

# UNESCO - MEXT Joint Workshop on Micro-Credentials:

# Building Consensus for Fair Recognition in Asia and the Pacific

Online learning has been more prominent as a mode for learning, given the difficulties to hold face-to-face classes under the COVID-19 pandemic. This has shed light on micro-credentials as a valid method for recording the outcomes of online learning and promoting flexible learning strategies.

Taking this opportunity, MEXT and UNESCO will co-host a workshop on micro-credentials, in which the participants will share information on the provision and recognition, accelerate international consensus on the concept of micro-credentials in the Asia-Pacific region.

**August 24th, 2022**  
**10:30-15:20 (GMT+9:00)**

**Hybrid (in person + online)**  
online participation will be available for overseas/distant participants

**Capacity of registration:**

**In person: 100 participants**

**Online: 1000 participants**

\*First come first served

**Registration fee: Free**

## Agenda (TBD)

### (1) Opening address

### (2) Presentations

Introduction / Presentation from Presenters

### (3) Breakout Session

Discuss and share information in either two sessions:

1) Precedents in Europe, Australia and New Zealand

2) Case studies in Asia-Pacific region

### (4) Panel

Presenters from the "Presentations" session

### (5) Closing Address

\*\*Japanese-English translation will be provided for items 1,2,4 and 5. Item 3 will be English only.

## Venue

in person

Kansai University of International Studies  
Amagasaki Campus (Osaka, Japan)  
1-3-23 Shioe Amagasaki, Hyogo 661-0976

online

Zoom (TBD)

(You will receive an e-mail about the details on the connection for online participation to your registered e-mail address by the day of the workshop)

## Registration

To register, please fill out the form from the below website and submit by **August 19th, 2022**, for both in-person and online participation.

[https://www.mext.go.jp/en/policy/education/highered/title02/detail02/sdetail02/mext\\_00033.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/en/policy/education/highered/title02/detail02/sdetail02/mext_00033.html)



### Introduction

**ASHIZAWA Shingo** / Vice-President, Kansai University of International Studies \*Also be a presenter in the Panel

### Presenters

**Thomas WEKO** / Senior Analyst, Education and Skills Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

**WANG Libing** / Chief of Section for Educational Innovations and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Bangkok

**Joanna WILSON** / Assistant Director, Qualifications Recognition Policy Section, International Partnerships Branch, Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australia

**Eddy Siong Choy CHONG** / Chief Technical Officer, Finance Accreditation Agency, Malaysia

**YONEZAWA Akiyoshi** / Professor and Vice-Director, International Strategy Office, Tohoku University

### Facilitators

**KATO Shizuka** / Analyst, Education and Skills Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

**Wesley TETER** / Senior Consultant for Educational Innovation and Skills Development, UNESCO Bangkok

**Alison Dittmer CROAD** / Principal Policy Analyst, New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA)

### Inquiries

Office for International Planning, Higher Education Policy Planning Division, Higher Education Bureau, MEXT  
e-mail : kotokoku@mext.go.jp

## Presenters



### Mr. ASHIZAWA Shingo

**Professor and Vice-President, Kansai University of International Studies**

Mr. ASHIZAWA's research involves the comparative study of higher education management. Currently, he is leading a joint-research project supported by the Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS). The project is focusing on foreign credential evaluation and the comparative study of the National Qualifications Framework. He serves as an advisor for MEXT on UNESCO's Tokyo Recognition Convention Committee.



### Mr. YONEZAWA Akiyoshi

**Professor and Vice-Director, International Strategy Office, Tohoku University**

Mr. YONEZAWA specialises in sociology of education and higher education. Having established his expertise through working experience at universities and public organizations such as OECD, he excels in macro international comparisons of higher education policy and quality assurance. He is currently researching about the international role of universities, including developing countries.



### Mr. Thomas WEKO

**Senior Analyst, Education and Skills Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**

Mr. WEKO has carried out reviews of higher education in East Asia, Latin America, and Europe. Prior to rejoining the OECD, he served as Research Manager for Higher Education at the American Institutes for Research; Director of the Policy Planning and Studies Service in the US Department of Education; and Associate Commissioner for Postsecondary, Adult, and Career Education at the (US) National Center for Education Statistics.



### Mr. WANG Libing

**Chief of Section for Educational Innovations and Skills Development (EISD), UNESCO Bangkok**

Mr. WANG is leading UNESCO Bangkok's work across five areas: higher education, teacher education, TVET, lifelong learning and research and foresight in Asia-Pacific, taking advantage of his knowledge in the areas of comparative education, higher education policy, and teacher education, which he cultivated through his research in China, UK, and other countries.



### Ms. Joanna WILSON

**Assistant Director, Qualifications Recognition Policy Section, International Partnerships Branch, Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australia**

Ms. WILSON has a background in education, curriculum development, international education partnerships. She plays a key role in driving the department's engagement in qualifications recognition and qualifications frameworks through key multilateral fora including APEC, ASEAN, G20 and UNESCO.



### Mr. Eddy Siong Choy CHONG

**Chief Technical Officer, Finance Accreditation Agency, Malaysia**

Mr. CHONG serves as Chief Technical Officer of the Finance Accreditation Agency in Malaysia, where the use of micro-credentials is among the most advanced in Asia. He is thoroughly familiar with both external and internal aspects of quality assurance, being instrumental in the development of quality assurance mechanisms and systems in Malaysia and the wider region.

## Facilitators



### Ms. KATO Shizuka

**Analyst, Education and Skills Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD**

Ms. KATO is currently leading work on micro-credentials at Education and Skills Directorate of OECD. Specialises in higher education policy.



### Ms. Alison Dittmer CROAD

**Principal Policy Analyst, New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA)**

Ms. CROAD is specialised in policy focussed on the intersection of different education and regulatory systems, through her work in NZQA.



### Mr. Wesley TETER

**Senior Consultant for Educational Innovation and Skills Development, UNESCO Bangkok**

Mr. TETER is focal point for UNESCO's work on higher education and TVET in 46 countries in Asia-Pacific. He is co-editor of the forthcoming Handbook of Education Policy (Edward Elgar, UK).