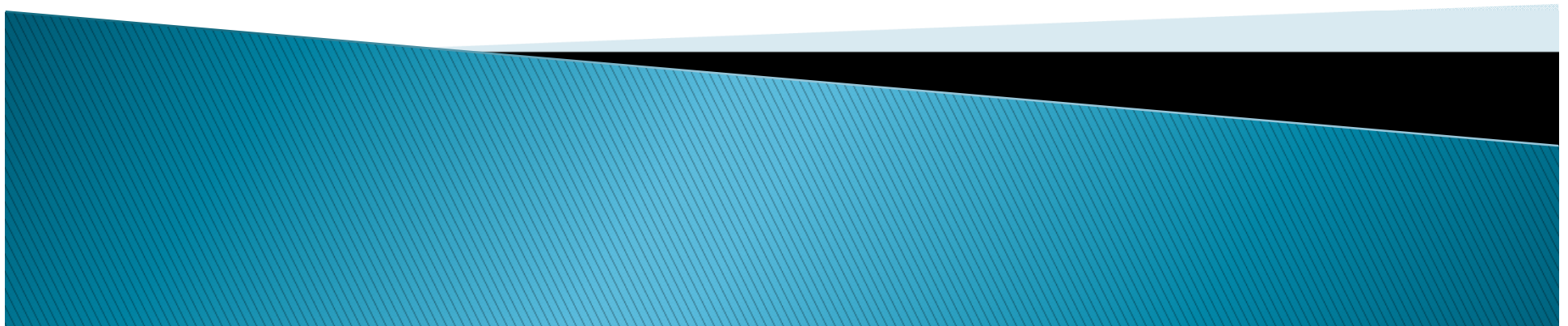


OBSERVAL

A Observatory of VNIFL practices in Europe

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An initiative from EUCEN
Granted by the European Commission



Initial objectives of the project

- ▶ Create a European Observatory on validation of non formal and informal learning practices and results in European countries
- ▶ Collect and update data on regulations, arrangements, standards and references, methods and tools, results and statistics. These data will be presented on a common format
- ▶ Review national debates and discussions, articulations with European initiatives (NQF–EQF, learning outcomes, adult education plan,...)
- ▶ Identify good practices (case studies)
- ▶ Provide annotated bibliography and literature review (researches, surveys, reports,...)

What is not the Observatory

- ▶ The Observatory is not an Inventory, a presentation of what is happening in a country
- ▶ The Observatory is not a website presenting just a collection of documents on practices and arrangements

The added value of the Observatory (1)

- ▶ An analysis of information on validation available in a country
- ▶ A presentation of these information on a common format and an insertion in the Observatory based on a quality process
- ▶ A structured provision allowing comparability
- ▶ A combination of different categories of information
- ▶ A global resource for actors in charge of validation, for policy makers, social partners, stakeholders,...
- ▶ An instrument for transparency

The added value (2)

- ▶ A guarantee that information provided are accurate and regularly updated
- ▶ A balanced approach between a European dimension and the national or sectoral dimension, comparability not similarity
- ▶ Contribute to a common understanding of validation
- ▶ Work on a common language and common definition of concepts

Partners

- ▶ 24 National trans–sectoral teams
- ▶ Country leaders
- ▶ A Steering group
- ▶ Experts with specific role : analysis of data provided, quality insurance, external evaluation, validation prize,...

The content of the Observatory

- ▶ It is made of 4 categories of data :
- ▶ Documents: « official » documents (regulations, arrangements, statistics,...), official reactions from stakeholders (social partners, companies, learning and training institutions,...) and documents produced by actors involved in validation processes (application forms, assessment tools,...)
- ▶ Annual reports written by national teams on the « state of art » in the country and on progresses in implementation
- ▶ Case study, best practices in the three sectors (articles, interviews, videos,...)
- ▶ Annotated review of the most interesting reports, surveys, articles published each year in a country

A website

- ▶ www.observal.org
- ▶ Access to 4 categories of documents
- ▶ Classified by country and by theme

Perspective : questions

- ▶ Long discussions with DGEAC about sustainability
- ▶ There is a need for such a tool
- ▶ How to update such an instrument?
- ▶ A permanent European Observatory ?