**Hands-on Activity:** Applying Skills4EOSC Recognition: Digital Credentials in Action

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Activity Objectives:**

* Participants apply their understanding of the Skills4EOSC framework and digital credentials (Open Badges and European Digital Credentials) to practical scenarios.
* Participants discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different credential types in specific contexts.
* Participants consider how the Skills4EOSC framework can inform credential design and evaluation.

**Activity Structure:**

**(1) Scenario Selection (5 minutes)**

* Brief introduction of the two scenarios (detailed below).
* Participants individually choose *one* scenario to focus on for the activity. This allows for deeper engagement within a shorter timeframe. A quick show of hands can be used.

**(2) Small Group Work (15 minutes)**

* Divide participants into groups based on their chosen scenario (Scenario A groups and Scenario B groups). Aim for groups of 3-5 people.
* Each group receives a worksheet or has access to a shared online document outlining their chosen scenario in more detail (see below).
* Groups discuss the scenario and answer the guiding questions provided on the worksheet, focusing on applying the knowledge from the preceding presentation. The facilitator circulates to answer clarifying questions and keep the discussions focused.

**(3) Group Sharing & Discussion (10 minutes)**

* Bring the whole group back together.
* Briefly have 1-2 groups share their key findings and recommendations per scenario. Focus on the reasoning behind their choices regarding digital credential types and how the Skills4EOSC framework influenced their thinking.
* Facilitate a short discussion highlighting common themes and contrasting approaches between the two scenarios. What are the key considerations for choosing one type of digital credential over another? How can the Skills4EOSC framework help both training providers and those seeking training?

**Scenario Details (Worksheet Content):**

**Scenario A: Upskilling Course Development**

* **Context:** A training centre wants to develop a new self-paced online course on "Data Visualization for Research." They plan to offer digital credentials upon successful completion.
* **Questions:**
  + What type of digital credential (Open Badge or European Digital Credential, or a combination) would you recommend for this course and why?
  + How can the Skills4EOSC framework be used to define the learning outcomes and competencies for this course, and how can this information be reflected in the digital credential?
  + What are the advantages and disadvantages of your chosen credential type for both the training center and the learners?
  + What information should be included in the digital credential to make it valuable and recognizable within the EOSC ecosystem?

**Scenario B: Trainer Recruitment**

* **Context:** A research institute is looking to hire a trainer to deliver a workshop on "Research Data Management." Applicants are asked to provide examples of their previous training experience, often including digital credentials.
* **Questions:**
  + How can the institute evaluate the different types of digital credentials presented by the applicants (Open Badges, European Digital Credentials, or others)?
  + What criteria should they use to determine the validity and relevance of these credentials in relation to the workshop requirements?
  + How can the Skills4EOSC framework help the institute identify the key competencies needed for the trainer role and assess whether the applicants’ credentials demonstrate these competencies?
  + What are the potential challenges in relying on digital credentials for trainer selection, and how can these be addressed?

**Materials:**

* Scenario worksheets (printed or online)
* Skills4EOSC Guiding comparison table
* Presentation slides (from the preceding presentation)
* Markers/pens (if using physical worksheets)

**Facilitator Notes:**

* Emphasize practical application of the concepts.
* Encourage discussion and sharing of diverse perspectives.
* Keep the time focused and manage transitions smoothly.
* Summarize key takeaways and link back to the Skills4EOSC framework.