

Harnessing youth employability in the Western Balkans

*Relevance of validation of non-formal and
informal learning for Youth Guarantee schemes*

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2012 Council Recommendation on validation of non-formal and informal learning

[EUR-Lex - 32012H1222\(01\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

Validation of non-formal and informal learning

‘A process of confirmation by an authorised body that an individual has acquired learning outcomes measured against a relevant standard’



Key elements in the definition

01

Learning outcomes

03

Authorised body

02

Standards



Formal recognition

Various stages of
implementation

Selected principles in validation arrangements

2012 Recommendation



Link to NQFs



Information and
guidance



Disadvantaged
groups, including
unemployed are
particularly likely to
benefit from validation



Unemployed have the
opportunity to
undergo 'skills audits'
aimed at identifying
their knowledge, skills
and competences



Transparent QA
measures - reliable,
valid and credible
assessment



Professional
competences of staff



Use of transparency tools: Europass,
Youthpass to facilitate documentation
of learning

State of play in the WB region

Source: ETF 2021 NQF Country Fiches

ALBANIA

VNFIL - one of the priority measures in national employment and skills strategies (NESS), provisions in VET and AQF laws. Implementation had so far been confined to pilots.

KOSOVO

2014 - Administrative instruction on RPL.
2019 - Administrative instruction on accreditation of RPL providers. RPL as active LM measure
e-RPL platform was launched
Support of EU project.

NORTH MACEDONIA

Advanced regulatory framework and methodological packages, pilot activities in 2 occupations implemented in 2021.
Some amendments to laws pending.
Support of EU project.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

2018 - concept for establishing country-wide VNFIL arrangements.

MONTENEGRO

2019 - adoption of secondary legislation defining the procedures for VNFIL in accordance with the revised law on national vocational qualifications (NVQs). Examination Centre organises training and licensing of assessors.

SERBIA

2019 - set of activities implemented with the support of NQF project, guidelines and rulebooks developed on RPL providers and processes. Pilot activities took place.

European inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning

2018

Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Turkey

2021

Azerbaijan, Georgia, Jordan, Moldova, Ukraine

2022

Western Balkan Countries

Country reports, EU Member States

 [Austria](#)

 [Finland](#)

 [Luxembourg](#)

 [Belgium \(FR\)](#)

 [France](#)

 [Malta](#)

 [Belgium \(NL\)](#)

 [Germany](#)

 [Romania](#)

Country Reports compiled by ETF

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 [North Macedonia](#)

 [Montenegro](#)

 [Turkey](#)

Thematic reports

 [Romania](#)

Validation systems are in place but scaling up is challenging

Identifying profiles of candidates

Attracting candidates – information, outreach

Supporting providers and practitioners

Designing services in line with users' needs

Funding models

Validation - for whom?

Reinforced Youth Guarantee: young persons under the age of 30

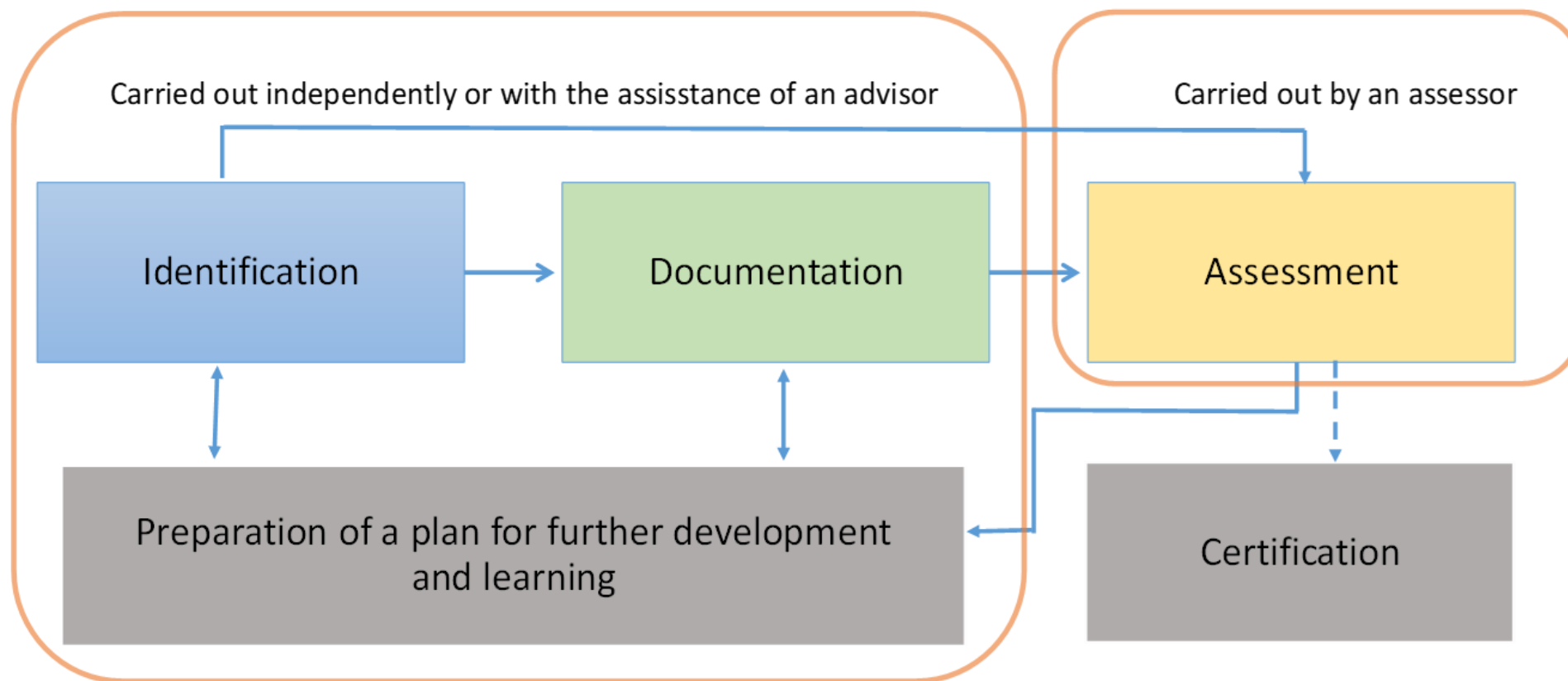
Persons with skills

Work experience
Unpaid work in family business
Caring for family members
Volunteer work
Hobby

Can be combined with ...

Work based learning
Internship
Training

Validation process - connections with active labour market measures



Source: Instytut Badan Edukacyjnych (IBE)

Use of validation in combination with training in the Youth Guarantee – potential benefits

Shorter training time

Reduced cost of training

Motivation boost

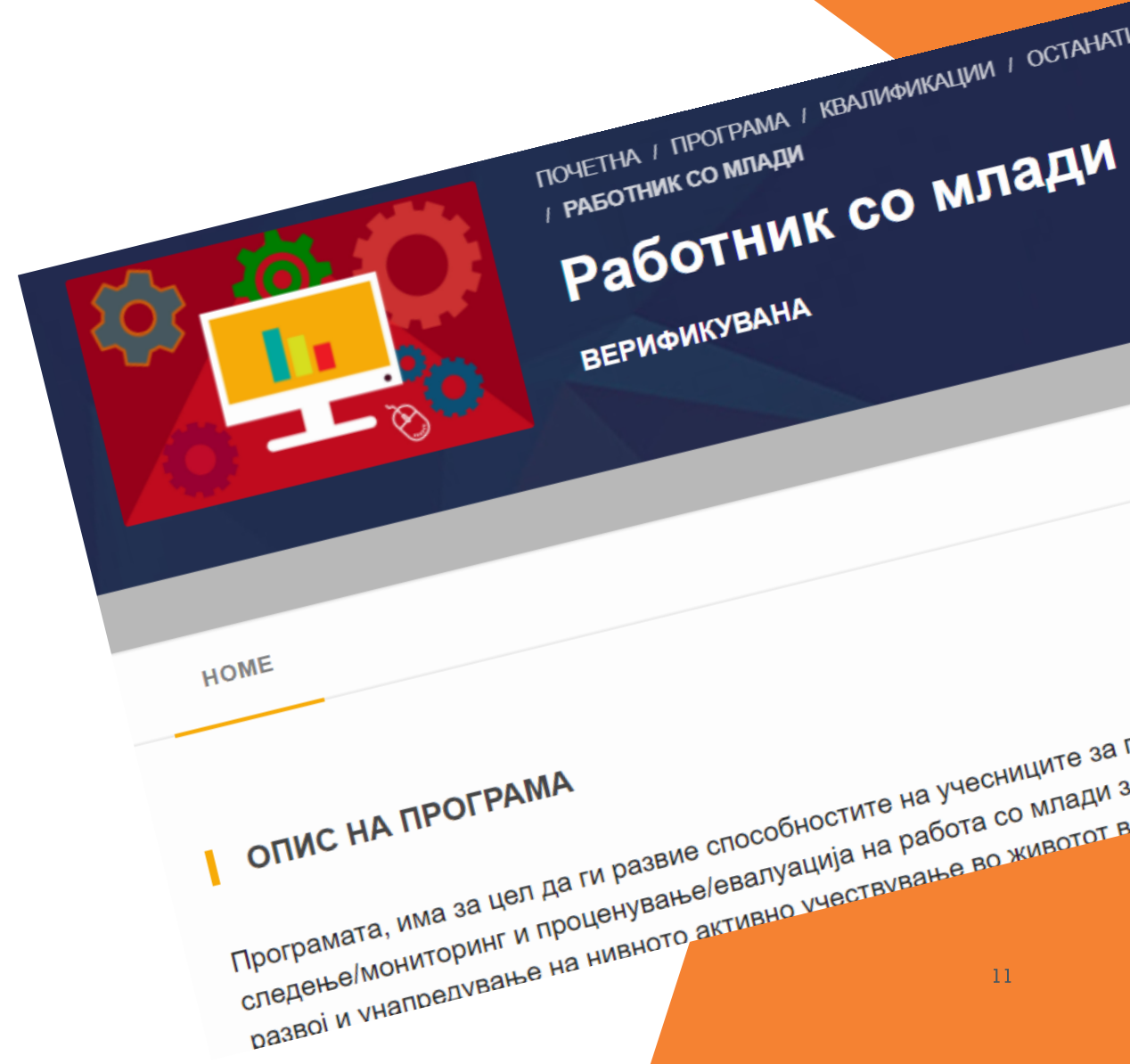
Accredited training programmes for youth workers



<https://www.aufzaq.at/english/>

Over 40 accredited training courses for youth workers linked to Austrian NQF enabling progression (levels, III, IV, V, VI)

Competence frameworks



Transparency tools

Youthpass

'Youthpass is a certificate and an educational approach that helps young people and youth workers who participate in the EU youth programme activities **become more aware of their learning and develop their ability to learn.** It is a recognition and validation instrument that helps participants to document the competences they have acquired and in turn present them in relevant contexts.'

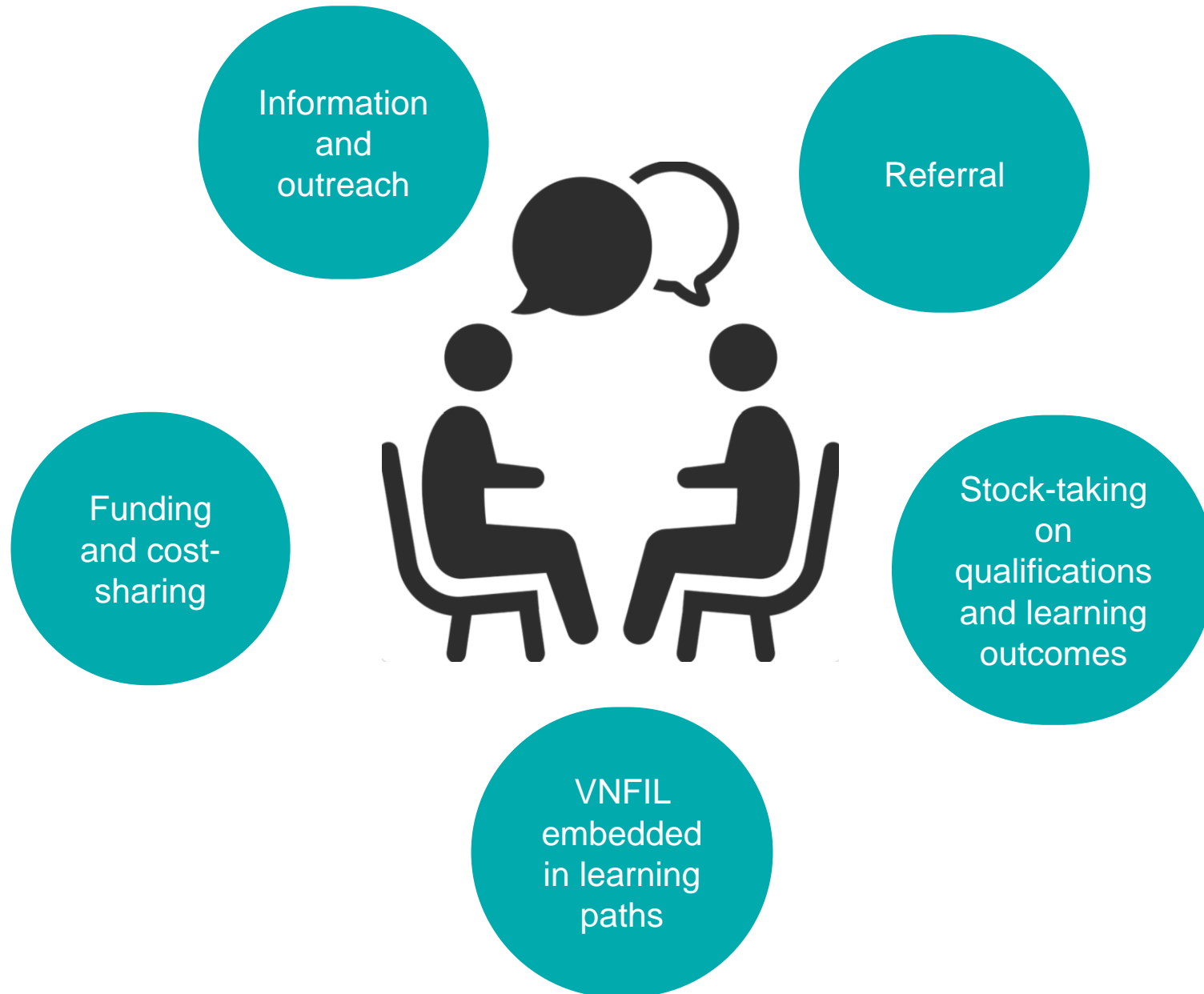
Youthpass Strategy 2021, www.youthpass.eu

Digital self-assessment tools:
www.myskills.de (Germany)
Accredita (Spain)

E-portfolios:
Europass

Used for identification and
documentation phases

Potential collaboration



Thank you!



European Training Foundation