

## European micro-credentials and professional qualifications certification system in the banking & financial services sector

Dear Readers,

2025 is here, and with it comes new opportunities, fresh beginnings, and exciting adventures. Whether you're looking to expand your knowledge, embrace sustainable finance, or gain specialized skills, this year is brimming with possibilities. Here's to a year filled with growth, inspiration, and success for all of us. Together, let's make it one to remember!

The entire MiCreS team wishes you and your loved ones health, happiness, and prosperity in the year ahead.



### WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE RECENTLY COMPLETED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CURRICULUM FOR OUR FIRST MICRO-CREDENTIAL

This is a key output for the micro-credential ecosystem (the work package 2) and an important milestone on our journey to launch the first European micro-credential in sustainable finance next year.

### ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) FINANCE SKILLS THROUGH TRAINING AND INNOVATION

**ESG factors** are increasingly important in financial services due to their role in assessing risks, unlocking opportunities, and aligning with global sustainability trends. We have drafted a first micro-credential that will enable learners to:

- 1. Understand the ESG landscape** including the European, UN and Global responses such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the EU Green Deal, the EU Taxonomy, and the Global Reporting Initiative and the roles of various actors (government, regulators, business and citizens) in each of the key aspects of E, S and G and the challenges and opportunities as well as the possible models for delivering on ESG objectives.
- 2. Demonstrate an understanding of the reporting and disclosure frameworks** for business and the implications for businesses and financial services institutions.
- 3. Obtain a high-level understanding of ESG risks and opportunities** within the financial services sector and how these are addressed by the different segments within the sector.



More specifically, the micro credential will cover the main tenets of ESG and will outline the regulatory framework in ESG & Future Developments in this Area.

## EVENTS 2024

Don't miss the opportunity to relive the best moments! Visit the [MICRES website events](#) section to explore photos from all the 2024 events

These events were organized in partnership with **key stakeholders** and marked significant milestones in the development and launch of our projects. Each gathering provided a platform for sharing knowledge, fostering collaboration, and discussing the future of **sustainable finance**. From insightful panel discussions to networking opportunities, our events brought together professionals and experts from various sectors to drive meaningful progress.

### SECOND PARTNERS MEETING

The second face-to-face transnational partners meeting was hosted by IEF in **Barcelona, Spain**. This meeting was a great opportunity to discuss about the next project activities, which will foster employability through micro-credentials. The MiCreS project indeed aims to establish the first blockchain-based ecosystem in Europe for micro-credentials in financial services.



### MICRES IN NORTH MACEDONIA

**Macedonian Banking Association, MBA** – MBA has organized a special event for the official promotion of the MiCreS project in front of representatives from the banking sector and the academic community. The event welcomed over 200 guests from banking, academia, financial institutions, and Chambers of Commerce.



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# PROGRESS ON THE KEY OBJECTIVES

In recent months, the MiCreS initiative has focused on several key activities:

- **Green Finance & ESG Integration:** Development of modules aimed at promoting sustainable finance practices and integrating ESG principles into various strategies.
- **Training Programs:** Creation of educational resources to equip professionals with essential knowledge and skills relevant to emerging trends in the financial sector.
- **National Qualification Frameworks (NQFs):** Ensuring alignment of training initiatives with NQFs to promote consistency, quality, and recognition across participating countries.

These efforts reflect the initiative's commitment to advancing education and fostering innovation in the financial industry.

## NEXT STEPS

Stay tuned for updates on key milestones and upcoming initiatives. We'll share progress reports, deadlines, and important actions needed from stakeholders. Check our timeline for upcoming milestones and key dates! Additionally, we are preparing for the March 2025 meeting, where MiCreS members will review the project progress and discuss the next steps.



Development of accredited micro-credentials in green finance in Ireland and Malta (Work Package 3)



Development of a prototype for micro-credentialing on the EdQ blockchain (Work Package 4)



Preparation for the March 2025 meeting in Milan, where MICRES members will review project progress and discuss the next steps

## STAY IN TOUCH!

Stay connected with us on LinkedIn for the latest updates and access to our online platform. Don't miss the opportunity to connect, learn, and grow with our community.

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