

PROGRAMME

Validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNFIL) – focus on practitioners. Follow up of the 2024 peer learning event on VNFIL in Lyon, France

2 APRIL, 2025

10:00 – 12.20 CET

ONLINE WEBINAR

LINK:

LANGUAGES: English, French, Russian

BACKGROUND:

Validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNFIL) is an important element of lifelong learning policies. It allows for identification, documentation assessment and certification of skills that individuals acquired outside of education systems, through work life, civic engagements or hobbies.

The ETF Partner Countries have engaged in development of their national validation systems. In support of their efforts in 2023 ETF launched an informal network on validation that includes countries covered by the ETF [ETF Inventory on non-formal and informal learning](#). The network meets on an annual basis for peer learning activities.

This webinar is a follow up of a peer learning activity which took place in November 2024 in Lyon, France, hosted by the French Afpa – National Agency for Professional Training of Adults which allow the network members to gain practical insights into the operations of the French validation practices.

The participants of this peer learning activity expressed a wish for a continuation of the exchange with Afpa on selected aspects of validation in France with particular interest in competencies, training and certification of French validation practitioners.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WEBINAR:

The webinar aims at supporting ETF Partner Countries in designing the profiles of validation practitioners and preparing the practitioners for work on validation processes.

It will present the profiles of validation practitioners in the French validation system under the adult education sector, specifically assessors and counsellors (“Architectes accompagnateurs de parcours”), their competencies and certification requirements.

In addition, the webinar will feature peer-sharing presentations on the profile of validation practitioners by selected ETF Partner Countries.

PARTICIPANTS

The targeted participants are policy makers in the area of skills development and qualifications and representatives of validation service providers from the ETF Partner Countries. Partners who participated in the peer learning activity in France will particularly benefit from this session.

The countries participating in the network are: all Western Balkan economies (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia), Türkiye, Eastern partner countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), from the SEMED region: Algeria, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, and five Central Asian countries supported by the EU DARYA project (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan).

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VAE in France

The French Validation des Acquis de l'Expérience is one of the most mature and advanced approaches to validation of non-formal and informal learning in Europe. It has been in place since 2002 allowing individuals to obtain full or partial qualifications, based on their experience. It is linked to the national qualifications framework and widely used across the education and labour market sectors. VAE is seen as a vital tool in upskilling the workforce and supporting lifelong learning initiatives in France. Funding for validation is available through major state investments in labour market integration as well as through a digital Personal Training Account available universally to each citizen.

For further information about the French VAE see: Hampe-Nathaniel, A. (2024). European inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning 2023 update: France. European Commission and Cedefop. <https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/country-reports/european-inventory-validation-non-formaland-informal-learning-2023-update-France>

Afpa

The Agence nationale pour la formation professionnelle des adultes (Afpa) plays a crucial role in France's adult education and training landscape for over 65 years. As the largest public provider of vocational training for adults, Afpa has been a key player in the implementation of the VAE system, offering comprehensive support to individuals seeking validation of their experiential learning. With its extensive network of 116 training centers across France, including the Afpa Centre in Lyon, the organization provides practical assistance, guidance, and evaluation services for candidates undergoing the VAE process.

PROGRAMME:

TUESDAY, 2 APRIL 2025, 10.00 – 12.00 CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME

CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME	PROGRAMME/PRESENTATION	SPEAKER
10:00 - 10 :15	Welcome remarks Introduction, objectives and programme	Kassim Bouhou, Head of International Cooperation, Afpa Nadezda Solodjankina, Human Capital Development Expert, ETF Maria Rosenstock, Human Capital Development Expert, ETF
10:15 - 10:20	Ice-breaker: Mentimeter survey on validation practitioners in participants' countries	All participants
10:20 - 10:35	Setting the scene: Assessing experiential learning. Competencies of validation counsellors and assessors.	Anni Karttunen, international expert
10:35 - 11:15	Assessment, profiles and certification of practitioners in the French VAE	Séverine Leullier, Pathways accompanying architect, VAE specialist, Afpa,
11:15 - 11:40	Questions and answers	All participants
11:40 - 11:55	Validation of non-formal and informal learning in Kazakhstan	Alihan Karabayev, Director of department for recognition of professional qualifications, National Authority of Professional Qualifications of Kazakhstan
11:55 – 12:10	Roles and profiles of validation practitioners in Moldova	Doina Morari, Head of the didactic section, Center of Excellence in Services and Food Processing - Moldova
12:10 – 12:20	Conclusion and wrap up	Maria Rosenstock and Nadezda Solodjankina, ETF