Introduction of Procedures for the Validation on Non-formal and informal Learning in Germany – a Scenario-Delphi

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Validation of non-formal and informal learning in Germany – Current Situation

- no common legal framework and standardised system for validation at national level and across education sectors
- long tradition: external examinations for school qualifications and access to final examinations of vocational training
- accreditation of professionally acquired competences towards university degree courses
- several different competence balance sheets on offer
- recognition of professional and vocational education and training qualifications acquired abroad: under certain circumstances, professional and occupational competences can be identified via skills analysis
- Ongoing discussion (since 2011) how competences acquired in non-formal and informal settings could be incorporated into the national qualification framework
- VALIKOM pilot project: partial or full equivalency with certificates of initial and further vocational training, so far without entitlement to the formal education system
BIBB-research project “Introduction of procedures for the validation of non-formal and informal learning – requirements and possible options”

The idea:

• alternative scenarios and approaches are evaluated by experts
  ➢ identify institutional and actor-specific perspectives and interests
  ➢ identify the necessary framework conditions and chances of realization

Why is the implementation status with regard to the validation of non-formal and informal learning in Germany so far rather low?

Starting Point
Recognition in Germany in the year 2030 – six scenarios

Recognition of non-formal and informal learning

Identification and Documentation of Learning Outcomes

**Szenario 1**
Comprehensive Competence Assessments

**Szenario 2**
European E-portfolio

**Szenario 3**
European Platform for Multifunctional Skills Profiles

**Szenario 4**
Validation with partial qualifications

**Szenario 5**
Validation towards a complete vocational qualification

**Szenario 6**
Validation system supported by a qualifications framework

Formal Recognition
Desirability of scenarios

1st round of the Delphi survey, n = 172
The aim of a validation procedure should ...

- be a validation certificate which attests full or partial equivalence with the reference qualification.
  
  
  
- be a formal qualification.
  
  
  
- be primarily directed at usability on the labour market.

2. round; n=109
## Summary of the results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aims</strong></td>
<td>personal growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extension of vocational action competence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Usability in the labour market</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Results</strong></td>
<td>No formal qualification, but certification of equivalence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financing</strong></td>
<td>very high support for public funding of a validation procedure in the narrow sense</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Acceptance of success-dependent components</td>
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<td>high approval for public financing of competence balance sheets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legal Framework</strong></td>
<td>Basically support for legal regulation(s)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>but: realization rather difficult, especially for solutions that cross educational sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Procedures and Instruments</strong></td>
<td>high approval of action-oriented methods</td>
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<td></td>
<td>no large approval for portfolios to document acquired competencies</td>
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Thank you for your attention.

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