

THE NEW LANDSCAPE OF HIGHER EDUCATION (2)



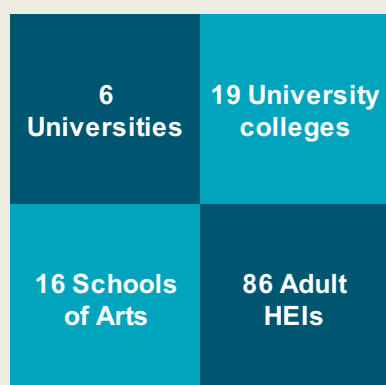
ARES pursues its missions in **6 main fields**:

- » **Academic**: coherence of programmes' offer
- » **Information**: statistics and data
- » **Development cooperation**: coordination of HEIs' participation
- » **Institutional**: advice and proposal to Government and other actors
- » **International**: promotion, support to internationalisation
- » **Research**: doctoral schools

/ 5



OUR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS



Fully integrated in the EHEA (Bologna Process)

- » Three-cycle structure, ECTS system, independent quality assurance agency (AEQES), ...

Diversity in the offer of study programmes

- » **1,800** different programmes
- » **Academic** (research-based) and **professional-oriented** (practice-based) HE programmes

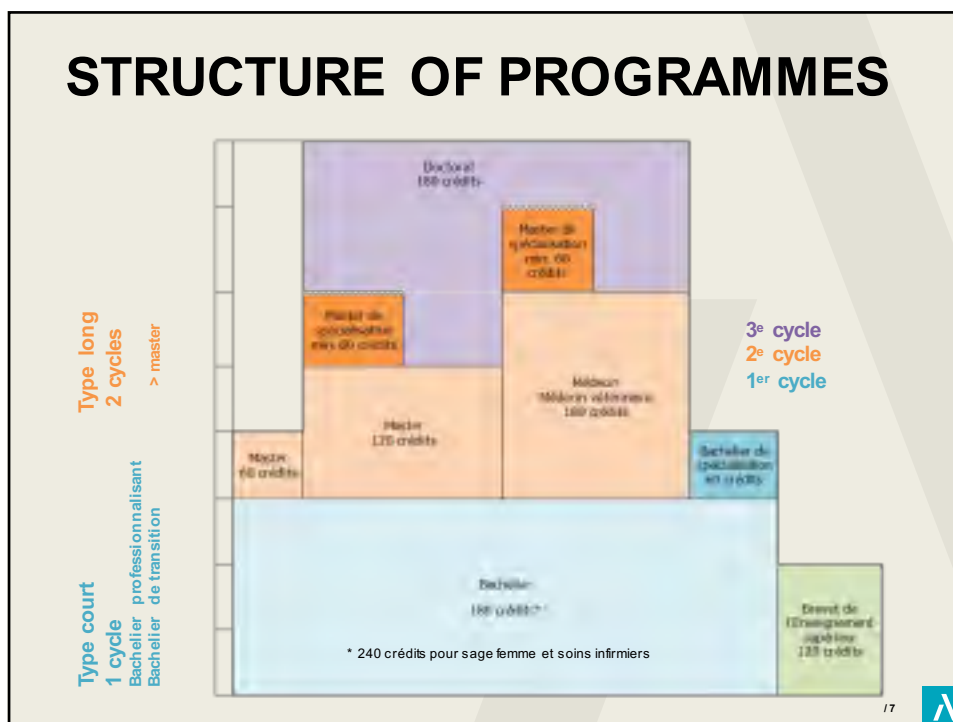
Committed to the **3 missions**

- » **training**
- » **research**
- » **service to society**

/ 6



STRUCTURE OF PROGRAMMES



VALIDATION OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING



APEL / RPL OR VAE ?

■ VALIDATION OF EXPERIENCE LEARNING (VAE)

- » VAE admission procedure: opportunity to validate personal and professional experience (>< necessary qualifications)
- » Access to various higher education study programmes
 - *“Idea that personal or professional experience can develop the skills and knowledge that can be validated at a higher education institution”*
(www.uclouvain.be/en/vae)
- » Keyword (in French) is *Valorisation* not *Validation*
 - ⇒ Recognition (more than accreditation)
 - ⇒ Enables adults to access various HEIs' programmes leading to degrees and certification if they lack the necessary qualifications
- » Benefits
 - Makes comeback or admission to university easier
 - Increases the chances of being active on the employment market
 - Enhances self-esteem
 - Develops skills and knowledge ...

/ 9



CONCEPTS

■ VAE : VALIDATION OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

(D.Dhaufayt & A. Grzyb, 2018)

- » VAE is a personalised admission procedure that allows adults who do not have the required qualifications to integrate training courses by valuing significant vocational and/or personal experience in the field of desired training courses
- » This procedure is not automatic, it relies on an assessment that may take different forms :
 - Oral and/or written examination, portfolio, ...
- » Following this assessment, the admissions jury (composed of teaching staff from the course) decides to admit (or not) the candidate and determines his specific programme (additional teaching, exemptions, ...)

/ 10



VAE IN THE HEIs

■ SCHOOLS OF ARTS

- » Generalised admission tests
- » VAE sometimes directly included in these tests
- » No APEL in the true sense of the term

■ ADULT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

- » Generalised for all course modules
- » In all institutions
- » Decision which applies to all adult HEIs
- » Possibility to be exempted from all course modules (except for the final test)

/ 11



VAE AT UNIVERSITY AND IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGES

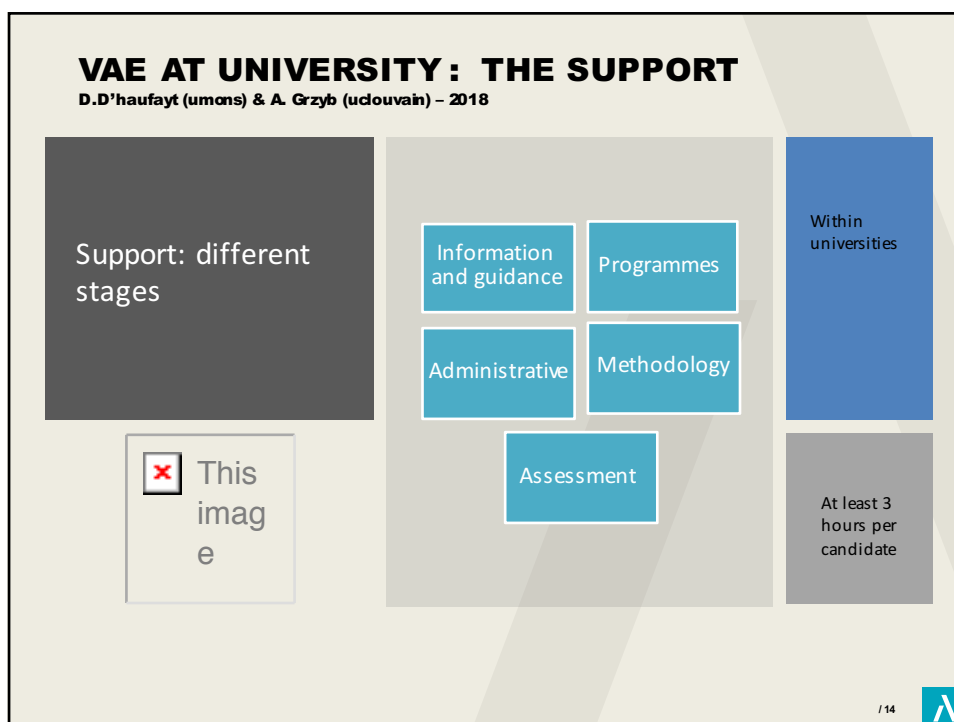
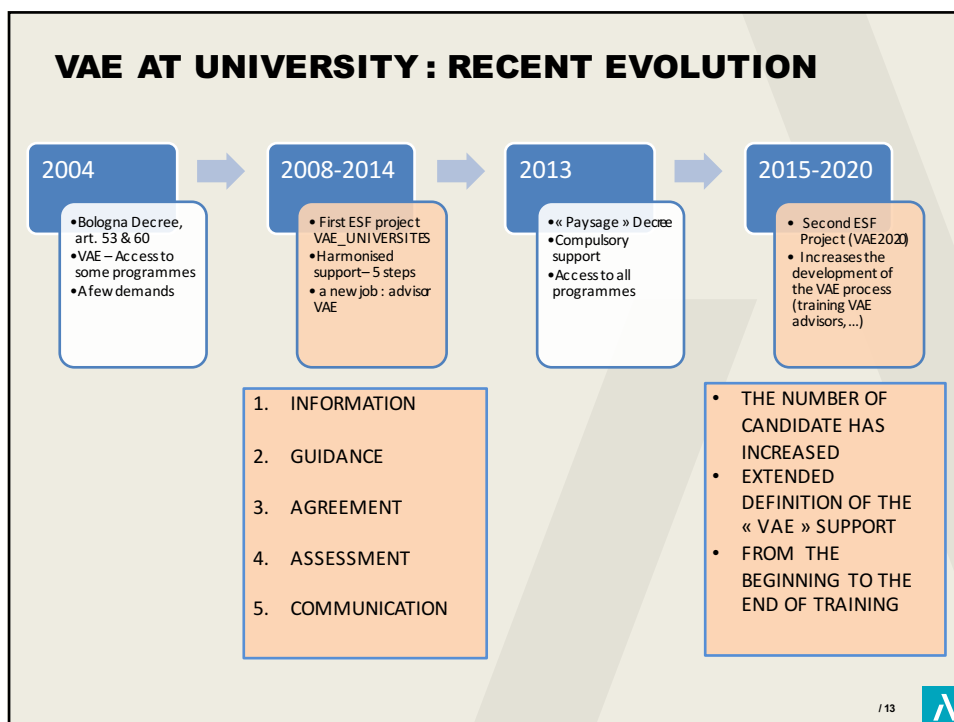
■ LEGAL FRAMEWORK (11_07_2013 DECREE)

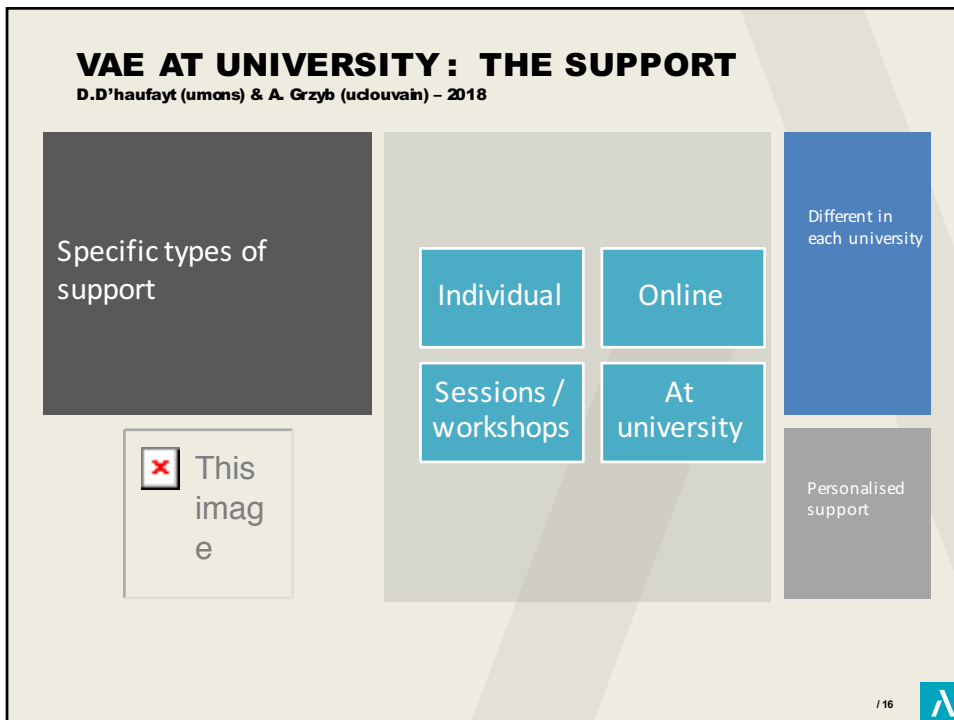
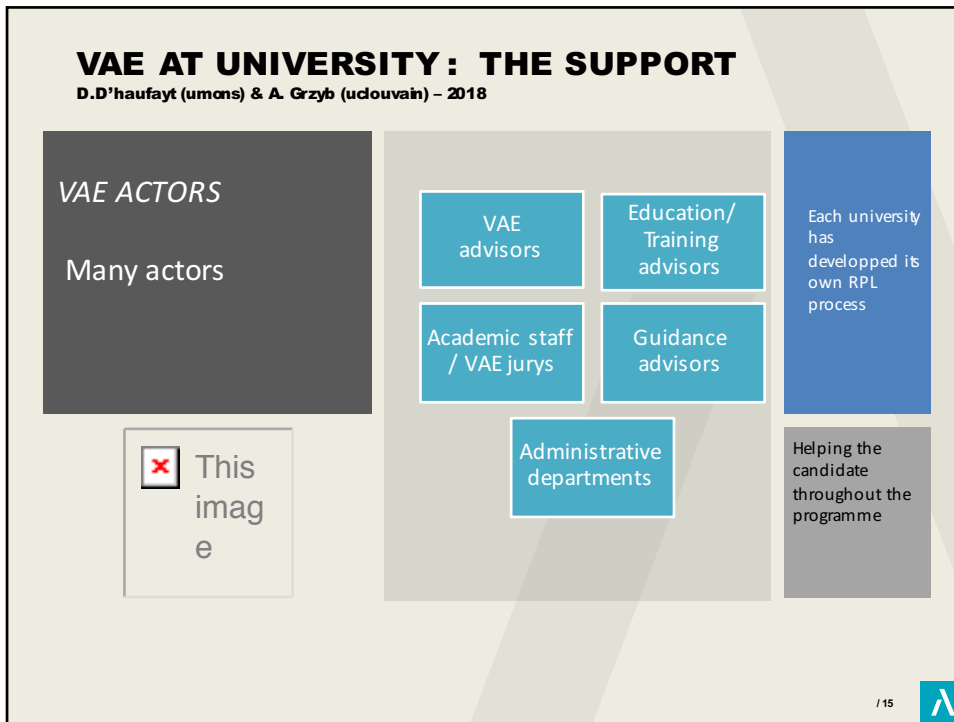
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- » Role of the Jury
- » Support : the heart of the VAE
- » Access to all programmes
- » 5 years of experience :
 - Vocational,
 - Personal,
 - Formal learning (a maximum of 2 years)
 - » But the admissions jury is more comfortable with formal learning than with non-formal one (De Viron & Salmon, 2015)

/ 12







THE INTERUNIVERSITY PROJECT: VAE2020

» The VAE 2020 project is a platform which brings together three universities (UCLouvain, UMONS, UNAMUR) and ARES

» Objectives

- » To extend VAE beyond universities
- » To improve support quality
- » To promote the VAE process
- » To guarantee the right to VAE and to ensure equal treatment

» Why?

We believe that VAE is a factor of social empowerment and a good way to democratise higher education

/ 17



THE INTERUNIVERSITY PROJECT: VAE2020

» Extending the development of VAE inside and outside the university

» Inside the university :

- The advisors are the advocates of VAE : they create a VAE culture inside the university
 - Giving information to the jury
 - Promoting VAE
 - Creating some tools to facilitate the different assessments
 -

» Outside the university

- The advisors promote partnerships with all HEIs, with local employment agencies, public services, companies
- FORUM VAE : new-born project bringing together all HEIs

/ 18



THE INTERUNIVERSITY PROJECT: VAE2020

- » Increasing support quality
- » Guarantying the right to VAE and ensuring equal treatment

The platform brings together all the VAE advisors to :

- discuss study cases
- bring some light to the darkest part of the legal framework
- emphasize their arguments to the academic authorities and politicians
- develop communication actions (round tables, conferences, training in guidance agencies, ...)
- manage the complexity of a ESF subvention....

/ 19



THE INTERUNIVERSITY PROJECT: VAE2020

- » Promoting the VAE process
 - » It's all about money !
 - » Lobbying with the academic authorities and the politicians
 - Let's cross the fingers... at this stage we don't have all guarantees.
 - » Since 2008 the VAE at university has been supported by the universities and the ESF.
 - EU subvention will stop in 2020
 - Budget
 - Around 5 Millions € from ESF
 - More than 6 millions from universities and ARES

Our goal is to make the VAE sustainable

/ 20



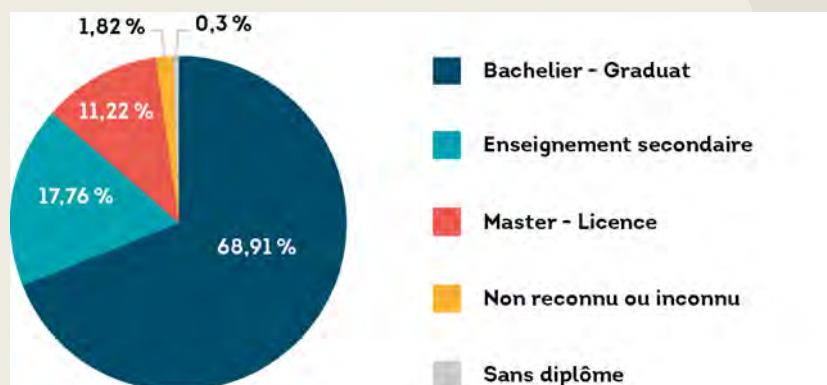
PROJECT VAE 2020 – KEY DATA (FROM 2015 TO 2018)

	Nb of candidates	Hours of support (a min. of 3h/candidate)	Staff involvement (ETP : Full time)	Expenses of the universities (salaries, tools, ...)
2015	754	2262	18,5	+/- 270.000 €
2016	962	2886	19,2	+/- 380.000 €
2017	995	2985	26	+/- 400.000 €
2018	1006	3018	25	+/- 415.000 €

/ 21



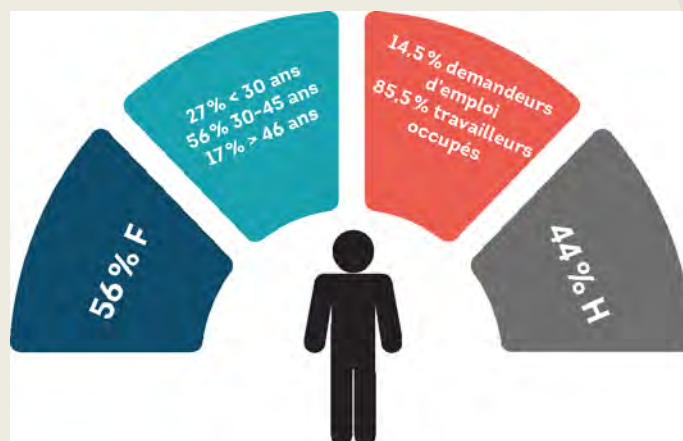
KEY DATA – EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE CANDIDATES



/ 22



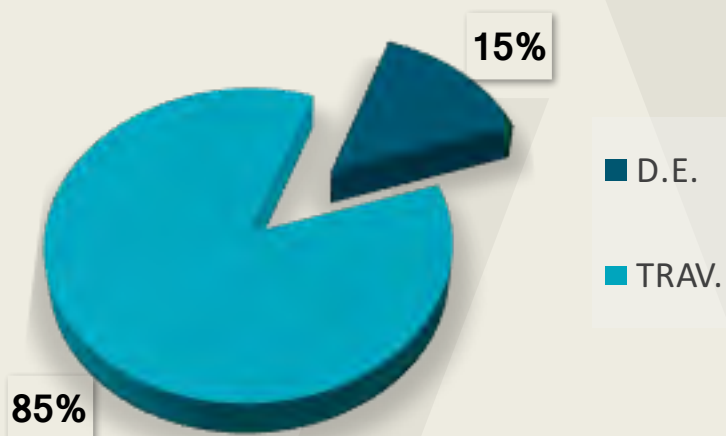
VAE2020: RESULTS THE PROFILE OF THE CANDIDATES



/ 23



VAE2020: RESULTS THE STATUS OF THE CANDIDATES



/ 24



» Thank you for your attention

» Arnaud Salmon – arnaud.salmon@ares-ac.be +32 2 225 45 47

