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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"

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

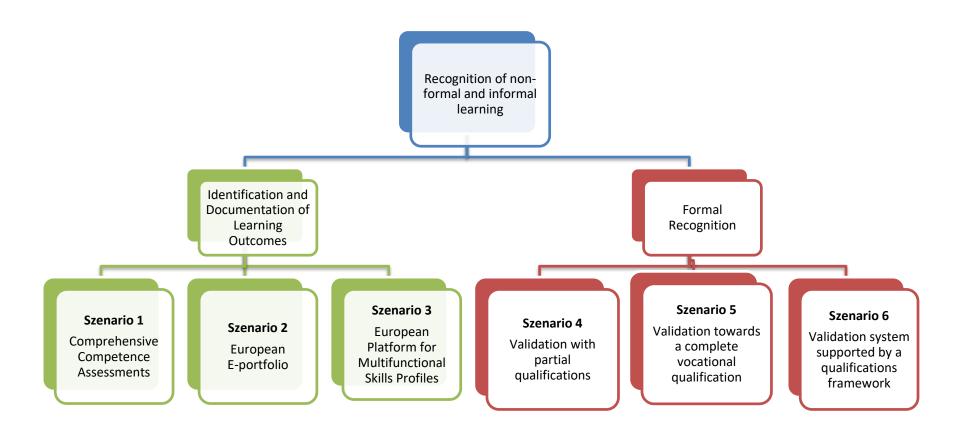
Starting Point

The idea:

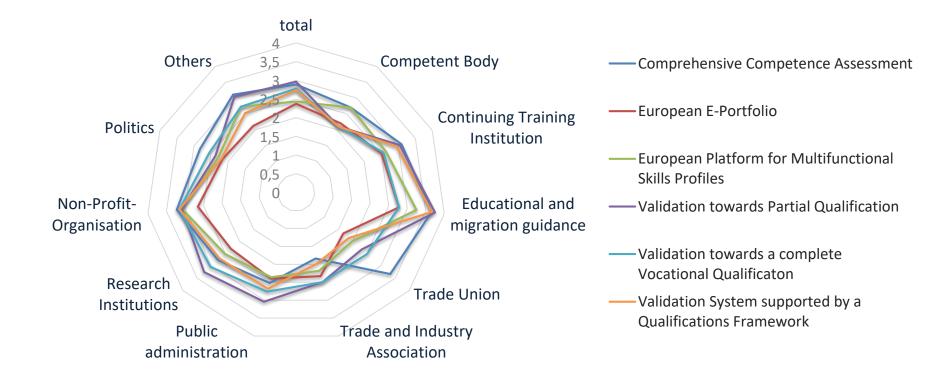
- alternative scenarios and approaches are evaluated by experts
- identify institutional and actorspecific perspectives and interests
- identify the necessary framework conditions and chances of realization



Recognition in Germany in the year 2030 – six scenanrios



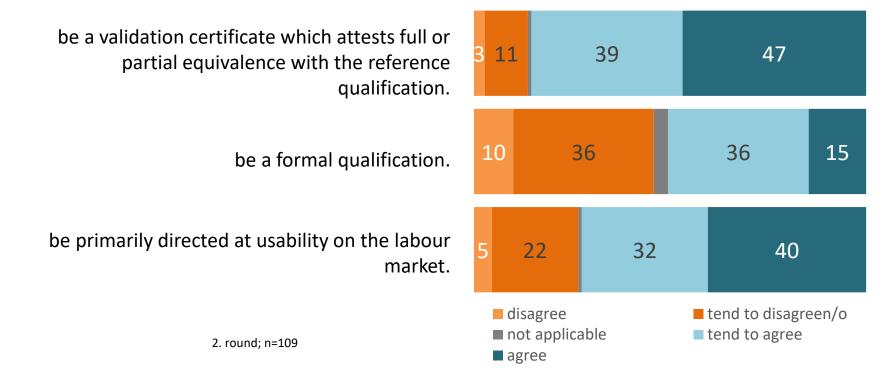
Desirability of scenarios



1st round of the Delphi survey, n = 172



The aim of a validation procedure should ...





Summary of the results

Aims	0	personal growth
	0	Extension of vocational action competence
	0	Usability in the labour market
Results	0	No formal qualification, but certification of equivalence
Financing	0	very high support for public funding of a validation procedure in the narrow sense
	0	Acceptance of success-dependent components
	0	high approval for public financing of competence balance sheets
Legal Framework	0	Basically support for legal regulation(s)
	0	but: realization rather difficult, especially for solutions that cross educational sectors
Procedures and	0	high approval of action-oriented methods
Instruments	0	no large approval for portfolios to document acquired competencies





Thank you for your attention.

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