PLA  How to make visible and value skills and competence of refugees exchanging national approaches and experiences

•  The Hague 28–29 April 2016
Peer learning activity refugees

• Topic “How to make visible and value refugees’ skills and competences and approaches and experiences”
• Representatives present from 19 countries, European Commission, Cedefop and European Parliament
• Presentations from Germany, Sweden and the Netherlands, European Commission, Cedefop
Points of departure

• Existing (national) systems for recognition, validation and/or guidance/counselling systems

• Recommendation VNFIL
  - Identification of refugees’ KSC
  - Documentation of refugees’ KSC
  - Assessment of refugees’ KSC
  - Certification/formal recognition of refugees’ KSC
Target groups and approaches

• With or without residence permit: different in respective countries and makes a difference for possible approaches
• National rules and regulations are determining factors
• Timing is essential
• Different refugee challenges across Europe
• Flexible systems and procedures are necessary because of differences in language and culture
• Validation of skills is part of wider integration process
Key messages

• Language skills support important especially for identification
• First identification important in order not to lose potential
• Flexible systems and procedures are necessary
• Validation in stepwise manner with different methods at each step
• Assessment not only against qualification standards of host country
• Sharing information on education systems with countries of origin
• Different views on added value of skills profiler tool
Overall conclusions

- Staged approach is needed
- Shorted possible time from arrival to securing a job
- Build as much information as possible at earliest possible opportunity
- Focus validation on refugee, not on the administration/procedures
- Awareness of layers of processes: formal documentation or not
- Trust and authority is therefore needed
Establishment of an expert group to support the member states