychology and Education, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya  
  Marcelo Maina, Professor and ICT and education Master program director at Psychology and Education, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya |
- Creating successful careers through recognition and validation of skills with digital micro credentials in Africa
  *Satu Järvinen*, Founder and CEO of SkillSafari.io, Finland
- Facilitator: *Tim Maschuw*, Section EU04, DAAD

3.) **The Americas**
- Micro-Credentials at the State University of New York (SUNY)
  *Cynthia Proctor*, Director of Communications & Academic Policy Development, Provost’s Office, SUNY System Administration, USA
  *Deb G. Pernat*, Program Coordinator for Microcredentials and Workforce Development, Institute for Rural Vitality, SUNY Cobleskill, USA
- Building a Connected Micro-credential Ecosystem
  *Rich Louttet*, Program Manager, eCampus Ontario, Canada
- UCollege Javeriano
  *Alejandra María González Correal*, Director, UCollege Javeriano
  Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá, Colombia
- Facilitator: *Ann Katherine Isaacs*, Co-chair, Bologna Process CG Global Policy Dialogue & Member of the Steering Committee, MICROBOL project

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<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>13:45</td>
<td>Reports from Breakout Sessions (Facilitators, 5 Min. each)</td>
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| 14:00 | **Discussion:** Global Dialogue on Micro-Credentials (Part II)  
- *Courtney Brown*, Vice president of Impact and Planning, Lumina Foundation, Indianapolis, USA  
- *José Escamilla*, Associate Director of the Institute for the Future of Education, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico  
- *Peter van der Hijden*, Higher Education Strategy Advisor, Belgium  
- *Leesa Wheelahan*, Professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Canada  
- Facilitator: *Michael Hörig*, Director, DAAD Brussels Office |
| 14:50 | Wrap up/Final Remarks  
*David Akrami Flores*, Head of Section EU04, DAAD |
| 15:00 | End |

**Conference Language:** English
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This event is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)