



One Block for Educational Credentials



What is OBEC?

OBEC is an Erasmus+ project that aims to explore the potentials of Blockchain technology to promote competency development and recognition of skills and qualifications by creating an innovative system to issue and validate learning credentials on a trial basis. Through this effort, the project's goal is to encourage the professional and academic integration of migrants, exchange students, and individuals with alternative learning backgrounds. Focusing on the key issue of lack of uniformity and transparency in systems for validating credentials, it is expected that this effort will also result in positive effects in promoting employability, empowerment, and accessibility to the labour market.

What's inside this issue:

WHAT IS OBEC?

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This project is co-funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ Programme under the call K A 204 - Strategic Partnerships for adult education.

Project Code: 2020- 1 -SE01 - K A 204-07 7803 .

Did you know?

Over 11% of highly educated Swedes work in a job they are overqualified for. Among foreigners in Sweden, this is 30.1!

Source: [OECD](#)

Project research phase completed

The first stage of the project has now been concluded. This involved researching into the problems which OBEC aims to offer solutions to: the barriers which people face when trying to be recognised for their skills and knowledge from previous studies or experience, especially after moving to another country. In order to understand this well, all of our partners have surveyed and carried out in-depth interviews with working and work-seeking migrants, international students, and those who have an alternative education background, as well as the institutions which support them all and innovators who work with the target technology.

In total, we heard from 126 different individuals, 26 institutions which support them, and 17 innovators. All of this data is now being compiled into a final report laying out the problems faced and helping us to understand how to tailor our future work to their needs.

Next station: Implementation

Our new focus is now on the more practical second stage of the project. The ultimate result of this will be to develop and test courses that will be certified on our own database for verifying educational credentials. These courses, varying in content from partner to partner, will begin close to the end of this year. In the meantime, the partners are developing the contents to be taught on the courses and will soon be developing the system for certifying them.

Swideas's course will focus on working on a circular economy context, soft skills for a responsible entrepreneurial mindset, how to set up a business, and the how to use blockchain technology to verify credentials. Sound interesting? We are looking for participants like you. Follow us on social media or via our website.

 **OBEC**
PROJECT
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