



Convening Call to Action 2024

Paving the Way to a Better Future Together

This document provides an initial roadmap to support the GDN Annual Meetings and convenings as it sets the stage for galvanizing participation and engagement in **advancing concrete discussions** that consider the diversity of our community and learners and that result in **decisive action towards real change**.

Why Bother?

With GDN Network convenings, webinars and collaborative activities, we seek to **deepen a shared understanding** of the different contexts around the world, **build knowledge** regarding digitization opportunities and best practice, and **explore and contribute to initiatives and actions for moving a Network of Networks** forward for digital credentials that is based on learner centricity, respect for privacy and local autonomy, interoperability, open standards, and innovative digital architecture. The practical outcomes of these activities include creating **intentional Calls to Action and collaborations**. The broader intention also includes working in partnership to support advancing access and to help its community work across boundaries on solutions that support cultural and social mobility.

In all its efforts, the GDN Network seeks to inspire use of innovative technology and approaches that align with its statutes, ethics, and goals. It does this while respecting institutional and geo-political autonomy and authority and in alignment with the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) and UNESCO's normative instruments such as the [Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education](#). In doing so, the **GDN Network aims to enable greater inclusion and access for citizenry** to education and employment through recognition of their credentials.

By collaborating with participants from around the world who participate in its convening activities, the GDN Network seeks to **raise all boats** and **enable bridge building** between the rich history and traditions of the past towards a new and expanded future for the learner mobility space.

Sharpening Our Collective Focus: Convening Discussion Questions

The following discussion questions tend to weave through the sessions that typically offered through the GDN Network convenings. Each tends to spark focused conversation and catalyze innovative thinking and change both locally and globally.

What are and how can we solve the biggest barriers impeding national and international credential exchange and digitization?

What does success of a Network of Networks look like for learner mobility?

What shared principles are necessary to enable this success?

What are the next steps for the GDN Network and its community to advance transformational change?



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Next Steps

After each Annual Meeting, the GDN Network intends to identify and publish the thematic contributions, learnings, recommendations, and calls to action that emerge. This information will galvanize GDN priorities for moving forward, validate current work, and inspire further research and activities. It will also contribute to future knowledge building opportunities, convenings, and webinars as we work collaboratively to create advanced supports for learner mobility in the credentialing space.

Conversations during these events often inspire new projects with their own focused next steps. **We encourage the GDN Network community to build into these an intentional focus on engaging with and supporting the work of the GDN and using the [GDN Ethical Principles](#) as we work in partnership to develop a better future for learners of today and tomorrow.**

The GDN Community

The GDN Network is an international community that includes vocational institutions, higher education institutions, government, industry partners, not-for-profit organizations and associations, and experts and researchers in the fields of recognition, learner mobility, and technology. It is **a diverse group of thought giants from around the world** who are experts and well positioned in their communities to lead and influence change.

The GDN Vision for Collaboration

The Network's vision for **collaboration is cross-sector and cross-border**, thus creating the potential for **interoperability through open architectures, open standards, and principled approaches to adopting or building digital solutions for learning and employment access and mobility.**

We believe that working together will accelerate progress in and across geo-political boundaries. We also believe that participants in the GDN Network maintain common goals so see strong alignment and potential for expanded collaboration and convergence of opportunities, dialogue, and GDN inspired and led multi-lateral projects, letters of intent, and memoranda of understanding. These represent sample mechanisms the GDN uses to enrich and transform the digital credential highway and interoperability across multiple dimensions.

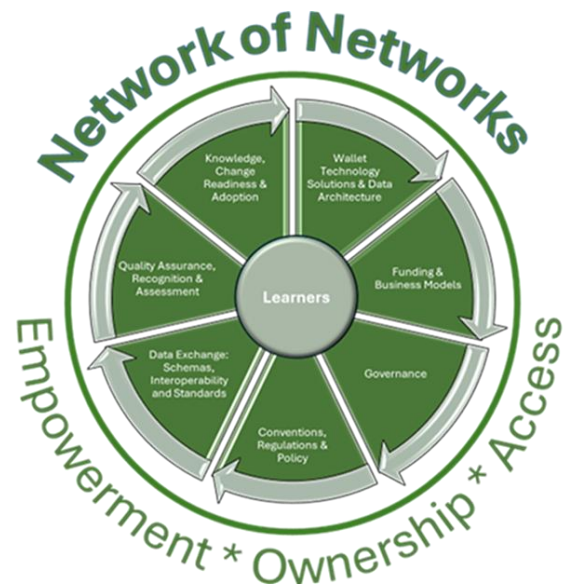
By working together across the digital credential ecosystem, the GDN Network aspires to advance an interoperable and seamless Network of Networks for credential exchange to enable opportunities for learner mobility and lifelong learning.



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How the GDN Works

Practically, the GDN achieves its work across seven dimensions: **advancing knowledge** capacity building, supporting and **inspiring** the creation of **credential tools and data and document exchange highways** to advance seamless exchange, **identifying** and encouraging the use of **best practices** for credential exchange in the areas of governance, standards, and business model design and delivery, **promoting** and encouraging adoption of important legislative and other instruments such as **Conventions and privacy regulations**, **advancing quality assured practices and policies** for credential recognition, and **enabling** all forms of **interoperability** to help learners access future education and jobs.



The GDN Background

The Groningen Declaration Network holds annual fall convening opportunities to advance its mandate. These bring together thought leaders from around the world to engage and move forward research and activities in the credential and data mobility space to support lifelong learning goals, including for recognition.

Recently, **GDN efforts have expanded** to include thought leader webinars, case studies, publications, delegation visits, and more.

Each activity represents an intentional effort to **catalyze national and trans-national credential sharing and digitization capacities** across multiple dimensions in support of learner mobility and lifelong learning.

Through these opportunities, the GDN Network comes together with its global community to learn and engage in deep listening as a compliment to their local initiatives and efforts to establish evidence informed roadmaps for moving forward.

The GDN is proud of the regional, national, and international efforts it has inspired since it began and remains excited about supporting even more change.

Let's Talk

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