



Slovenian model of validation and recognition of non-formal knowledge in the field of adult education



Original language:
Slovene

Country:
Slovenia

Source:
Andragogic centre Slovenia

Link:
http://www.acs.si/upload/fck/Image/Ugotavljanje_vrednotenje_in_priznavanje_neformalno_in_prilnostno_pridobljenega_znanja_odraslih.pdf
(access date: 23/03/2017)

Target group
X **Teacher / trainer**
 Counsellor
 Social worker
 Youth worker
 future employer
 other:

Type of best practice
 tool
 initiative/campaign
 project
 website only
 programme
X **model**
 training
 learning material
 other:

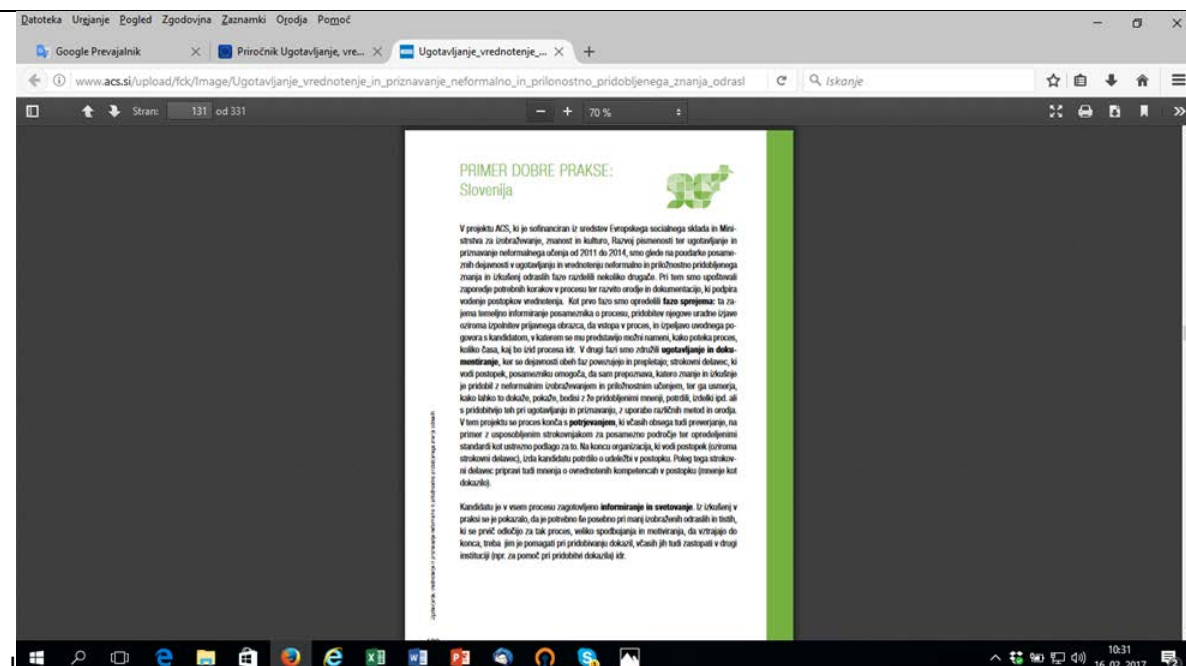
Experiences
 available for more than 5 years
X **available for less than 5 years**
 pilot phase / testing
 in development
 unknown

Summary:

Slovenian model of validation and recognition was developed under the ACS project “*Literacy and the identification and validation of non-formal learning*”, which was funded by the European Social Fund and the Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Literacy from 2011 to 2014. It included 4 stages:

- admission of candidates (information, motivation, identification purpose)
- identification, documentation, evaluation, checking (using different tool)
- validation (certificate constructed portfolios, etc.).
- recognition (certification in nationally defined systems).

The model is based on the comparative analysis of similar models in European countries (France, Netherlands, Norway) and includes two additional services: continually informing and counselling at all levels, which has proved to be especially useful with the less educated adults.



Description:

In the first phase it is identified, **which knowledge the candidate has acquired through non-formal and informal education and learning**. Identification is based on purpose and objectives for which the candidate decided to participate in this process. Advisors can use open interviews, educational biographies (essay) or a combination of both methods.

Documenting is part of the second phase in which individuals or in cooperation with the adviser collect evidence, e.g.: certificates, certificates of employment, portfolio, personal folders, Nefiks and other types of documents with a valid signature and stamp of the institution, organization or company, which provided training or courses.

Third phase includes **validation of learning outcomes** where individuals alone or in conjunction with an adviser compare achievements (learning outcomes) with descriptions of the expected results (e.g. pre-determined standards of learning outcomes) and on this basis, "evaluate" what is still missing.

Verification of learning outcomes could be a separate phase or combined with the fifth one. The examination of knowledge can be carried out with different methods, but based on formal standards. Specially qualified professionals must derive verification. The verification can be conducted by oral presentations, research papers, projects, tests, essays, display skills, etc.

Recognition of learning outcomes is the last stage in the process. It is a formal recognition of learning outcomes by granting a formal certificate (e.g. as a certificate of national vocational qualification). Results of recognition may also be written in the form of references, if candidates are asking for that kind of form or in the form of credits that demonstrate knowledge of the individual in relation to the requirements in the formal education curriculum. Individuals in re-participation in formal education or in re-employment can use the results of the recognition.

Informing includes information about the process itself (who offers programs, how is it accessible for different target groups, who can take part in these processes, what are purposes and benefits) and each phase (what kind of documents are valid, where can an individual get it, how to use Europass and so on.) It can be done in face-to face consultations, mail, telephone or Skype.

Consulting comprises more in-depth management with a candidate through all stages of assessment and recognition. The advisor is here in a role of mentor and motivator, who encourages candidates to become and stay proactive and encourages finishing the whole process.

Contributing partner: INTEGRA