

LESSONS LEARNT

Developing solutions for Digitally Signed Credentials and Open Badges in VET and Higher Education

#2

 www.discovet.eu

The DiscoVET approach: solutions, tools, and training

The significance of the DISCO VET project



<https://youtu.be/RBpgl5fkSEc>

The DISCO VET project came up with a data structure of course and content typology based on current European and national standards and new research. The resulting grid of extra metadata enabled a better mapping and manageability of their badges for VET, HE and CPD institutions.

Based on the grid, an open-source displayer was developed, accompanied by a 30 hours course on open badges and digitally signed certificates targeted to the issuers and validators to support the implementation of the displayer platform in their institutions.

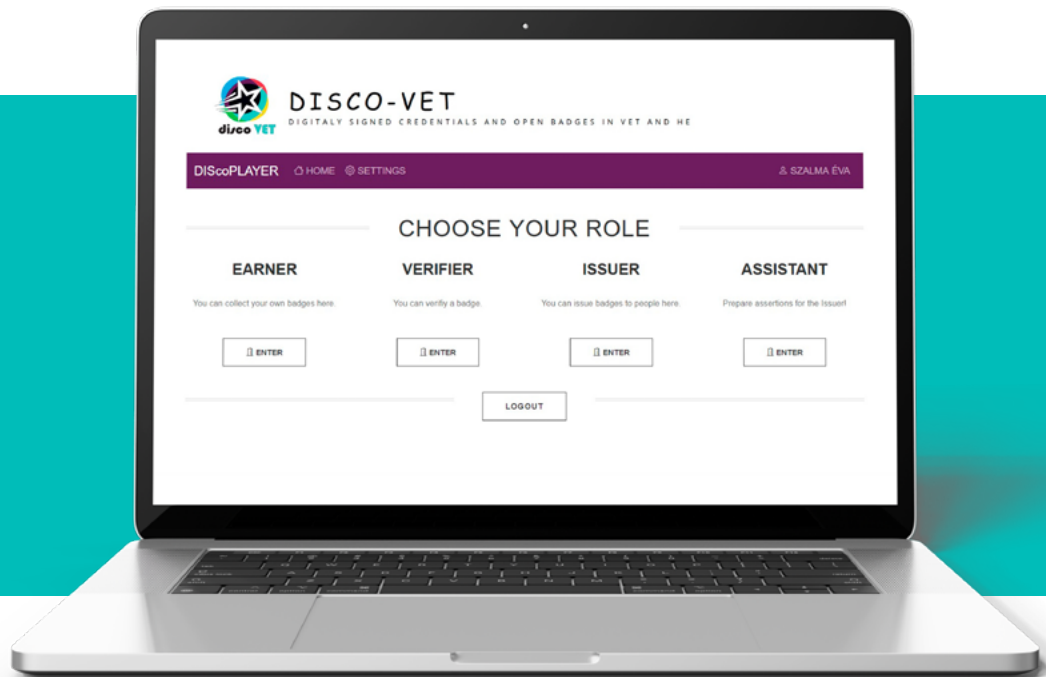


Basis for development



Desk research in 2021 was focused on the developments in Hungary, Spain, Greece, Lithuania, Latvia and at EU/International level regarding open badges and digitally signed credentials, IT, and educational administration technology of the last 2 years in partner countries, EU and beyond.

Field research including interviews and online surveys to obtain employers, trainers, and learners' input regarding the challenges in this area, how they are addressed so far and what services, tools, training content can be useful for their stakeholders' specific roles (issuer, earner, displayer, validator), according to their views.



DIScoPlayer

The DIScoPLAYER badge displayer platform (DcP for short) is an open source displayer platform (repository), where educational providers and learners alike could collect (issue, earn, store, view) their digital badges with meaningful and comprehensive searching possibilities.

There are different roles in DcP:
Earner, Verifier, Issuer, Assistant, and Admin.

➔ The URL of the DcP: dcp.discoveret.eu:3000/abc

What can you accomplish in DcP based on your role?



EARNERS

May upload the badges they earned: they can sort, comment, and tag those badges, and most importantly share their badges easily with student administration, HR offices or simply to any potential employer by e-mail, A4 paper or pdf print out or.

Badges issued in Moodle, Canvas, Ilias or Badgr can also be uploaded and managed in DCP.



ISSUERS

Can create badges by defining their content in terms of learning outcomes and criteria, as well as badge typology (general, adult education, language education, vocational education or higher education). They can manage the awardees in bulks and prepare badges before awarding them.



WHO ARE THE ASSISTANTS?

They are able to help the Issuers of their organisation in preparing issuing of badges. They cannot create new badges and they cannot decide on who will fulfil the criteria to get them, but in any other steps, they can replace the Issuers.

User guide

Here is the complete user guide to download (pdf):

➔ [USER GUIDE](#)



Registration to the platform

You can self-register to the platform as Earner (of digital credentials). Registering on the platform as an Earner have no obligations and it is free. To gain another role and its licenses (e.g. to issue badges), you have to contact the DcP team on dcp@mti.bme.hu.

Course on Open Badges and Digitally Signed Credentials

It is a 30 hours informal online course about Open Badges and Digitally Signed Credentials.

The informal online course about Open Badges and Digitally Signed Credentials course will provide you with the knowledge and tools to familiarise yourself with the theoretical context as well as easy to follow step-by-step guides to create, issue and manage your own digital badges and certificates.

The course consists of 3 modules. Each module has 2 or 3 units. Units consists of a video presentation of the material, slides that can be downloaded and additional readings, that can further the learners knowledge.

Finishing each module you will have a short, self-assessment test and an assessment, where you can test your practical knowledge. Completing it, you will receive a module badge as proof of your learning.

The course is available in English, Lithuanian, Greek, Spanish, Latvian and Hungarian.



Introducing the modules

► In **MODULE 1** you will be introduced into digitally signed open badges and receive a tutorial material and video about creating badges in Moodle and in other environments.

► In **MODULE 2** you will learn about how badge displays work and what are the advantages of using them. You got to familiarise yourself with is the European Digital Credentials (EDC) for Learning Infrastructure that is maintained by the European Union and the DISCOPLAYER platform. By the end of this module you will be able to register as earner to either or both platforms, be able to collect and upload your digital badges into a repository from where you can display and/or share them. You will also be aware of the process of how a badge is issued and how is it possible to acquire Issuer rights in the platforms.

► The micro-credentials ecosystem is vast and dispersed, having gained however a powerful momentum in the recent years. Education actors, the labour market, national and EU institutions, citizens and individuals are all involved in this process and there are multiple challenges, perspectives and benefits in the play. In **MODULE 3** you are provided with an overview of the world of micro-credentials. If you want to learn more about Microcredentials, see the first installment of the Lesson Learnt Kit of the DISCO VET project: Developing solutions.

The structure of a digital badge system is often described as an ecosystem, meaning that all parts of the system are interconnected. Because badges need to be open to multiple users, such as students, employers, and educational institutions, this eco-environment is often referred to as a system of open badges, which means that information is shared rather than owned.

What types of digital badges are there in the Moodle framework? When can they be issued? How and for what reason do we exhibit them? What data do I need? Such and similar questions are answered in the second unit of the module.





How can you access the full course?

Register at <https://lms.discovet.eu>. The course is available in English, Lithuanian, Greek, Spanish, Latvian and Hungarian. You can also change the language of the Moodle learning management system to any of these languages for your convenience.

Enroll the course by registering (it is free of any obligation) or by accessing the learning materials with a guest account.

If you would like to learn all about the platform, there is an optional learning path for those who are interested in the full operation of the EDCI platform: [EDCIcourse](#)



How can I receive a certification for my learning?

If you complete the assignments at the end of each module and succeed on the self-assessment test, you will get an open badge certifying your efforts. Completing all three modules, you will receive a course-badge. To access the self-assessment test and the assignments you need to register.

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