The information collected in this document has been co-produced by the eight partners in the lifelong learning programme Grundtvig Learning Partnership **Volunteering Validation Highway** (GRU-13-P-LP-236-SV-FI). You will find a collection of (web) tools from around Europe that can be used in validating volunteers' competencies. Enjoy reading!

Portfolio and Skills Passport (European Union)

The European Portfolio for youth leaders and youth workers is an initiative of the Council of Europe in cooperation with experts and partners such as the European Commission and the European Youth Forum. It provides youth leaders and youth workers in Europe, volunteers or professionals, with a tool which can help them identify, assess and describe their competencies based on European quality standards:

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/resources/portfolio/portfolio_EN.asp

The European Skills Passport was launched by the European Commission in June 2012. It helps people to assemble their skills and qualifications online and to improve the presentation of their CVs by bringing together their educational and training certificates in one place:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/20121221_en.htm

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20120612IPR46648/html/Volunteering-%E2%80%93-validating-skills-for-use-in-job-hunting

Open badges (International)

Open badges are virtual achievement badges that can be earned by anyone for learning or another type of achievement. They can be issued by, for example, voluntary organisations, and can be included in a cv, displayed on many social media profiles and so on. Anyone can start to use them. Badges contain data about which criteria have been used, who has issued the badge and so on. Many badge creation tools are free, but some advanced ones include a fee for the issuers. One of the best-known open badge systems has been created by the Mozilla Foundation, but there are many more as well.

http://openbadges.org/

Kamu (Finland)

Kamu (buddy) is a project between Finnish polytechnic universities and other educational institutions where students volunteer to become buddies to migrants. It incorporates service learning with volunteering. On the site there is a web-based validation questionnaire (in Finnish only) about learning by

volunteering for students that they fill in and that are endorsed by their tutors. Information about the project is available in English: http://kamu.metropolia.fi/en/

Learning self-assessment tool in pdf format (in Finnish):

http://kamu.metropolia.fi/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Vapaaehtoistoiminnan-harjoittelu.pdf

Voluntary identification card and certificate (Portugal)

Currently in Portugal there are two documents that identify the Volunteer: the ID card and Declaration of the performance of volunteer activity.

Voluntary identification card

The volunteer identification card is used for identification of the volunteer, the promoting organization and the area of voluntary activity.

Accreditation and certification of volunteer work

Accreditation and certification of volunteer work is carried out through a certificate issued by the promoting organization within which the volunteer develops his work, this certificate must include: identification of the volunteer, the domain of his work, the place where it was performed, the time and duration.

For more information:

http://www.voluntariado.pt/

http://www.voluntariadojovem.pt/

Projects and European Portfolio (United Kingdom)

The Institute for Volunteering Research has participated in the development of a Self Assessment Tool in collaboration with other European partners as part of a LLP project, which has just been completed. The tool is intended for volunteers and volunteer managers to assess their knowledge and skills across four thematic areas:

http://www.revealvolunteering.eu/intro_sat.php?entity=IVR&language=english

MOVE (Mutual Recognition of Skills and Competences Gained Through Volunteering) is an older Grundtvig project involving three different UK organisations. It took place several years ago but the final report provides a very comprehensive overview of the best practice across Europe:

http://www.ivr.org.uk/images/stories/Institute-of-Volunteering-Research/Migrated-Resources/Documents/M/CEV-MOVEconferenceReport.pdf

"Team London" is the Mayor's volunteering programme aiming to get 100,000 more Londoners volunteering by the end of his term of office. The programme is part of the 2012 Olympics legacy:

http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/volunteering

The programme envisaged a package of volunteer recognition elements, including tangible items and annual get-togethers as well as Annual Team London Awards for individual volunteers, volunteer teams, and organisations showing best practice in volunteer management:**http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/volunteering/reward-and-recognition**

On 18 January 2014 a new website was launched (**http://volunteerteam.london.gov.uk/pages/pages/3**) making it easier to find volunteering opportunities across London. On the Support and Recognition page volunteers can register to record their volunteering hours and to build a volunteering CV, which can then be downloaded as a pdf file. The personalised CV is endorsed by the Mayor of London, and includes details of volunteering activity, skills demonstrated and a volunteer organisation reference.

Guidelines and Certificate (Romania)

The working Group for Recognition of skills acquired through Volunteering active in the European Year of Volunteering 2011, developed Guidelines for the recognition of skills acquired through volunteering. This document presents the structured approach for the recognition of competences acquired through voluntary activities and the issuance of the certificate of skills acquired through volunteering.

As a result of the activity in the working group, it proposed the following formal framework for structuring the recognition process of the skills acquired through volunteering and the process of completion and issuance of the certificate of competences acquired through volunteering. The following guide was developed to clarify and report consistently the concepts and the process of issuing the certificate of competences acquired through volunteering. This approach is supported by Save the Children by providing the online-platform http://www.evoluntar.ro/ for issuing the certificate of competences acquired through the voluntary pilot phase.

Qualipass (Germany)

The state-operated *Jugendstiftung of Baden-Württemberg* has designed and separated its qualification-pass for two major groups: youth and the adults. The 'Quali-Pass' for young adolescents includes certification forms for schools. Each school or any validator of volunteer work may buy these forms and individualize them according to their institution. The owner of such a qualification pass may collect awarded competencies, volunteered work experience and any type of qualification together with a résumé. The main goal of the pass is to summarize the overall competencies and qualifications of a person. When applying for a job, one will have the possibility to present all additional achievements, e.g. volunteer work in a professionally standardized form. A short videoclip advertises the advantages of the pass, especially for younger people:

http://www.qualipass.info/fileadmin/Videos/QP_ Videos/Zeichentrick_QP_Film/final_cut_Qualipass_Film.ogv

ProfilPASS (Germany)

The profilPASS aims to support people to systematically discover their competences and present them. This can support the orientation within the professional field and also within the private field. The profilPASS includes many collection areas about different areas within a life also including a part for volunteering. The competences are collected in a table in four steps: 1) name the activity 2) describe the activity 3) name the competence you have developed through this activity and 4) evaluate the strength of this competence.

http://www.profilpass.de/

You can use the profilPASS to plan your professional or personal development, to prepare your comeback to professional work, to get a new orientation in another professional field and/or to plan future learning areas. The profilPASS is used in Germany only at the moment, but there is a project (KISS – Knowing Interests-Showing Skills) during which the transfer to other countries is planned. http://www.die-bonn.de/Weiterbildung/Forschungslandkarte/Projekt.aspx?id=693