

Newsletter

INTRODUCTION: BEYOND EUROPE WITH MICRO-CREDENTIALS

The **Beyond Europe with Micro-Credentials (BEM)** project is a pioneering initiative under the **Erasmus+ Programme**, designed to enhance **vocational education and training (VET)** systems beyond the European Union. BEM unites institutions from **Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia, Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Norway, and Germany** to develop **recognizable, transferable, and labor-market-relevant micro-credentials**.

- ◆ **Strengthen the recognition of micro-credentials** in non-EU countries by adapting European best practices.

- ◆ **Develop a framework** that ensures **validation, accreditation, and documentation** of micro-credentials.

- ◆ **Support labor market integration** by creating micro-credentials tailored to industry needs and sectoral demands.

- ◆ **Enhance accessibility to learning** for underrepresented groups, including displaced workers, people with limited educational opportunities, and those in structurally weak regions.

- ◆ **Foster international collaboration** between VET providers, national qualifications authorities, and industry partners to promote a common understanding of micro-credentials.

This newsletter provides updates on key milestones, insights into micro-credential development, and highlights upcoming project activities.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

Stock-taking and Research Phase Completed

- Definition of branches and target groups for micro-credential development.
- State-of-the-art analysis of European VET policies.
- Completion of a SWOT analysis on micro-credential frameworks.

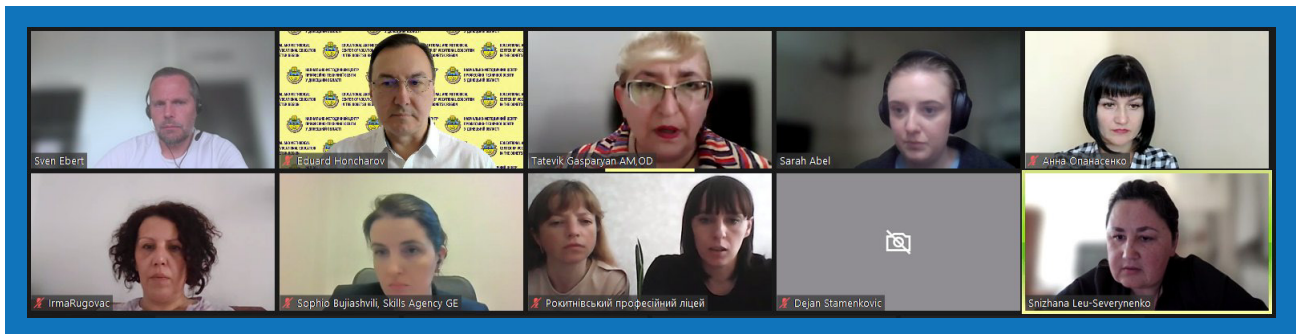
Development of a Common Understanding

- Created a methodological framework for micro-credential development.
- Comparison of existing learning outcome descriptions in partner countries.
- Developed a comprehensive template for micro-credentials, including assessment criteria.

Micro-Credential Design and Piloting Underway

- Designed draft versions of micro-credentials across partner countries.
- Incorporated workplace-related content to enhance relevance.
- Defined learning outcomes and credit recognition across different sectors.
- Engaged with sectoral partners for validation and piloting.

MICRO-CREDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS



To strengthen the development and implementation of micro-credentials, the BEM project organized a series of online workshops engaging VET schools and training providers from the eight partner countries.

The primary objectives of these workshops were:

- Standardizing Micro-Credentials – Establishing a unified approach for defining learning outcomes, assessment criteria, and validation methods.
- Ensuring Stakeholder Engagement – Collaborating with educators, policymakers, and industry representatives to align micro-credentials with labor market needs.
- Knowledge Dissemination – Providing structured video resources to support ongoing professional development beyond the project’s scope.

These sessions represent a significant milestone in the BEM project, setting a foundation for the next phase of micro-credential development, including digitalization and broader recognition.

MICRO-CREDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ACROSS PARTNER COUNTRIES

A total **52 micro-credentials** have been designed across six countries, covering key sectors such as **construction, IT, hospitality, manufacturing, and agriculture**. Each country has focused on **industry-aligned skills** that enhance employability and lifelong learning opportunities.

Sectoral Distribution of Micro-Credentials:



CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING

Roof installation, plumbing, insulation techniques.



HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

Culinary tourism, hotel service marketing, bakery and pastry production.



IT AND DIGITAL SKILLS

Computer network support, Linux OS, microcontroller programming, digital printing.



AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

CTrout breeding, medicinal plant harvesting, agro-tourism.



INDUSTRIAL AND MANUFACTURING

Textile production, metal sorting, production of tents and printed goods.

Micro-Credentials by Country:



Armenia

Graphic design, hotel services marketing, Linux OS software technician.



Ukraine

Construction and energy skills, electric cable laying, bakery and pastry preparation, manufacturing.



Georgia

Agriculture, welding, computer network and software support.



Montenegro

Agro-tourism, food safety, digital textile printing.



North Macedonia

Waste management, e-commerce, roofing, project management.



Serbia

Industrial robotics, career guidance, electrical installations, microcontroller programming.

Each micro-credential is **industry-driven**, ensuring **alignment with local labor market needs** and enabling **cross-border recognition**.



PARTNER MEETINGS AND COLLABORATION

Coordination Meeting in Podgorica, Montenegro

BEM project partners gathered in Podgorica, Montenegro to review progress, showcase activities, and lay out exciting future plans. This meeting marked a significant milestone in our mission to reshape vocational education and training through micro-credentials.

[View Meeting Highlights](#)

BEM Coordination Meeting in Skopje, North Macedonia

Partners came together in Skopje to discuss progress, review milestones, and refine strategies. The meeting focused on innovative approaches to micro-credentials and enhancing their impact on vocational education. As the discussions concluded, concrete plans were set in motion to drive further excellence and innovation in the project.

[View Meeting Highlights](#)



BEM Project Coordination Meeting in Niš, Serbia

From October 30 to November 1, the Nikola Tesla Electrical Engineering School in Niš, Serbia hosted the 4th Coordination Meeting of the BEM project. BEM Partners convened to:

- Refine the methodology for flexible and labor-market-relevant micro-credentials.
- Share feedback and updates on the micro-credential creation process.
- Discuss digitalization strategies and dissemination efforts.
- Plan the final steps to align the project outcomes with learner and industry needs.

[View Meeting Highlights](#)

NEXT STEPS AND UPCOMING MILESTONES

- **Micro-Credentials Going Digital** – Integration into Skillsbank, Europass, and Digital Credentials.
- **Valorization and Recognition** – Ensuring accreditation, quality assurance, and sector-wide adoption.
- **Scaling and Dissemination** – Expanding stakeholder engagement and increasing visibility.

These key achievements pave the way for a structured, transferable, and labor-market-relevant micro-credential system beyond Europe.

CLOSING REMARKS AND GET INVOLVED

The **BEM project** continues to make strides in developing and implementing **micro-credentials** that align with industry needs and improve vocational education across partner countries. As we move forward, we encourage **educators, policymakers, and industry representatives** to collaborate with us in shaping the future of skills recognition.

Stay Connected and Follow Our Progress!

Facebook Page: [BEM Project on Facebook](#)

*Together, we are shaping the future of **vocational education and skills** recognition beyond Europe.*



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