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PRESS RELEASE #3

Micro-Credentials as a central component of the Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens Project

Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens was designed to support European citizens in understanding and using the emerging technologies of the new Digital Age.

The project aims to **promote a more inclusive European digital society** by reducing the digital divide and empowering, in particular, groups with greater needs in terms of digital skills.

In a context of rapid digital transformation, continuous skills development has become essential for citizens to remain active, informed, and employable. Within this framework, the Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens project integrates micro-credentials as a practical and innovative mechanism to support flexible learning pathways and the recognition of skills.

Accordingly to the EU Council Recommendation of June 2022*, **Micro-credentials** recognize the achievement of learning outcomes from short, goal-oriented learning experiences. They focus on specific competences, abilities, and areas of knowledge, enabling learners to demonstrate clear achievements without the need to follow long or traditional qualification pathways. Within Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens, micro-credentials act as a **bridge between learning, skills development, and real-world applicability.**

*Council of the European Union (2022). Council Recommendation of 16 June 2022 on a European approach to micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability. Official Journal of the European Union, C 243, 27.6.2022, p. 10–25. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022H0627\(02\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022H0627(02))

The **Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens Curriculum**, collaboratively developed by the project consortium, constitutes the educational foundation of the micro-credentials. It addresses both technological knowledge and transversal competences that are essential in today's digital world. This curriculum will be made available in the form of an **eLearning course**, designed as an open, flexible, and accessible learning environment, enabling adult learners - particularly those with low levels of digital literacy - to learn autonomously and at their own pace, while developing technical, cognitive, and social skills required to operate in complex digital environments.

As qualification systems continue to evolve regarding the formal integration of micro-credentials, Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens is actively contributing to this process by taking a transparent, structured and quality-focused approach to designing its training programmes. The project demonstrates how micro-credentials can be effectively used within EU-funded initiatives to deliver relevant, flexible, and future-oriented education.

Through this integrated approach, Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens shows how **micro-credentials can effectively support digital empowerment, inclusion, and skills recognition**, contributing to a more prepared, resilient, and digitally competent European society.

“The impact of microcredentials on career advancement is significant. They enhance **learners' employability** by equipping them with **in-demand skills** and **certifications** recognized by employers. Microcredentials also facilitate **career transitions**, allowing learners to adapt to evolving job market demands and pursue new opportunities.”**

**Ahuja, V. (2024). *Microcredentials: Empowering Learners for Career Advancement*. 10.4018/979-8-3693-0343-6.ch003.

Working Together: Progress and Key Actions

Since October 2025, when the **Scientific Advisory Board** was established, its members have been working together as a key advisory body for the project, bringing together one representative from each partner organisation selected according to their **expertise in key areas such as digitalisation, education and training, and disruptive technologies**. The Board is currently finalising the review of the content of the 13 Units that make up the Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens Curriculum, ensuring that all materials are up to date, relevant, and firmly grounded in evidence-based knowledge. In parallel, the Consortium has mobilised **more than 70 professionals to conduct an internal pilot** of the Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens eLearning course and Micro-credentials, to ensure the quality and suitability of the materials for adults with low digital skills and adult education providers.

In the months ahead, the project will support 1.400 adults, currently in employment or seeking work, with low or medium digital skills, by providing access to a comprehensive eLearning Course focused on disruptive technologies. Of these, 1.050 learners will also complete a structured assessment to certify their skills and obtain the Europe 4.0 Digital Citizens Microcredentials.

If you identify with this profile or work closely with individuals who do, we invite you to follow our forthcoming news or contact our team directly for further information.

Discover more - stay tuned to our website



<https://europe40digitalcitizens.eu/>