



## Skills validation (since 2014) ANOFM – PES Romania

POLICY LEARNING  
FORUM

Vocational training  
for the long-term unemployed

Learning from inspiring  
practices

Thessaloniki, Greece  
15 and 16 June 2017



CEDEFOP  
European Centre for the Development  
of Vocational Training

### What it is

- ▶ Validation of non-formally and informally acquired skills and competences for the LTU and other disadvantaged groups on the labour market (i.e. rural workers)
- ▶ Legal basis: amendment to Law no.76/2002 (the unemployment insurance act) passed in 2013
- ▶ Aim: to tackle inactivity cycles by providing those without or with incomplete schooling but with skills acquired via work experience with the opportunity of formal validation and thus an avenue towards more permanent gainful employment and/or towards more complete vocational training
- ▶ Covers assessment of practical and theoretical skill/qualification. Duration (hours) depends on the skill/qualification to be assessed
- ▶ Assessment of skills and qualifications is done in accordance with occupational standards approved by the National Authority for Qualifications
- ▶ Assessment centre services are financed from the budget of the Unemployment Insurance fund. The measure is provided/performed according to the availability of funds throughout the year
- ▶ In 2016 (January – December) a total of 1216 persons from the ranks of LTU and other disadvantaged categories benefited from the measure. In the first two years the measure was in place (2014 and 2015) this was about half of this number

### How it works

The measure has been enacted via a change into the unemployment insurance act (law no.76/2002) adopted as of 2013 (law no.250/2013 which introduced articles 70.1, 70.2 and 70.3 into the text of law no.76/2002). It allows a wider range of potential beneficiaries (i.e.: long term unemployed, individuals from the rural areas having either no source of income or having incomes lower than the social reference indicator, etc.,) registering with the PES, irrespective of their eligibility for the unemployment benefit or for other monetary benefits under the law to apply for the validation of their non-formally or informally acquired skills and competences.

Individuals may enter the programme at their own initiative but they do have to undergo profiling by at local PES offices in order to get effective access to the assessment centres and benefit from the services free of charge. Guidance and counselling is provided.

The validation procedure is undertaken with training providers that receive accreditation as “skills’ and competences” validation centres. All costs for the validation procedure are covered by the unemployment insurance fund. However, following the validation of the non-formally or informally acquired skills, beneficiaries are bound to accept a suitable offer from the PES. Unjustified refusal entitles the PES to recover the money spent on the validation/assessment process.

An element of success is mandatory registration with the PES in order to be eligible for free of charge validation (i.e.: paid for by the unemployment insurance fund). This also helps speed up registration in the case of the NEET and opens up opportunities for profiling (a measure that is taking place as of 2016).

### Who is involved

1. Ministry of Labour and Social Justice (overall policy responsibility)
2. PES finance and coordinate the application of the measure and report results on a yearly basis
3. Private and public training providers – accredited as assessment centres – provide the actual services

### More information

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*On the web*

[www.anofm.ro](http://www.anofm.ro)

(PES in Romania)

[http://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/images/buletin\\_statistic/ocupare\\_an2016.pdf](http://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/images/buletin_statistic/ocupare_an2016.pdf)

(Developments in employment, mobility, unemployment and social protection of the unemployed, in RO)

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1087&langId=en>

(RO contribution to the EEPO review on “Up-Skilling Unemployed Adults”, March 2015)