



Net

OBSERVAL



Advocacy Pack

**Validation of
Non-formal and
Informal
Learning (VNIL)**

October 2013





In December 2012 the European Council called on Member States to enhance their Validation practices in several aspects by 2018.

More specifically the recommendations refer to:

- the link between validation and national qualifications frameworks
- making accessible information, guidance, and counselling on the benefits of, and opportunities for validation
- special attention to be given to disadvantaged groups and individuals who are unemployed or at risk of unemployment
- quality assurance measures that support reliable, valid and credible assessment methodologies and tools
- development of the professional competences of staff involved in the validation process
- the equivalence of qualifications obtained by means of VNIL and qualifications obtained through formal education programmes
- the use of European Union transparency tools, such as the Europass framework and Youthpass for validation

Key stakeholders in this process are employer organisations, individual employers, trade unions, chambers of industry, commerce and skilled crafts, national entities involved in the process of recognising professional qualifications and in assessing and certifying learning outcomes, employment services, youth organisations, youth workers, training providers, as well as civil society organisations.

The OBSERVAL-Net consortium, with more than 18 strong partner institutions throughout Europe, has a wealth of experience and knowledge in validation covering all educational sectors assembling different learning cultures, traditions and educational systems. In response to and in line with the European Council recommendations and based on our extensive experience in promoting validation, OBSERVAL-Net has developed the **advocacy pack** that you have here **with special attention given to promoting VNIL in 3 sectors:**

- 1** Working life
- 2** Educational institutions
- 3** Civil society

In our manifesto **for wider cooperation and more informed validation practices in Europe** **“COOPERATE TO VALIDATE”** we turn attention to:

- sharing resources about best VNIL practices and promote the Observatory of validation
- making active use of the competence-profile for VNIL practitioners
- enhancing a demand-based approach, methods and tools for VNIL
- showing the relevance and value of grass-root initiatives in VNIL

Useful References on Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning

European Council of Recommendation on the validation of non-formal and informal learning:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/informal_en.htm

OBSERVAL-Net project; European Observatory of validation of non-formal and informal learning and

OBSERVAL-Net's Manifesto: <http://www.observal-net.eu/>

UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) (2012). *UNESCO Guidelines for the Recognition, Validation and Accreditation of the Outcomes of Non-formal and Informal Learning*. Hamburg, UIL: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002163/216360e.pdf>

BOTTOM-UP APPROACH

Albornoz, A. & Dupuis, P. (2008). *Comment évaluer les acquis de l'expérience? Une analyse du travail des experts en VAE*. Université de Genève: Cahiers de la section des sciences de l'éducation. 120.

Cortessis, S. (2013). *Exercer un jugement professionnel sur les acquis de l'expérience : le parcours initiatique d'un jury de validation*. Zürich: Seismo.

Cortessis, S., Salini, D., Rywalski, P. (Dir.) (2013). *Se former au conseil et à l'accompagnement en RVAE. Entre incertitudes et projets*. *Education Permanente* [Hors-série IFFP-IUFFP-EHB].

Salini, D., Bednarz, F. (2010). *Training Recognition and Validation of Prior Learning [RVPL] Professionals*. Education-line collection. <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/documents/194342.pdf>

Voit, J., Weber Guisan, S., Cortessis, S., Petrini, B., Stoffel, B. (2007). *Analyse de compétences du personnel de distribution de la Poste Suisse : Expertise servant de base à une procédure de validation collective d'acquis professionnels en vue de l'obtention du CFC de gestionnaire en logistique*. Zollikofen: IFFP.

http://www.iffp-suisse.ch/fr/iffp/Publications/Documents/EHB_SR_3f.pdf [15.07.2013]

<http://www.iffp-suisse.ch/de/ehb/publikationen/Documents/EHB%20SR%203.pdf> [15.07.2013]

VNIL NEW PROFESSION

Aagaard, K et al.: New professions – competence profiles for VNIL professions: <http://www.observal-net.eu>

European Inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/about-cedefop/projects/validation-of-non-formal-and-informal-learning/european-inventory.aspx>

European guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning, 2009:

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/5059.aspx>

WORK-BASED COMPETENCE

Cedefop (2009). *European Guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning*. Luxembourg: European Communities: http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/Files/4054_EN.PDF

Commission of the European Communities (2000). *A Memorandum on Lifelong learning*. Brussels: CEC, SEC(2000) 1832: http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/policy/memo_en.pdf

Duvekot, R.C., G. Scanlon, A. Charraud, K. Schuur, D. Coughlan, T. Nilsen-Mohn, J. Paulusse & R. Klarus (eds.) (2007). *Managing European diversity in lifelong learning. The many perspectives of the Valuation of Prior Learning in the European workplace*. Nijmegen, HAN/EC-VPL/HvA: <http://www.vpl4.eu>

International Labour Office (ILO) (2005). *Skills, Knowledge and Employability*. Geneva, ILO:

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/---ifp_skills/documents/publication/wcms_103874.pdf

Werquin, P. (2010). *Recognising Non-formal and Informal Learning*. Paris, OECD:

http://www.eucen.eu/sites/default/files/OECD_RNFIFL2010_Werquin.pdf

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