ERASMUS+ 2027 · THEMATIC PROFILE 32 OF 35

Micro-credentials and Lifelong Learning

Partner Identification Form · Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU), Türkiye

Why include AYBU in your consortium? Micro-credential design, quality assurance and delivery through continuing and distance education centres. AYBU is a public university in Ankara with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and 28 Erasmus+ cooperation projects in the Commission's project database since 2014, 17 as coordinator. One contact for every thematic profile: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar, mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr.

1. Five reasons specific to this theme

1. Micro-credential development within a running Alliance for Innovation
2. A micro-credential quality assurance model drafted for a vocational excellence proposal
3. Continuing education, distance education and career guidance centres under one university
4. Short-cycle (EQF 5) and bachelor programmes that can stack credentials
5. Experience with certificate issuance for adult learners

2. Thematic institutional profile

Micro-credentials are a working topic at AYBU through BIAD, where AI-based skills analysis leads to modular training and micro-credentials for the tourism and hospitality workforce, and through the 2026 vocational excellence application, which designed a micro-credential quality model for smart-city technicians. A Continuing Education Centre issues certificates, a Distance Education Research Centre delivers online courses and a Career Planning and Management Research Centre provides guidance: the three services a micro-credential system needs.

Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Continuing Education Centre
- Distance Education Research Centre
- Career Planning and Management Research Centre
- Vocational schools
- Business School

Research and training infrastructure

- Certificate programmes of the Continuing Education Centre
- Online delivery infrastructure
- BIAD micro-credential methodology

3. Relevant previous projects

Project number	Title	Action	Call	AYBU role	EU grant (project)	Status
101244836	BIAD - AI-Enabled Skill-Building for Tourism and Hospitality: Bridging the Industry-Academia Divide	Alliances for Education and Enterprises	2025	Partner	EUR 1 489 605	Ongoing
2020-1-TR01-KA204-094736	Golden Age Platform: Inclusion of Senior Citizens to Virtualised Environments with Lifelong Learning Facilities	Strategic Partnerships for adult education	2020	Coordinator	EUR 189 378	Completed
2014-1-TR01-KA205-012981	European System for Recognition And Validation Of Non-formal & Informal Youth Learning Deriving From Voluntary Civil Ser	Strategic Partnerships for youth	2014	Coordinator	EUR 251 453	Completed

Source: European Commission, Erasmus+ project lists, export of 19.11.2026. Grant = total EU grant of the project as awarded.

4. Key academic experts

Expert	Unit	Relevance to this theme	Profile
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar	Business School – Management Information Systems	Micro-credentials and skills analysis in BIAD and the CoVE application	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Project development and quality assurance; BIAD team	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vildan Ateş	Business School – Management Information Systems	Competence frameworks for digital and AI skills	AVESIS
Prof. Dr. Hasan Engin Şener	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Quality assurance evaluator in higher education	AVESIS

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar. Vice Dean of the AYBU Business School and Associate Professor of Management Information Systems. His research addresses smart cities, technology acceptance, AI adoption and data-driven digital governance. He leads AYBU's work in the Erasmus+ Alliance for Innovation BIAD on AI-enabled skills analysis and micro-credentials, has taken part in Erasmus+ partnerships since 2016 and is the author of Smart Cities: Cases and Implications (2023). Teaching covers management information systems courses in the English-taught MIS programme (smart cities, business intelligence and AI-related subjects in the departmental curriculum).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan. Associate Professor of Management at the AYBU Business School, teaching strategic management, entrepreneurship, project development and sustainability in business. His research addresses SME performance, green human resource management, green information systems and digital technology use. He has worked on Erasmus+ partnerships since 2014, leads AYBU's team in Empathetic Classrooms and served as senior

expert in an EU technical assistance project. Teaching covers strategic Management; Project Development and Management; Entrepreneurship; BUS 318 Sustainability and Business.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vildan Ateş. Associate Professor of Management Information Systems at the AYBU Business School, with sixteen years of earlier IT practice. Her recent studies measure AI literacy among university students, AI anxiety among vocational school students and generative AI acceptance among employees; she also publishes on data governance, trust in e-government and cloud security and took part in the Digital Türkiye Index project. Teaching covers courses in the English-taught Management Information Systems programme. Research record on AVESIS: 91 publications (9 in Scopus), 11 theses supervised.

5. Keywords

micro-credentials · lifelong learning · continuing education · stackable credentials · recognition of learning · European approach to micro-credentials · digital credentials · upskilling and reskilling · short courses · quality assurance of micro-credentials · learning outcomes · career guidance · adult learners · flexible learning pathways · skills intelligence

6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Flexible learning pathways, upskilling and reskilling of adults; European approach to micro-credentials; Union of Skills.

Relevant 2027 action	Deadline (Brussels time)	Grant per project	Role AYBU can take
Alliances for Innovation	14 September 2027, 17:00 Brussels time	EUR 1 000 000 for a 2-year project, EUR 1 500 000 for a 3-year project (Lot 1); EUR 4 000 000 for a 4-year project (Lot 2) (Guide p. 322)	Partner or work-package leader; coordinator for a focused Lot 1
Cooperation Partnerships in higher education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in vocational education and training	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in adult education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Centres of Vocational Excellence	16 September 2027, 17:00 Brussels time	Topic 1: up to EUR 4 000 000 per project; Topic 2 (European Community of Practice for CoVEs, one project): up to EUR 1 500 000 (Guide p. 288)	Coordinator (building on the 2026 application) or partner

7. What AYBU can contribute

Contributions described here are potential contributions based on verified institutional capacity; they become commitments only in a signed proposal. Named experts are proposed on the basis of their published work and their participation in a given proposal is subject to their confirmation.

Potential project objectives

- Design micro-credentials that employers recognise
- Set up quality assurance and recognition arrangements
- Offer flexible routes for adults to upskill

Potential activities

- Skills demand analysis for priority sectors
- Design of micro-credentials with learning outcomes and assessment
- Quality assurance and digital credential issuance
- Piloting with employees and job-seekers

Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Skills demand analysis
- Micro-credential design
- Quality assurance and recognition
- Piloting and scaling

Training modules AYBU could deliver

- Writing learning outcomes for micro-credentials
- Assessment in short courses
- Issuing digital credentials

Potential deliverables

- Skills demand report
- Micro-credential catalogue
- Quality assurance handbook
- Pilot evaluation

Potential pilot activities

- Micro-credentials piloted through the Continuing Education Centre
- Stackable units tested in vocational programmes

Target groups AYBU can reach

- Adult learners and employees
- Job-seekers
- Education providers
- Employers

Expected institutional contribution

- Micro-credential design and quality model
- Delivery and certification channels
- Skills analysis
- Pilots
- Evaluation

8. Management, quality and dissemination capacity

EU projects at AYBU are run by academic project teams with support from the Business School's projects office and the Competitiveness and Innovation Research Centre (REKMER). Financial administration follows Turkish public financial management and control legislation (Law No. 5018); EU grants are kept in dedicated project accounts and the university is subject to external audit by the Turkish Court of Accounts. In the Commission's project database AYBU appears in 28 Erasmus+ cooperation, policy and Jean Monnet projects from call years 2014–2026, 17 of them as coordinator; 9 are running today.

For each project AYBU proposes a quality plan with internal peer review of deliverables, milestone monitoring and partner feedback surveys. The university operates an institutional quality management system under the national Higher Education Quality Council framework, and Business School staff include an accredited external evaluator of that Council.

AYBU disseminates through its institutional website and faculty pages, official social media accounts, a community of more than 26 000 students and about 2 600 staff, its partner universities and its links with ministries, municipalities, chambers and Teknopark Ankara. Multiplier events and training activities can be hosted on its Ankara campuses, and online courses can be delivered through the Distance Education Research Centre.

Results can be sustained through courses in degree programmes, certificate programmes of the Continuing Education Centre, online delivery by the Distance Education Research Centre and follow-up funding from national programmes such as TÜBİTAK. Open publication of materials is the default.

9. Partners we would like to work with

- Universities and VET providers
- Employers and sector bodies
- Qualification and quality assurance agencies
- Adult education providers
- Digital credential platforms

10. Organisation identification

Legal name (national language)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT ÜNİVERSİTESİ
Legal name (Latin characters)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITESI
Name in English	Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU)
Organisation ID (OID)	E10137893
PIC	952723525

National / fiscal ID	9600521531
Type of organisation	Higher education institution (tertiary level); Public (state) university; non-profit public body
Erasmus Charter for Higher Education	Erasmus Charter for Higher Education holder — Erasmus code TR ANKARA15
Established	21 July 2010 (decision published in the Official Gazette)
Registered address	AYBÜ Etlik Milli İrade Binası, B-Blok, Ayvalı Mah. Gazze Cad. No: 7, Etlik, Keçiören, 06010 Ankara, Türkiye
Main campus	Esenboğa Merkez Külliyesi, Dumlupınar Mah., 06760 Çubuk / Ankara
Region (NUTS)	TR51 – Ankara
Website	https://aybu.edu.tr
General e-mail / telephone	basin@aybu.edu.tr / +90 312 906 10 00

11. Institutional representative and contact

Legal representative

Name	Prof. Dr. Ali Cengiz Köseoğlu
Position	Rector
E-mail	ackoseoglu@aybu.edu.tr
Telephone	+90 312 906 10 04

Main contact person

Name	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar
Position	Associate Professor, Department of Management Information Systems; Vice Dean, Business School
Unit	Business School – Department of Management Information Systems
E-mail	mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr
Telephone	+90 312 906 16 47
Academic profile	https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr/takpinar

12. Links

- University: https://aybu.edu.tr
- Business School: https://aybu.edu.tr/isletme/en
- Academic profiles (AVESIS): https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr

- AYBU projects in the Erasmus+ project database: https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects

Data verified on 20.11.2026. Institutional figures from aybu.edu.tr and AYBU records; project data from the European Commission's Erasmus+ project lists; staff data from AVESIS.