

Recognition of Prior Learning vs. Vocational Education and Training - links in a chain or strands in a rope?

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Recognition of prior learning – validation

- To value, evaluate, assess, give recognition to our knowledge and competence, independent of where, when, and how we have learnt
- ... when learning and assessment are separated in time and/or place
- Contexts of prior learning
 - Outside school
 - Work life
 - Civil society
 - Other countries

Recognition of prior learning (RPL)

- Making learning visible
- Recognition
- Learning
- Communication

Why the interest in RPL?

- A shift in focus from education to learning
- Competence for competitiveness
- Mobility
 - Between countries
 - In the labour market
- Education/training
 - Widening admission
 - Demand on more effective education/training

Competence

- Formal
 - Grades
 - Certificates
 - Qualifications
- Actual
 - Knowledge
 - Skills
 - Capacity

Recognition

- Formal
 - Grades
 - Certificates
 - Admission
 - Credit
- Personal
 - Confidence
 - Respect
 - Empowerment

Variation in approaches

- Summative
- Formative
- Predictive
- Transformative

- Adapted to the system
- Challenging the system

- Experiential learning
- Situated learning

Learning

- Prior and present process
- What do I know?
- How do I present my knowledge?
- Communication and use of knowledge

Communication

- Presentation and understanding
- Mutual understanding
- What do I know?
- What is required?
- How do we explain the requirements?
- How is and could this be understood?
- How do we understand and interpret what is shown as indicating prior learning and knowledge?

RPL/rpl and VET

- RPL
 - Recognition of Prior Learning
 - a separate activity, possibly connecting to education and training
- rpl
 - recognition of prior learning
 - an integrated part of the learning process

Challenges

- Re-contextualisation of knowledge
- Exclusion/inclusion
 - What knowledge is valid in this context?
- Validity and reliability in assessment
 - Variation in types and expressions of knowledge
- The risk of dissatisfaction
 - If existing knowledge is not given recognition in a specific context

Challenges – Recognition of Prior Learning

- RPL
 - a link in a chain
- Give recognition at an early stage
 - RPL might require learning
- Connect VET to prior learning
- Do the links connect?



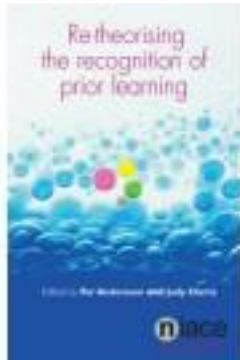
Challenges – recognition of prior learning

- rpl
 - a intertwined part of a rope
- Remember the learning dimension of rpl
- Employ *and* challenge prior learning



RPL/rpl in VET

- Starting from where participants are and what they already know
- Empowerment by making learning visible
- RPL/rpl as a learning process in itself
- More meaningful and effective education/training
- But
 - Do not forget that education and training must be challenging and result in new learning too!



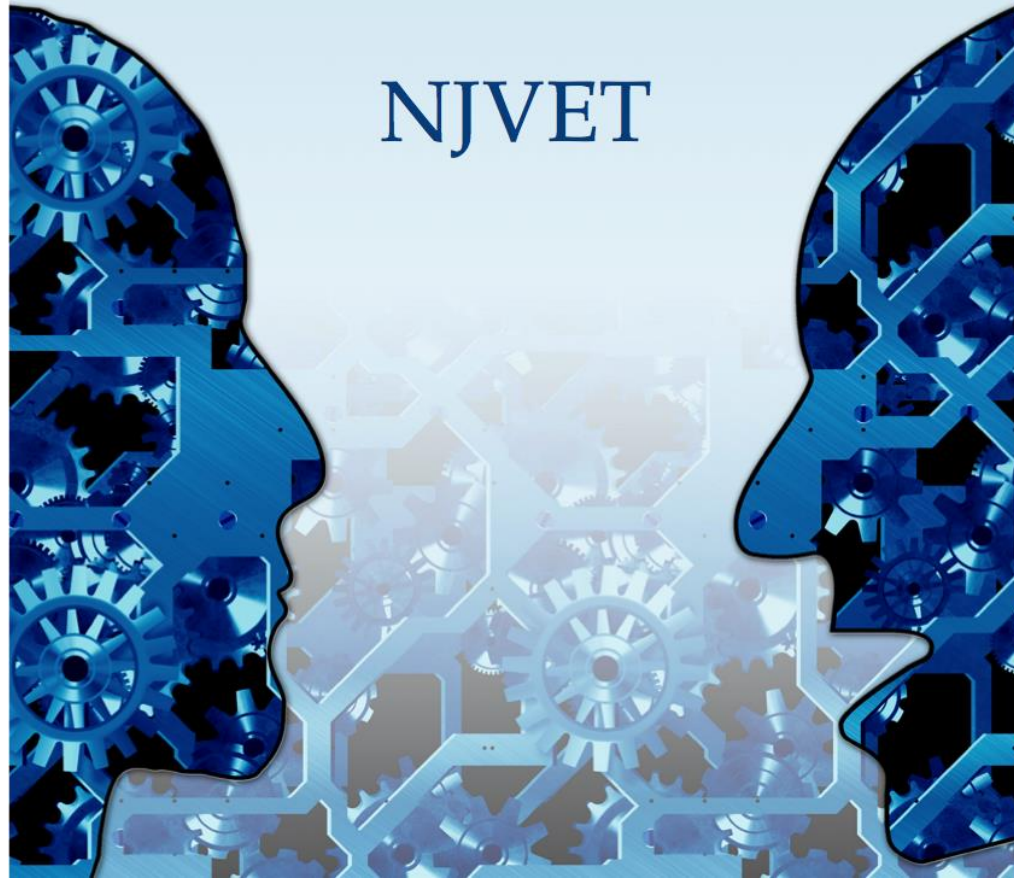
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