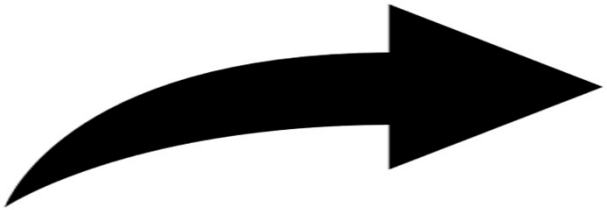
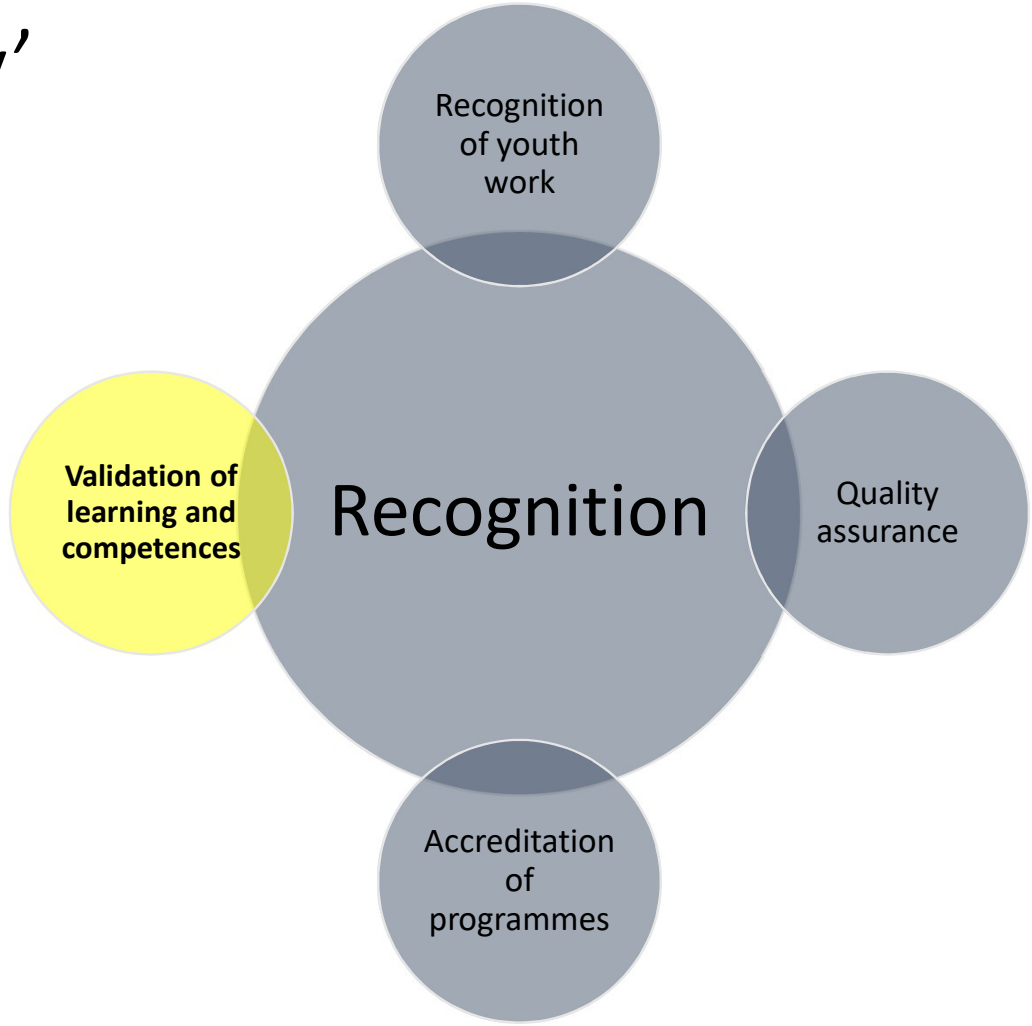
Validation tools development in youth work

Observed trends and possible future directions

Focus of this ‘study’





Analysis is based on

- Bridges for Recognition report, 2005
- Visible Value – Mapping of tools and good practices for better recognition of youth work and non-formal learning/education at European and national levels, EU-CoE Youth Partnership, 2014
- Validation in the care and youth work sectors - Thematic report for the 2016 update of the European inventory on validation, CEDEFOP, 2016
- Improv-Val KA2 project, 2019
- KA2 projects suggested by National Agencies for Erasmus+
- Other identified developments
- Total of 38 tools in the analysis

The four phases of validation

Education and training

- **Identification** of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning
- **Documentation** of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning
- **Assessment** of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning
- **Certification** of the results of the assessment of an individual's learning outcomes acquired through non-formal and informal learning in the form of a qualification, or credits leading to a qualification, or in another form, as appropriate.

From: European guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning, 2015, CEDEFOP

Youth field

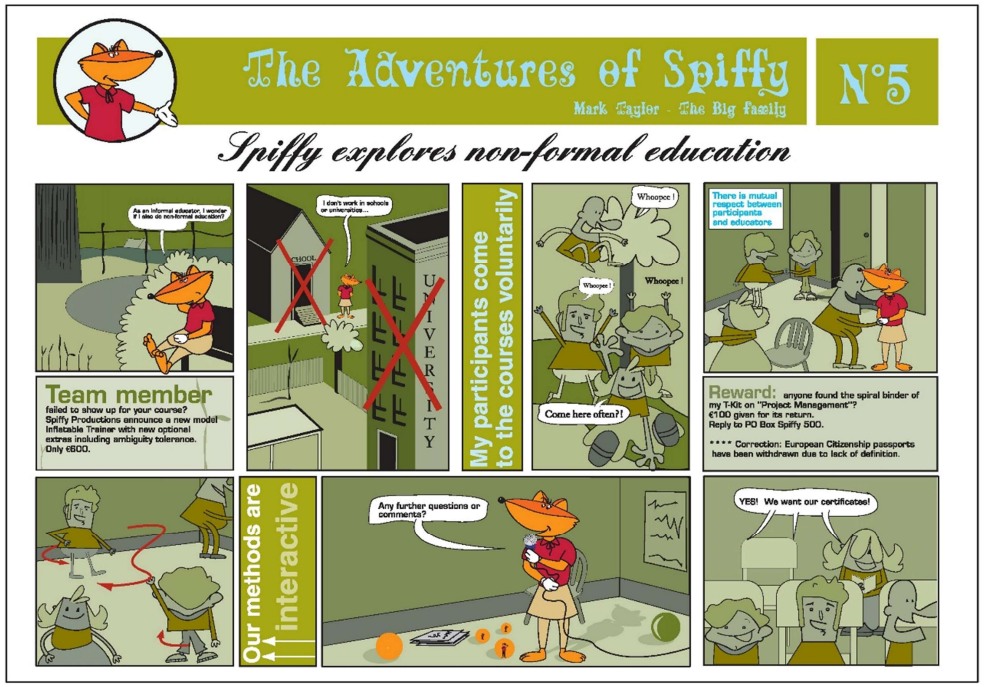
- Reflection on learning process
- Collecting learning outcomes
- Competence based self-assessment
- Less formal certification or acquiring learning badges

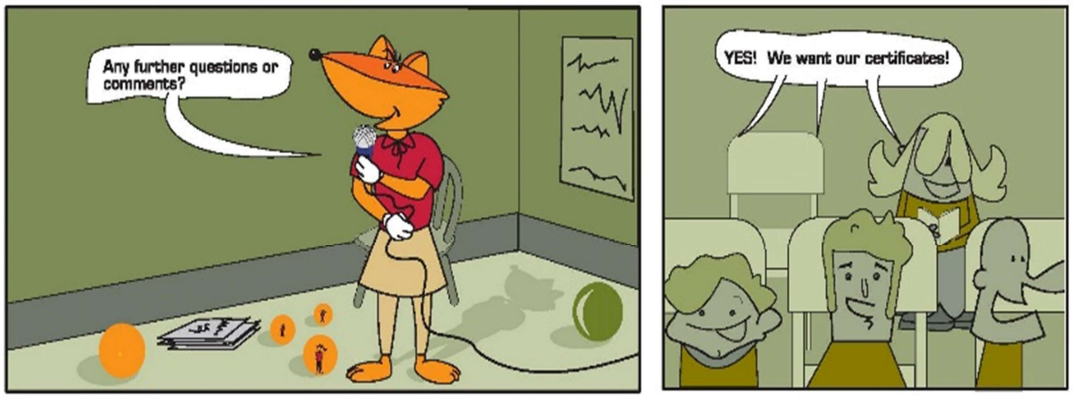
Pre-recognition period (before 2000)

- Rare issuing of certificates of participation by youth organisations
- Council of Europe DYS did it
- European Voluntary Service certificate

Larger trend: Experience was important and demand for certificates was low

We want our certificates!





Coyote, Issue 5, January 2002, CoE-EU Youth Partnership

Lifelong learning wave (after 2000)

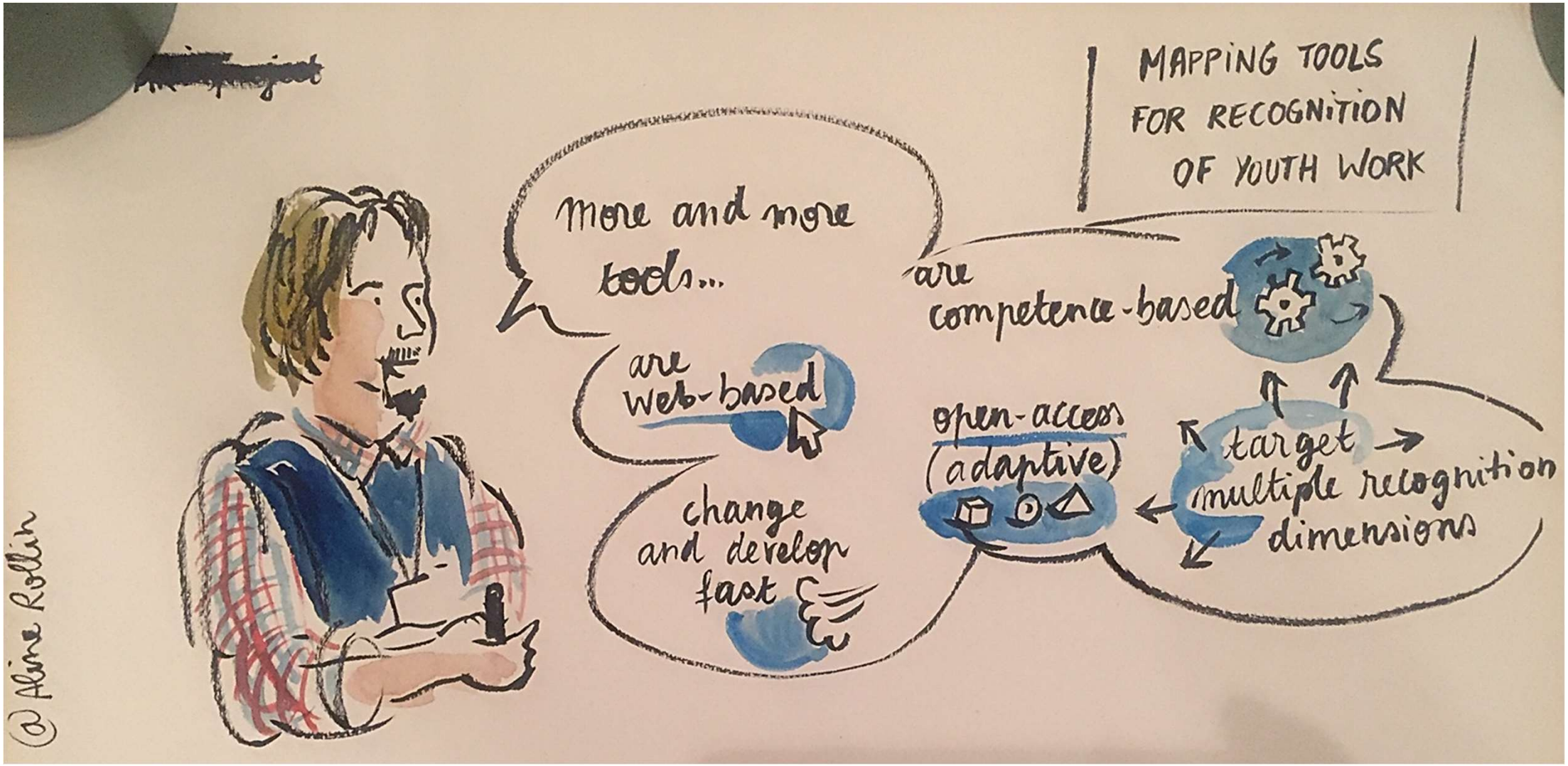
- Lifelong Learning agenda and White paper on youth
- More demand for certificates of participation by participants
- Paper-based recording notebooks (Recreational study booklet, Nefiks, Euromed Training Pass)
- Portfolios (Personal Record of Achievement, ProfilPASS, European Portfolio for Youth Leaders and Youth Workers, Attestation et Portfolio de l'engagement)

Larger trend: Valuing all forms of learning and making learning visible

Youthpass Revolution (2007)

- Youthpass – self-assessment of learning, reflection on learning, digitally issued certificate, self-generated, including Key Competences for Lifelong Learning
- Strengthening reflection (Reflection diaries)
- Youthpass beyond Youth in Action programme (Latvia, Estonia, Australia)
- Dialogue processes (ELD Experience – Learning – Description, Pasos kompetencija)
- Open access tools and self-generated certificates (OSCAR, C-STICK)
- Speak the language of employers (Empower yourself/Valorise Toi)

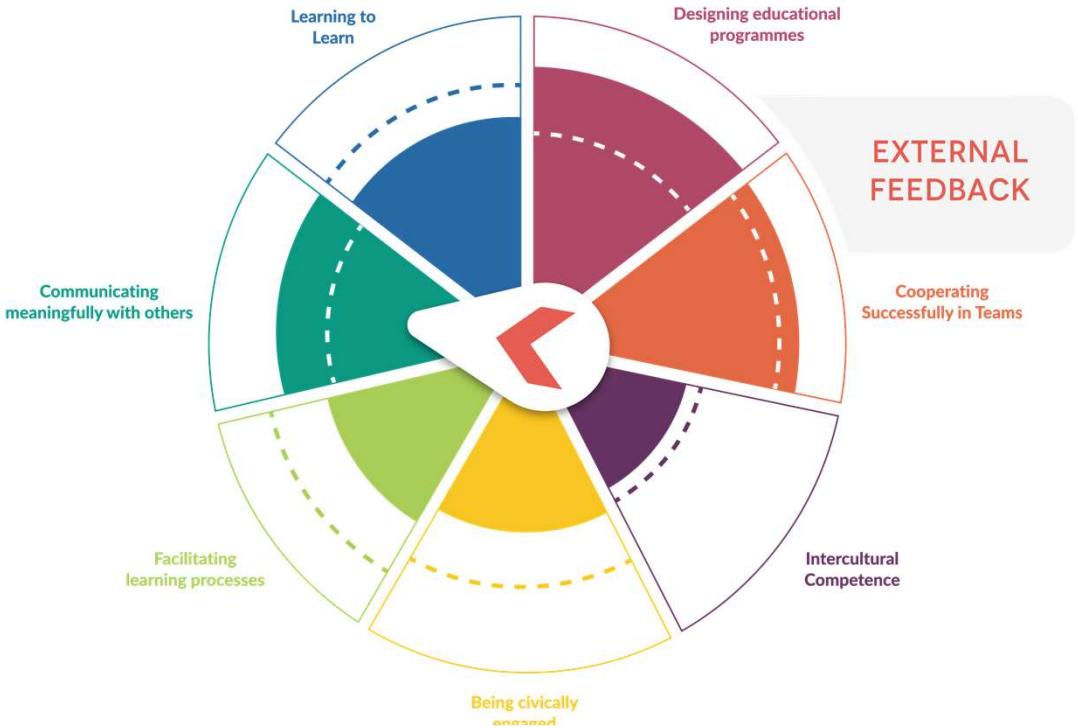
Larger trend: Employability pressure

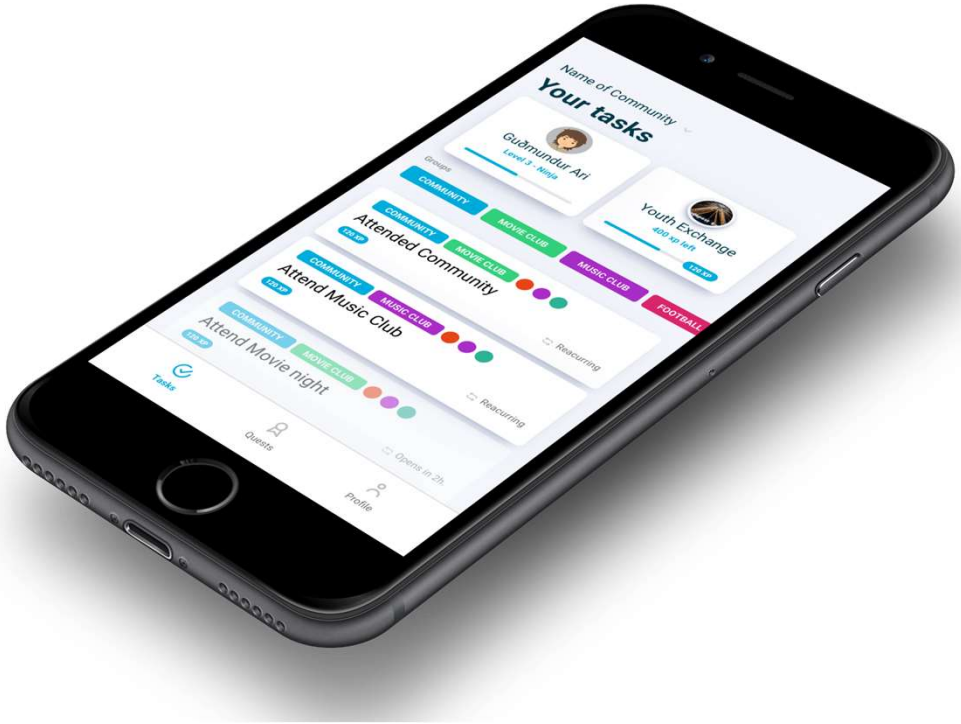

MAPPING TOOLS FOR RECOGNITION OF YOUTH WORK
More and more tools...
are web-based
change and develop fast
are competence-based
open-access (adaptive)
target multiple recognition dimensions
© Aline Rollin

Competence models development

- ETS competence models for trainers working internationally
- ETS competence model for youth workers
- The Council of Europe Youth Work competence model
- Key Action 2 projects competence models for volunteering (EaSY, IM-PROVE, VOLEM, LEVER UP)

Larger trend: Increasing professionalisation and competences as common language


Learning to Learn
Designing educational programmes
EXTERNAL FEEDBACK
Communicating meaningfully with others
Cooperating Successfully in Teams
Facilitating learning processes
Intercultural Competence
Being civically


Name of Community
Your tasks
Guðmundur Ari
Youth Exchange
Attended Community
Attend Music Club
Attend Movie night
Tasks
Quests
Profile

Going digital

- Digital portfolios (C-Stick, The CoE Youth Work Portfolio)
- Digital Learning Badges (Badgecraft)
- Algorithm-based competence translation (IM-PROVE)
- Mobile apps and web-based apps (I'VE, Badge Wallet, VAXA app)
- Online assessment tools (Scout Leader Skills, Appraiser - Competence assessment platform for trainers, DesTeVa)

Larger trend: Technology development and digital credentialing

Platform for Cities of Learning
Map learning opportunities in your city and offer flexible learning pathways
Read More

More formal and more informal

- Addressing informal learning as well (Cities of Learning,
- More formal validation of competences (full cycle of validation): linked with National Qualifications Framework (aufZAQ, NAPOR)
- ECTS points for Youthpass in Lithuania
- New European Training Strategy Goals: Accreditation system for trainers working at European and international level and Validation of youth workers' competences and learning outcomes
- Beyond specific projects, more validating of complete youth work(er) experience (future Youthpass developments)

Larger trend: formal recognition and raising importance of informal learning

Future of validation: Beyond competences?

- Nowadays the skills get so quickly outdated
- What are the future-fit competences?
- Or meta-competences?
- Can we imagine validation of mindsets?

- Larger trend: rethinking learning and future-fit education

List of validation tools in the analysis

1. Appraiser - Competence assessment platform for trainers, European
2. Attestation et Portfolio de l'engagement,2009, Luxembourg
3. aufZAQ – Educational Quality and Competence in Youth Work, Austria,
4. Certificates International, Nachweise International, Germany
5. Cities of learning, International
6. Competencies acquired through volunteering, Croatia
7. C-Stick, Belgium
8. Cultural Competency Record (CCR), Germany
9. Destination eValidation (DesTeVa)
10. Digital Learning Badges – Badge Wallet app
11. EaSY Soft Skills
12. ELD Experience – Learning – Description, Sweden
13. Empower yourself-Valorise Toi, France
14. Enterprising and surprising through 8 key competences (8KEYCOM)
15. Euromed Training Pass, International
16. European Portfolio for Youth Leaders and Youth Workers, European
17. European Solidarity Corps Learning Notebook
18. I'VE app, 2016, Italy
19. IM-PROVE, Czech Republic
20. Keys for life: Personal Portfolio of Competences, Czech Republic

List of validation tools in the analysis

21. Lever Up, Italy, Belgium, Poland, France, Spain
22. NAPOR portfolio for youth workers/leaders, Serbia
23. Nefiks, Slovenia
24. Non-academic transcript, Turkey
25. OSCAR, Belgium
26. Pasoš kompetencija za mlade , Bosnia-Herzegovina
27. Personal Record of Achievement, UK
28. ProfilPASS for young adults, Germany
29. Recreational study booklet, Finland
30. Scout Leader Skills,Belgium
31. The Council of Europe Youth Work Portfolio, European
32. VAXA app, Iceland
33. VOLEM (VOLunteering for EMployability), Italy, France, Louxebourg
34. Volonterska knjižica, Croatia
35. VOLUE – recognition and validation of leaning in volunteering
36. Volunteer Passport, Estonia
37. Volunteering competences, Danmark
38. Youthpass, European, 2007