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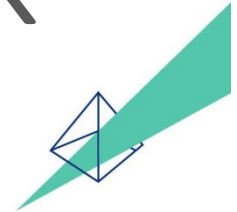
## How to make learning visible

Strategies for implementing validation  
of non-formal and informal learning



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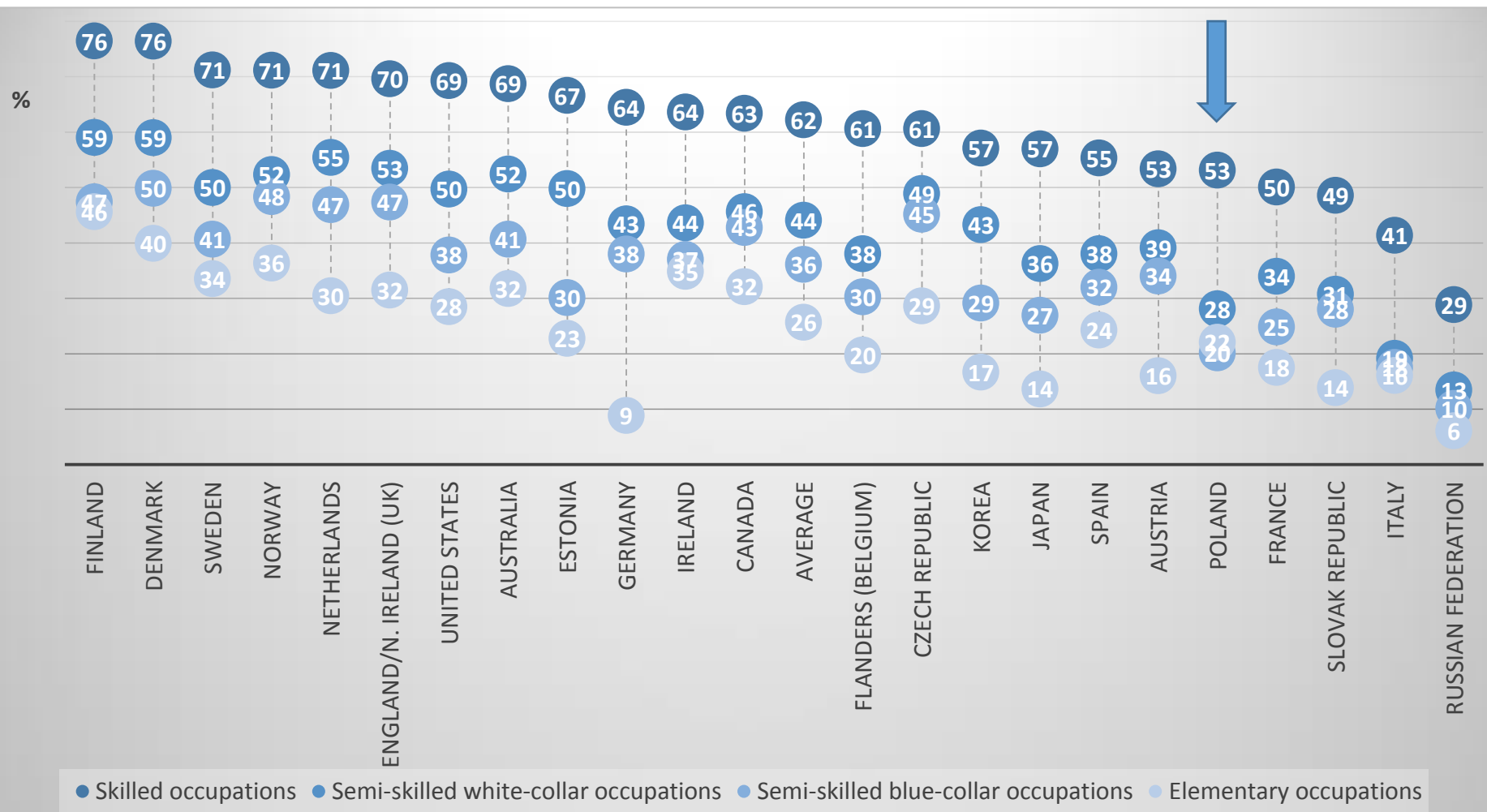


**The future: the Polish Approach to Make Learning Visible?**

# Outline

1. Adult learning in Poland from the perspective of the target groups
2. Role of the validation in the integrated qualifications system in Poland
3. What can be done? Planned activities to promote validation

# Participation in the formal and non-formal learning according to occupation in 2012



Source: OECD Education at a Glance 2015

# Participation in LLL in Poland

- Low education, especially on the level of basic vocational and lower means lower probability of participating in various form of learning
- Labour market situation matters, those that learn the least are:
  - Unskilled workers
  - Those who don't work for more than 5 years
- Family background is important for the approach to lifelong learning
- Chances to participate in LLL grow until the person reaches around 40 years of age, then they gradually fall
- There are also regional differences in LLL participation

*These results are consistent accross different years: LFS 2008 and 2013, AES 2011*

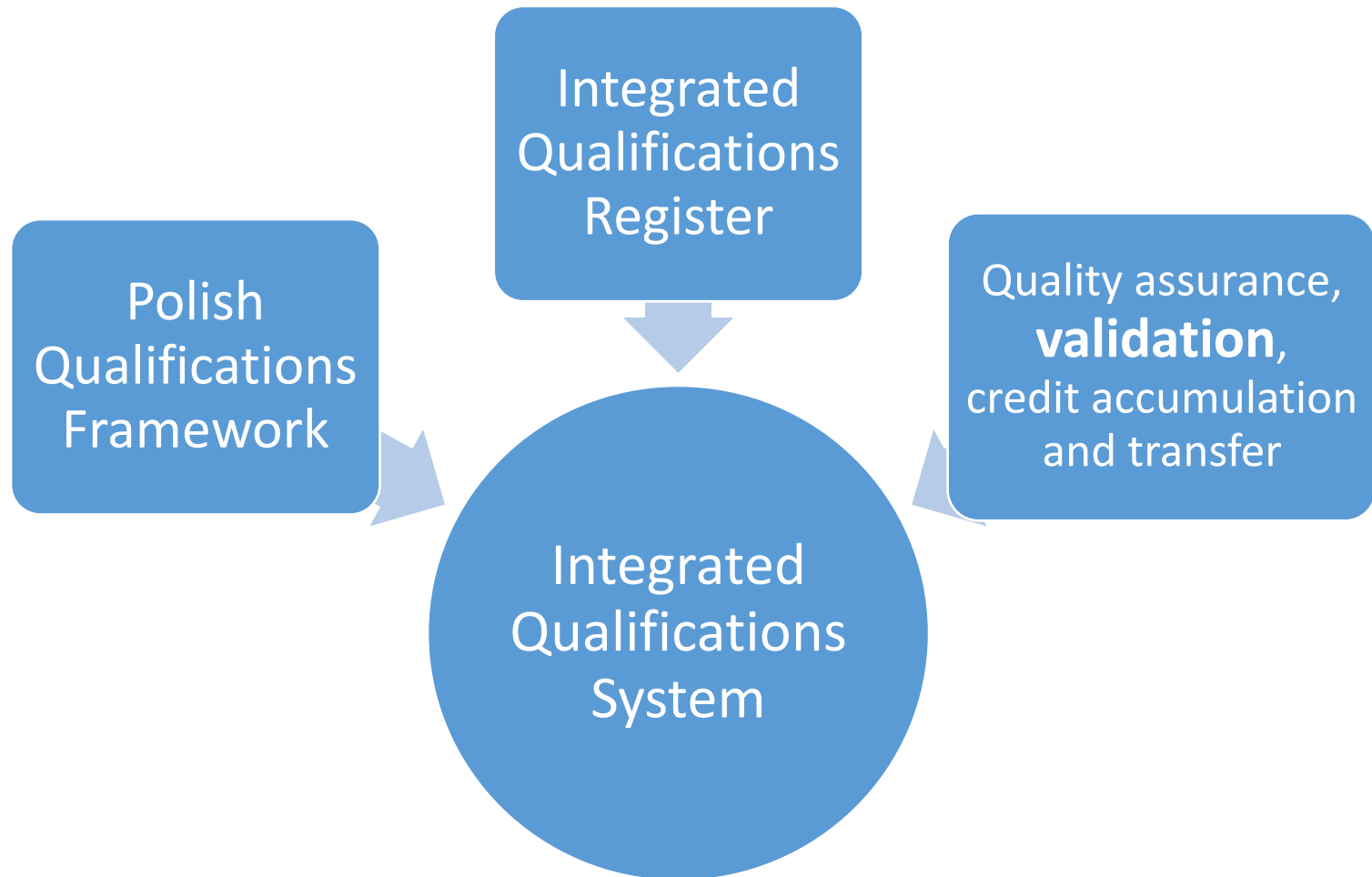
# Reasons for non-participation in LLL

There are differences reasons for non-participation in LLL, people with low educational attainment:

- More frequently don't see the need to learn
- More frequently have health problems that limit possibilities to learn
- More frequently identify financing difficulties
- Identify barriers related to the lack of adequate supply
- More frequently are worried that they would not cope with learning



Main components of the Integrated Qualifications System in Poland set in the Act on the Integrated Qualifications System in force since January 2016



# Validation in the Act on the Integrated Qualifications System - definition

Verification, whether a person applying for a qualification,

**regardless on the way of learning of that person,**

achieved the selected part or all learning outcomes required for this qualification

# Validation in the Act on the Integrated Qualifications System

- In the description of qualification that is proposed to be included in the qualifications system there should be information on the requirements related to the validation process and institutions that are responsible for the validation



# Validation in the Act on the Integrated Qualifications System

- Positive effect of the validation is the basis for the certification
- Selected units of learning outcomes required in the qualification can be validated in different places and at different times, unless the validation requirements do not specify otherwise

# Validation in the Act on the Integrated Qualifications System

- Validation is done by the certifying institution (IC) according to the requirements specified for the qualification
- IC can authorise other entities to validate, but is responsible for validation process done by these entities

# Financing of validation

- Private sources:

- Employers
- Learners

- Public sources:

- Labour Fund, especially for the unemployment
- National Training Fund: relatively new tool financing training needs identified by employers
- European Social Fund: preferences for financing training that leads to validation and qualifications

# Further development of validation in Poland

The ESF-supported project sets out several paths of promoting the validation of non-formal and informal learning in Poland

## Resources:

1. Developing a database of good practices in validation
2. Developing a catalogue of methods of validation
3. Survey of employment agencies and vocational counsellors focuses on developing practical recommendations how to increase access to validation of non-formal and informal learning

# Further development of validation in Poland

The ESF-supported project sets out several paths of promoting the validation of non-formal and informal learning in Poland

Information and dissemination:

1. Practical guides to the validation in the qualifications system
2. Brochures
3. Qualifications portal
4. E-learning courses
5. Open training sessions for certifying and validating institutions
6. Open training sessions for other stakeholders, including vocational counsellors, regional and local authorities, employers

# Further development of validation in Poland

The ESF-supported project sets out several paths of promoting the validation of non-formal and informal learning in Poland

Co-operation with selected institutions in:

1. **Developing validation practices including internal quality assurance**
2. Developing descriptions of qualifications, including validation requirements
3. Developing external quality assurance practices

# Conclusions

- Increased access to the validation can help to overcome some of the barriers in the LLL participation: motivation, barriers related to resources and supply of qualifications
- The new Act on the Integrated Qualifications System introduces the new approach to validation, integrating principles of the validation of the non-formal and informal learning
- At this moment, it is crucial to support the systemic changes with adequate actions supporting increased supply of the validation and better access to validation for all, particularly for the most important target groups
- Further work on the strategic plan for improving key competencies among people with lowest skills is, however, needed