

Lifelong learning, quality assurance and recurrent education in higher education in Sweden

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Encell – the national centre for lifelong learning 2



Encell develops and disseminates knowledge about adult learning and lifelong learning. www.encell.se

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"The importance of adult learning is reflected in the EUlevel target that at least 60 % of all adults should be participating in training every year by 2030." (Eurostat, 2022)



#### Adult participation in learning, % of population aged 25 to 64



(European Commission Eurostat, 2021)

#### The Swedish national system for lifelong learning



### A sustainable infrastructure for adults lifelong learning



A report from Vinnova – Sweden's Innovation Agency (Ramsten, Bjursell & Engström, 2021) The Ministry of Education budget 2023 - highlights Increased knowledge results and strengthened security at school

Good conditions for competence supply

Research to strengthen Sweden's security situation

Continued investment in research infrastructure and space operations

#### VALIDATION – FOR COMPETENCE PROVISION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

SOU 2019:69 Published 13 January 2020

In this final report, the Validation Delegation 2015–2019 submits proposals and assessments so that a coherent, national and permanent system for validation can be introduced so that more people can have their skills mapped, assessed and recognised.



## The validation delegation (2020) proposed:

- A new, common, definition of validation.
- A new regulation with general provisions on validation.
- Increased clarity about validation within the university and university of applied sciences.
- A national strategy for competence provision and lifelong learning.
- A council for validation under the leadership of the responsible minister.
- Competence provision must be a basic task for the regions.
- State grant for further development of industry validation.
- Increased access to validation in komvux through an obligation for the municipalities to offer students validation and increased clarity about mapping, assessment and documentation during validation.

New validation regulation: Increased uniformity should improve the possibilities for validation

As part of the work to create a coherent, national and permanent system for validation, the government has decided on a completely new validation regulation. The aim is to create a basis for common understanding and uniformity regarding validation throughout the education and labor market area.

From 1 January 2023



### Legal council referral: Validation for competence provision and lifelong learning

In the legislative council referral, the government submits proposals that aim for validation within municipal adult education (komvux) to a greater extent to meet the needs of the labor market and of individuals. With improved validation, the opportunities to make use of the knowledge that the individual has previously acquired increases. This contributes to a more efficient supply of skills, a faster establishment on the labor market and increased opportunities for adjustment during working life.

From 1 January 2023



## Quality in higher education – current topics

#### **Collaboration in research and education**

"The universities' task must include collaborating with the surrounding society for mutual exchange and working to ensure that the knowledge and competence available at the university benefits society." (The Swedish Higher Education Act 1992:1434)

#### **Ethical review**

If you are going to process special category data, or sensitive personal data, in a research project, you must have an ethical approval from the Swedish Ethical Review Authority.

#### Academic freedom

Memorandum: Amendments to the Higher Education Act to promote academic freedom and clarify the role of higher education institutions for lifelong learning (U2020/03053/UH



3. Collaboration

CREATING A PLATFORM FOR RECURRENT EDUCATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Lifelong Learning -What Do We Really Mean By That?



## Lifelong learning



Formal learning

Non-formal learning

Informal learning



PHILOSOPHY

POLICY

EDUCATION SYSTEM

(Bjursell, 2020, Three perspectives on lifelong learning)

### Basic principles in theories on lifelong learning:

Learning must be understood as something that occurs in interaction between the individual and the environment.

Learning is based on the individual's identity and understanding of himself.

Referens: Illeris (2016). Peter Jarvis and the understanding of adult learning, International journal of lifelong education, Vol.36 (1-2), p.35-44.

## Lifelong learning

## Lifelong education





# Thank you!

