AGENDA

Trends in validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNFIL) in the EU and the Neighbourhood

ONLINE EVENT 29 March 9:00 – 12:10

SUMMARY:

Validation of non-formal and informal learning lies at the heart of lifelong learning policies. Validation allows people to have their skills developed through work, civic engagement or hobbies identified, documented and recognised. It helps them in pursuing better jobs and further education. It makes people more aware of their own strengths and motivates them to engage in further learning.

Validation gives visibility to the pool of available skills and there is a growing understanding that it could address skills gaps and reduce the brain waste. By shortening the time needed for up- and re-skilling it could play an important role in post pandemic recovery and in the twin digital and green transitions.

Effective validation systems lay across labour market, economic development and education policies, which can make designing them challenging. They require solutions based on good understanding of users’ needs, support from the employers and openness on the side of the education system to accommodate flexible learning pathways. High quality services based on transparent standards and good information, outreach and guidance activities are integral to creating recognition mechanisms that are trusted.

In 2021 ETF carried out a cross-country study on validation in: Azerbaijan, Jordan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. The study identifies progress made and challenges encountered in scaling up validation systems. The main objective of the webinar is to support further development of validation systems in the ETF Partner Countries, through:

* presentation and validation the findings of the ETF cross-country study and discussion on the policy recommendations;
* presentation of the place of validation in the EU New Skills Agenda;
* sharing good practices from the Partner Countries and the EU Member States.

| Time | Agenda Item | Presenter |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 09:00 - 09:10 | Welcome from ETF | Manuela Prina, Head of Skills Identification and Development Unit, ETF |
| 09:10 - 09:15 | VNFIL in the 2020 Skills Agenda | Koen Nomden, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission |
| 09:15 – 09:30 | VNFIL implementation in the EU and development trends  (followed by Q&A) | Ernesto Villalba-Garcia, Cedefop |
| 09:30 – 09:50 | Findings of the ETF 2021 cross-country study on validation (followed by Q&A) | Anni Karttunen, Globedu  Maria Rosenstock, ETF |
| 09:50 – 10:20 | Discussion panel with the representatives of the ETF Partner Countries  (followed by Q&A) | Nijat Asadli, Member of the Management Board, Education Quality Assurance Agency, Azerbaijan  Nani Dalakishvili, Head of TVET Quality Assurance Department,  Londa Mindiashvili, Coordinator of RNFE, TVET Quality Assurance Department, National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (NCEQE), Georgia  Galina Rusu, State Secretary  Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova  Volodymyr Kovtunets, Deputy Chairman of the National Qualifications Authority, Ukraine |
| 10:20– 10:30 | *Coffee Break* |  |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | VNFIL financing Sweden – financing of VNFIL for higher VET qualifications (followed by QA) | Anna Kahlson, The Swedish National Agency for Higher Vocational Education (MYH) |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | VNFIL and non-formal qualifications in Poland - the providers perspective  (followed by QA) | Edyta Migalka and Marek Marczak, VCC Foundation, Poland |
| 11:30- 12:00 | AI in skills profiling – developing user-centred solutions, SkillLab  (followed by QA) | Simon Schmid, SkillLab |
| 12:00 -12:10 | Wrap- up and closing | Arjen Deij, ETF |