

Quality of Credentials in Open Education

Pathways and technologies for recognition, transparency and portability

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Context

The recognition and transfer of individual credits through ECTS was created for an era of physical mobility, and is optimised accordingly. Bologna tools and EU instruments, such as the ECTS, ESG, diploma supplement and the EQF, support the **accreditation, award and recognition of qualifications** in the areas of formal learning, and only extremely broadly recognition procedures for non-formal and informal learning.

Problematization

Open Educational Providers are creating **parallel systems of credentials** that are not even described in terms of ECTS and ESG – leading to a situation where millions of students per year are enrolling in open courses offered by **universities** and other educational institutions which do not necessarily award valid or recognised forms of credit.

OEPass was designed to address these issues

1

Definition of Quality Credentials

2

Enhance Transparency of Quality Credentials by creating a Learning Passport (Diploma Supplement for ECTS)

3

Propose Technological Methods to Strengthen Automatic Exchange of Recognition Information

4

Clarify Concepts around Open Recognition (identity, assessment, QA, workload estimation etc)

5

Study and Predict the Impact of Open Education Recognition (scenario building)

Partners

- Duale Hochschule Baden-Württemberg (DHBW), Germany
- Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME), Hungary
- European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN), United Kingdom
- Knowledge Innovation Centre (KIC), Malta
- Lithuanian Association of Distance and e-Learning (LieDM), Lithuania
- Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft e.V., Germany
- Tampere University of Technology (TUT), Finland
- Universidad nacional de educación a distancia (UNED), Spain

Examples of Credentials

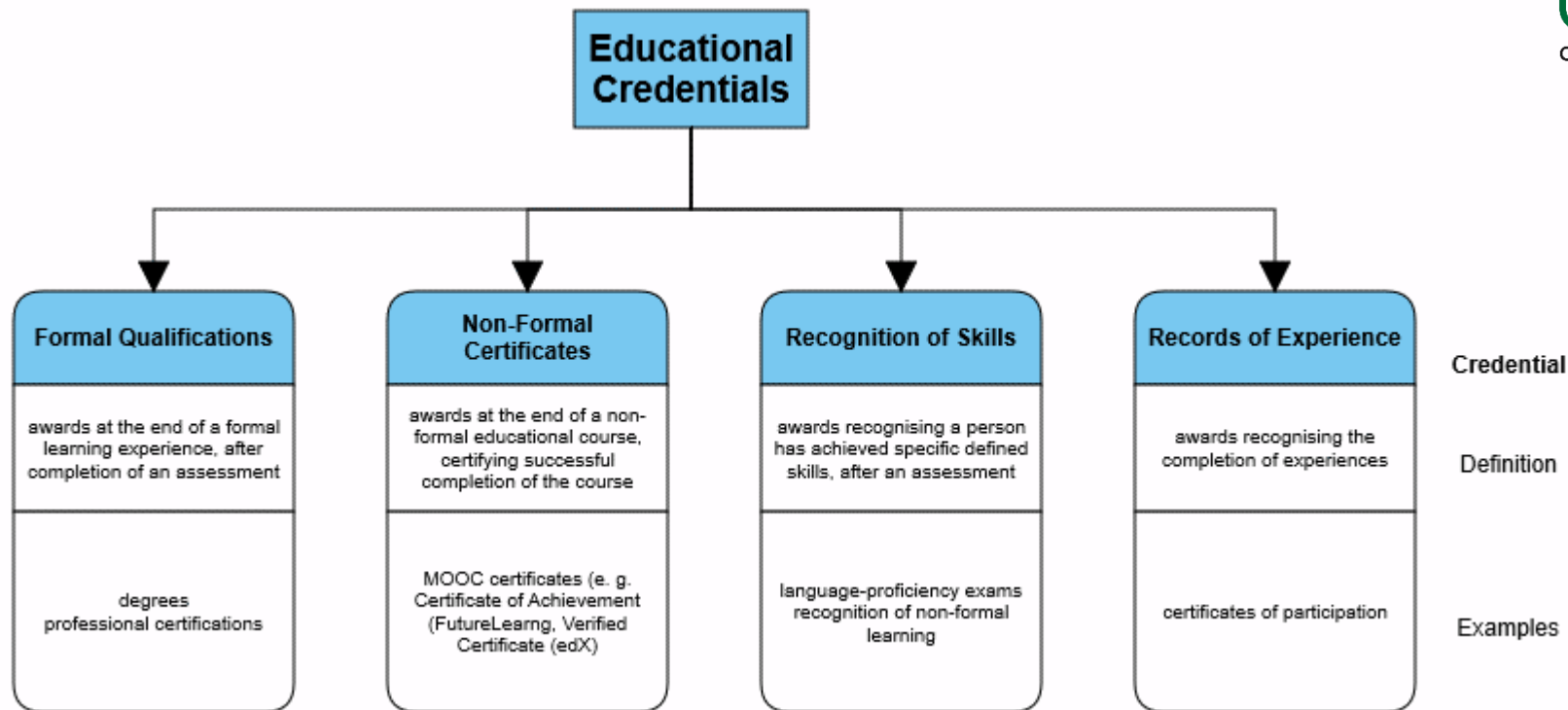


- All these credentials are offered by universities alongside their typical (qualification) offerings – however differences between them are not made clear and some are also offer by other (non-accredited) education providers
- Part of Digital Credentialing Ecosystem made possible by digital communications technologies establishing networks of interest through which people share information about what a learner knows and can do

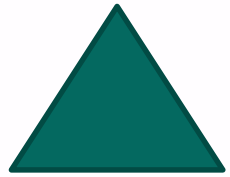


Definition of a Credential

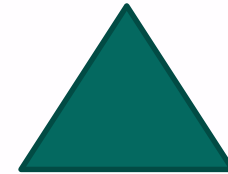
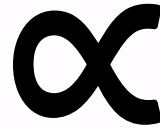
A credential, in its most essential form, is a **documented statement** awarded from one party to another describing the latter's **qualities**. Credentials are used for the purpose of **proving to a third party** the information that the holder has achieved certain **learning outcomes** and thus **qualifies for something**.



A Basic Assumption



Recognition
& Portability
of credentials



Overall
Quality
of credentials

Elements of a Credential Statement

	Learning Outcomes	Quality of Learning	Level of Learning	Workload of Learning	Assessment of Learning Outcomes	Identity of Learner	Identity & Reputation of Issuer	
Credential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Red ○ Orange ○ Green ○ No Info

(Based on Nuffic, 2018 & Witthaus et al., 2016)

Certain elements of a credential statement are required for formal evaluation of open educational opportunities and the underlying learning processes.

A Quality Statement alone does not make for a Quality Contract



CONTRACT TO SELL

This Contract to Sell made and executed by and between:

_____, a corporation organized and existing under Philippine laws, with principal office at Pres. Magsaysay St., Villa Aurora, Mabolo, Cebu City herein represented by its President, _____, (the "VENDOR");

- and -

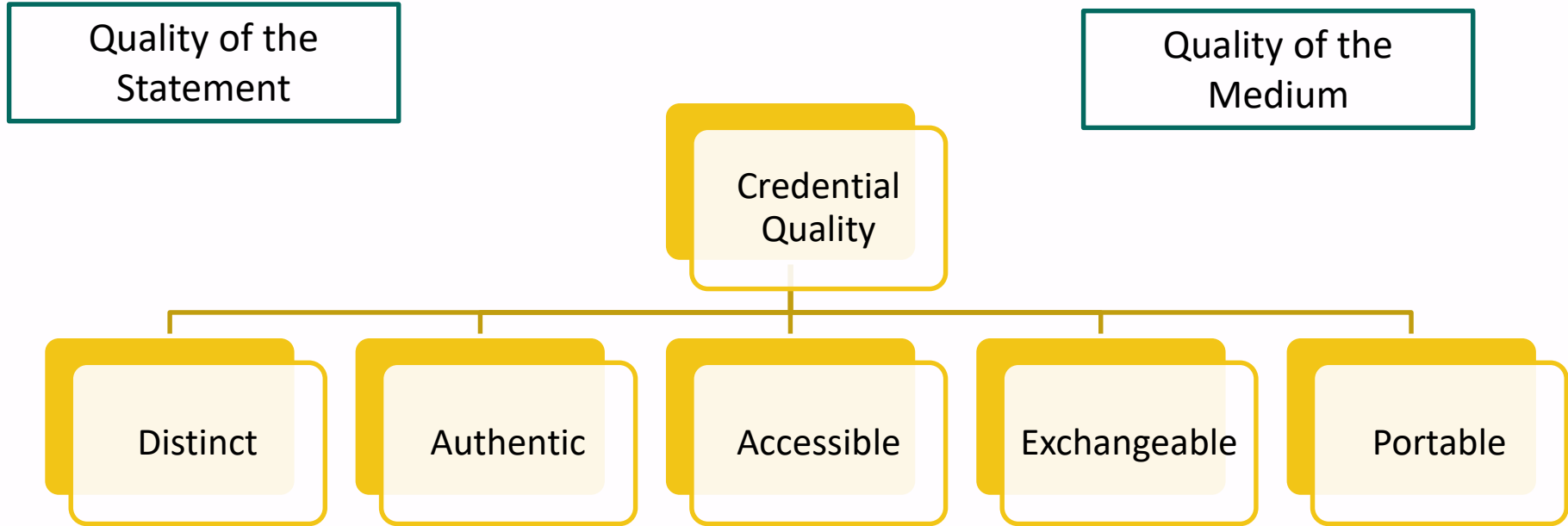
_____ (the "VENDEE, irrespective of number");

WITNESSETH: That -

WHEREAS, the VENDOR is the registered and beneficial owner of a parcel of land located at _____ with an area of _____ (____) square meters, more or less, and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. _____ of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of _____, a copy of which is attached hereto and made integral part hereof as *Annex "A"* (the "Subject Property");

WHEREAS, the Vendee has offered to buy the Subject Property on installment basis and the Vendor has accepted the offer, subject to the following terms and conditions:

Quality Principles for Digital Credentials



Distinctiveness

(The credential should...)

Quality of the Statement

- represent a specific and identifiable and measurable experience, skill or fact
- be attributable to a single, identifiable person

Quality of the Medium

- allow for the storage and display of the statement, as well as any and all associated metadata

Authenticity

(The credential should...)

Quality of the Statement

- contain enough information to:
- verify when, where and by whom it was issued
- trace and reproduce the conditions under which it was issued
- be able to be issued for a limited period and be revocable

Quality of the Medium

- only allow an issuer to create a certificate;
- not allow for any kind of tampering or editing
- be able to store or link to the information required to verify
- display its validity status

Accessibility

(The credential should...)

Quality of the Statement

- be issued in a widely-spoken language or in a easy to read graphical format

Quality of the Medium

- be issued in a widely-used and/or open format
- support interoperability

Exchangeability

(The credential should...)

Quality of the Statement

- be modular, allowing for the credential to be subdivided into smaller credentials or stacked into larger credentials
- be convertible into other types of credentials

Quality of the Medium

- allow for relational links to be created between credentials
- allow for credentials to be created out of other credentials

Portability

(The credential should...)

Quality of the Statement

- be owned by the learner

Quality of the Medium

- allow for the user to physically possess the credential in a place of their choosing
- easily shareable by the user

Ensuring the Quality of Digital Credentials implies



Actions to Improve Credential-Quality

“a common technical approach for issuing digitally-signed qualifications will be developed to ensure that certificates from one Member State can be understood and correctly interpreted in any other. The approach will be based on open standards and integrated into the new Europass platform, where digitally-signed qualifications can be stored and shared.”

EU Digital Education Action Plan
Action 3: Digitally Signed Qualifications

	Quality of the Statement	Quality of the Medium
	The statement should:	The medium should:
Distinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> represent a specific and identifiable and measurable experience, skill or fact be attributable to a single, identifiable person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allow for the storage and display of the statement, as well as any and all associated metadata
Authentic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> only allow an issuer to create a certificate; not allow for any kind of tampering or editing be able to store or link to the information required to verify display its validity status
Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be issued in a widely-spoken language or in a easy to read graphical format 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be issued in a widely-used and/or open format
Exchangeable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be modular, allowing for the credential to be subdivided into smaller credentials or stacked into larger credentials be convertible into other types of credentials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allow for relational links to be created between credentials allow for credentials to be created out of other credentials
Portable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be owned by the learner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allow for the user to physically possess the credential in a place of their choosing easily shareable by the user

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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You can download this presentation at:
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