

## Micro-credentials in Construction



From partner collaboration and knowledge-sharing activities to new project insights and reflections from the pilot implementation, the updates below capture some of the key moments shaping this stage of the project.



### Project Meetings

#### 4th Transnational Project Meeting Xanthi - Greece

On **22–23 September 2026**, partners gathered in **Xanthi, Greece**, for Green Circle's **4th Transnational Project Meeting**, hosted by **Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH)**.

The two-day meeting focused on reviewing project progress and coordinating the final activities ahead of project completion. Particular attention was given to the **pilot implementation of the micro-credentials**, the development of the related guide, communication and dissemination activities, exploitation of project results, and preparations for the final conference.

Partners also visited the University's **SeiSMeCon Laboratory**, where they were introduced to applications related to training and green skills in the construction sector.

The meeting provided an important opportunity to align on the project's final phase, review achievements to date, and coordinate the remaining steps towards successful completion.

A warm thank you to **Democritus University of Thrace** for hosting the meeting and for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all partners throughout the two days.

## Newsletter No 6



Project Meetings  
4th Transnational Project Meeting



Communication & Dissemination  
Highlights



Deliverables in process



Pilot Experiences & Testimonies





## Communication & Dissemination Highlights

### ➤ 3rd Transnational Webinar on the Microcredentials Quality Assurance Model Successfully Concluded

The 3rd Transnational Webinar of the Green Circle project, entitled “Microcredentials Quality Assurance Model”, was successfully held on 22 June 2026, bringing together project partners, stakeholders and experts to discuss the role of microcredentials in supporting lifelong learning, skills recognition and professional development in the construction sector.

The webinar opened with an introduction by **Ana Dias** from **TecMinho** as the **leader of the project**, who presented the Green Circle project, its objectives and its work towards the development, testing and assessment of microcredentials for green skills in construction. She also referred to the project’s microcredentials ecosystem, including the strategy, taxonomy, quality assurance work and upcoming piloting activities across partner countries.

### Central Remarks

**Keynote Speaker: George Bekiaridis**

A central part of the webinar was the presentation by **George Bekiaridis** from **Active Citizens Partnership (ACP)**, the lead partner of WP4, who presented the Microcredentials Quality Assurance Model designed within the project. As WP4 leader, ACP has played a key role in shaping the methodological framework, including the quality assurance rules and processes, the technical and digital design requirements for issuing microcredentials, and the selection of appropriate technologies for their creation, delivery, management and certification.

**Mr. Bekiaridis** highlighted the importance of developing trusted, transparent and transferable microcredentials that can respond more quickly to emerging labour market needs than traditional qualification systems, especially in a sector facing increasing green and digital skills demands. His presentation also addressed the technical requirements needed to ensure transferability and interoperability, which are essential enabling factors for scalability, flexible learning pathways and trust in the recognition of acquired skills. Furthermore, the presentation underlined the importance of recognised European frameworks and tools, such as EQF, ECTS, ESCO and Europass Digital Credentials, in supporting transparency, comparability and cross-border recognition.

**Keynote Speaker: Anastasia Pouliou**

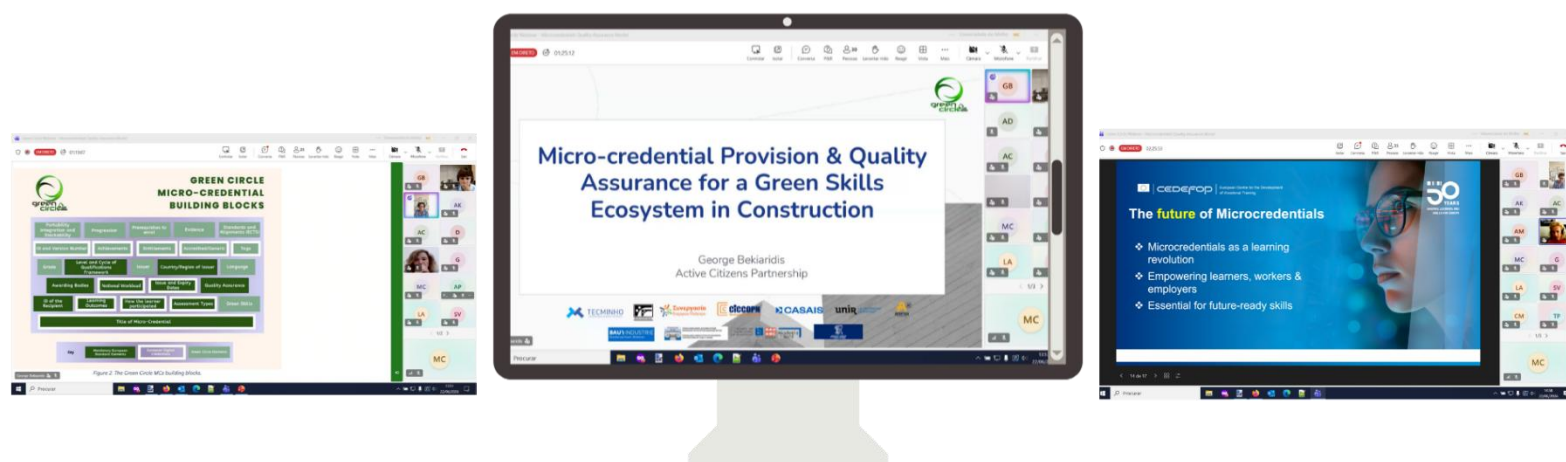
The webinar was further enriched by **Anastasia Pouliou** from **Cedefop**, who shared insights from ongoing European research on microcredentials, highlighting their relevance for VET, labour market needs, quality assurance and recognition, while linking the project’s work to wider European policy discussions.

The session concluded with a discussion on the importance of industry involvement in ensuring that microcredentials respond to real skills gaps and support effective upskilling and reskilling in the construction sector.

The webinar was facilitated by **Angela Karadog** from **PONTYDYSCU**, who coordinated the session and discussion among speakers and participants.

Overall, the webinar contributed to the wider dialogue on how microcredentials can support green skills development and more flexible, labour-market-relevant learning across Europe.

 Catch up on the key discussions and insights.  
Watch the webinar recording [here!](#)



 From the Green Circle Blog

## Workforce Challenges on Today's Construction Sites

The construction sector is facing a dual challenge: a shortage of workers and a growing loss of practical knowledge as experienced professionals retire. At the same time, new demands linked to sustainability, energy efficiency and circular construction require workers to continuously develop new skills.

The article explores why **micro-credentials** can offer a practical response to these challenges, providing short, targeted and certified learning opportunities that fit the realities of construction work. It also highlights how **Green Circle** is testing this approach by developing micro-credentials in green construction skills together with companies, training providers and universities across Europe.

 Read the full article [here](#)



Visit Website

## Promotional Materials

The [e-brochure](#) of the project is now available in all partner languages!

**Explore** this interactive guide to discover how micro-credentials can support green **skills development** and help construction professionals adapt to the green transition

 Explore the brochure →



## Deliverables in process

### ➤ Green Circle Advances Its Sustainability Plan

The Green Circle project is in the process of developing its Long-Term Action Plan (Deliverable 12), setting out a pragmatic three-year roadmap to sustain the project's outputs beyond the EU funding period. The plan, approved by the Quality Assurance Committee at the September transnational meeting in Xanthi, Greece, centres on four pillars:



- ✓ Maintaining the partner network through a light-touch Memorandum of Understanding,
- ✓ Achieving formal recognition of the eight green construction micro-credentials in national qualification frameworks and Europass,
- ✓ Developing viable business models
- ✓ Securing future funding for microcredential projects.

The action plan is structured around three layers of activity; **Keep**, **Grow**, and **Transform**, covering core network activities such as quarterly webinars and an annual conference, collective efforts on recognition and accreditation, and future initiatives including new Erasmus+ proposals, a successful INTERREG proposal GREEN4FARM, plans for a digital micro-credential wallet, and joint proposals with the MASTERY project and BuildSkills Academy.

## ➤ Impressions of the Green Circle pilot scheme at BAU ABC in Mellendorf, Germany

▶ With the successful delivery of the first two pilot courses, Germany has reached an important milestone in the European project 'Green Circle: Micro-Credentials in Construction'. The pilot scheme not only demonstrated the participants' keen interest in the topics of sustainability and climate-friendly construction, but also showed how modern continuing professional development formats can be designed to be practical and tailored to participants' needs.

### Germany gets off to a successful start in the pilot phase of the Green Circle Micro-Credentials

On **11 August 2026**, the pilot phase began with the course '**Fundamentals of the Circular Economy and Green Skills**'. The focus was on the principles of a sustainable construction industry, the importance of green skills and the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Participants engaged intensively with the challenges and opportunities presented by the transition to a resource-efficient and sustainable construction sector.

The very next day, the knowledge gained was put into practice in the second course, '**Innovative Paving Surfaces with Klimastein**'. Here, participants learnt how sustainable paving surfaces can be professionally planned and implemented. The combination of theoretical principles and practical application proved particularly valuable and highlighted how new approaches can be directly integrated into day-to-day work.



### Micro-credentials in Europass:

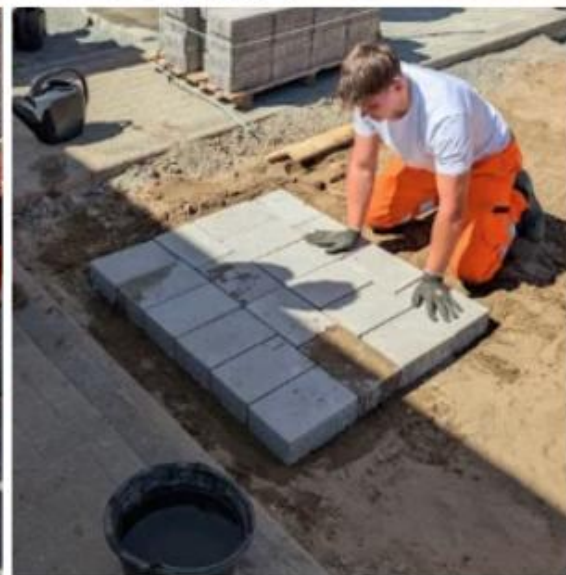
A particular focus of the pilot project was on micro-credentials and their digital documentation in Europass. An interesting picture emerged: for most participants, both Europass and the concept of micro-credentials were completely unknown before the course began. Nevertheless, all participants created a Europass account as part of the pilot courses in order to receive their digital certificate of competence.

Unlike a traditional certificate of attendance, a micro-credential documents not only attendance at a course, but also the knowledge, skills and competences actually acquired. Based on defined learning outcomes and corresponding assessments, it transparently shows which competences have been demonstrated and which learning objectives have been achieved. This provides employers with significantly more meaningful evidence than conventional certificates and enables them to better assess learners' qualifications.

## Conclusion:

The first pilot of the Green Circle Micro-Credentials in Germany was successful and provided valuable insights for the further implementation of the project. Participants rated the practical content and the direct link to everyday working life particularly highly. The combination of theoretical foundations and practical application was perceived as useful and easy to follow.

At the same time, the pilot phase made it clear that both micro-credentials and Europass are still relatively unknown. This made the high level of acceptance of the new approach all the more remarkable: all participants set up a Europass account to receive their digital certificate of competence. This demonstrates that there is considerable interest in modern, transparent and Europe-wide recognised certificates that make acquired knowledge, skills and competences visible



The experiences gained from the pilot project highlight the potential of micro-credentials for the construction industry. They can help to provide targeted evidence of green skills, make individual learning pathways visible and improve the comparability of qualifications for employers. In doing so, they make an important contribution to the sustainable and forward-looking development of vocational training in the construction sector.

Special thanks go to all participants (second-year road maintenance apprentice trainees), the lecturers **Dorothee Mix** and **Michael Burchert** from *biwena – Bildungswerkstatt für nachhaltige Entwicklung e.V.*, the project partner **BERDING BETON GmbH**, and the colleagues at **BAU ABC**, whose commitment played a key role in the success of the pilot project.

## Follow the Project



<https://green-circle.eu/>



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## Stay tuned

### Stay Tuned for the Green Circle Final Conference!

The Final Conference will take place on 10–11 November 2026 in Portugal, hosted by CICCOPN.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details on the programme and upcoming activities!

For more information, please contact the project coordinator  
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