

European Collaboration Powers Launch of ESG Micro-Credential in Financial Services

MICRES HAS TAKEN A DECISIVE STEP IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCE WITH THE RECENT PILOT OF ITS PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN ESG IN FINANCIAL SERVICES IN IRELAND

This innovative micro-credential equips financial professionals with essential **Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) skills**, increasingly demanded across the sector.

Structured as a robust **2 ECTS qualification**, the programme features two core units that introduce ESG principles and practices tailored to the financial industry. To further support career progression and specialization, the development team has designed four additional units focusing on ESG applications in credit, insurance, investment and risk management. These optional units could be fully developed by providers and allow learners to "stack" their learning, paving the way toward a broader, more comprehensive ESG certification.

The micro-credential is **accredited by University College Dublin (UCD)**, with IOB operating as a recognized college, thereby ensuring adherence to the **highest academic and quality standards**. As a result, the programme is now formally integrated into the university's award framework—combining practical relevance with academic excellence.

Ireland's leadership in this initiative is mirrored by **Malta**, where a national pilot of the ESG-focused micro-credential is underway. The programme is in its final stages of approval, with its launch expected later this year.

This growing momentum across Europe highlights the region's shared commitment to **embedding ESG competencies into financial services training**, setting the foundation for broader cross-border recognition of micro-credentials within the EU. This growing European adoption underscores a shared commitment to embedding ESG skills in finance training and sets the stage for greater cross-border recognition of micro-credentials across the EU.

If you're interested in enrolling in the course, please visit the following link: [**Programme | IOB**](#).



EVENTS 2025

Don't miss the opportunity to relive the best moments! Visit the [MICRES website events](#) section to explore photos from all the 2025 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.

THIRD PARTNERS MEETING

The third face-to-face transnational partners meeting was hosted by EFFEBI in **Milan, Italy**. This meeting also hosted the seminar "Learning Strategies in the Era of Artificial Intelligence". This gathering brought together experts, educators, and industry professionals to explore the evolving role of AI in education and training.



FOURTH PARTNERS MEETING

The fourth face-to-face transnational partners meeting was hosted by IOB in **Dublin, Ireland**. This meeting was a great opportunity to discuss about the next project activities, which set the basis for the first blockchain-based ecosystem in Europe for micro-credentials in financial services. These will first be piloted in Malta and Ireland.



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