

# ***The self as learning agent***

*Validation of Prior Learning (VPL)  
for personalizing learning*

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# It's about time!

***Learning** needs to be addressed as a developmental and dialogical process of 'action-reflection-praxis' of and by people (= teachers and learners).*

*It is an anti-depositary process, contrasting the traditional 'banking-system'.*

*Paolo Freire, 1972*



# ‘The self’ as learning agent is about ...

- ... my formal, informal and non-formal learning
- ... me, linking in to learning outcomes
- ... me, valuing transversal and transferable competences
- ... my ownership of prior and future learning experiences



# *Context for 'the self'*

**Educator  
Driven**



**Learner  
Driven**

Personalized **to**  
the learner

Personalized **with**  
the learner

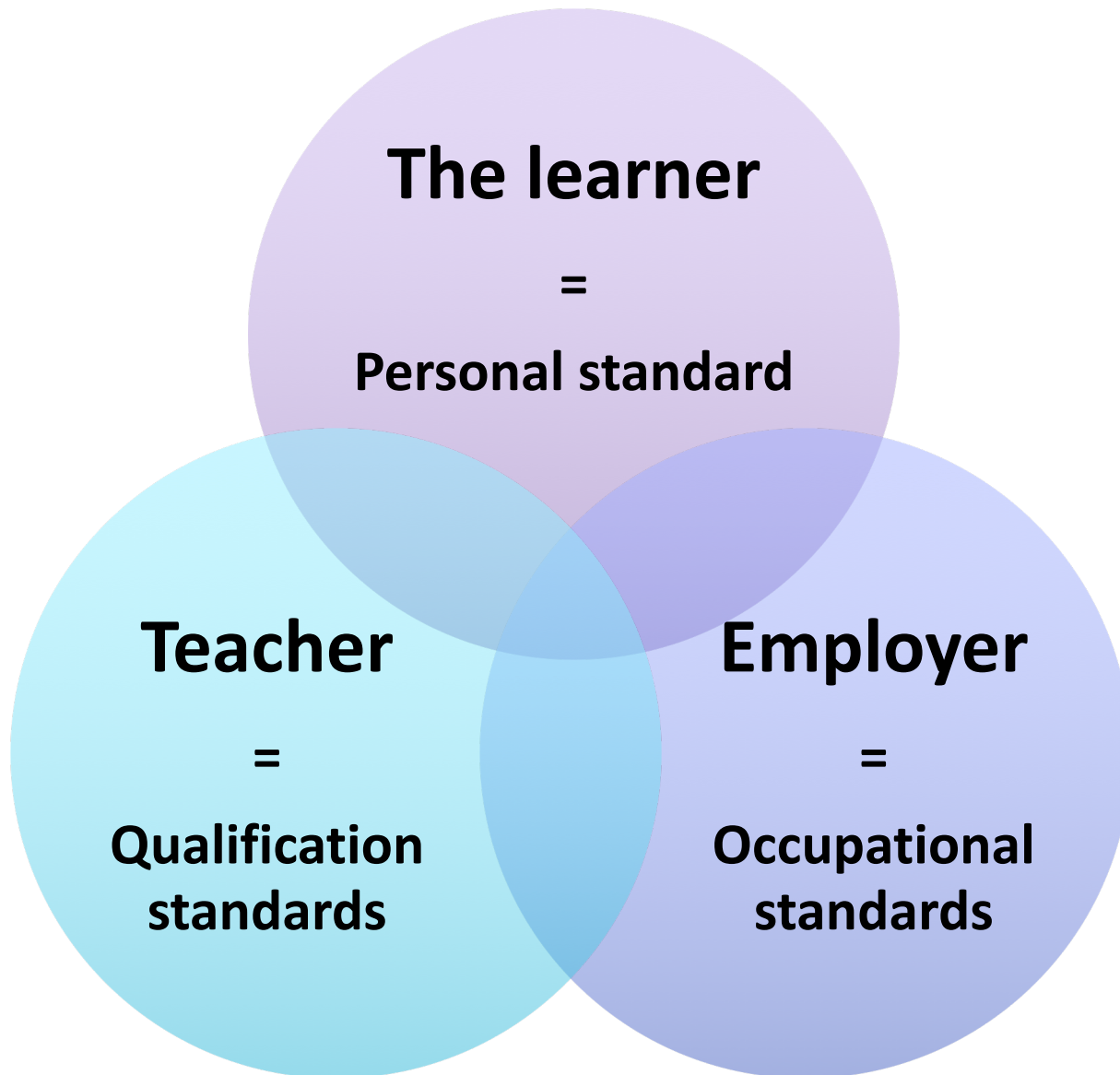
Personalized **by**  
the learner

*Our greatest gift to learners is to give them the tools, insights, and understanding necessary to be in charge of their own learning and lives*

James Rickabaugh, CESA2#, 2012



# The dialogue for learning by me





# *How do I create a (guided) dialogue?*

1. Understanding *who I am, what I did and what's next*
2. Selfreflection for engagement
3. Personal documentation and argumentation
4. Reaching out to occupational and qualification standards
5. Accessing any open learning centre (*depending on the impact needed*)
6. Gaining ownership of **my** learning process in dialogue with the systems



# Components of the dialogue

- ***Raising awareness** of the value of learning*
- *An open **dialogue** about what has already been learned and what still needs/can/must to be learned*
- ***Learning outcomes** as building blocks for validation and learning.*
- *The **portfolio** as a (self)management tool.*
- ***Guidance** for accessing learning opportunities*
- ***Assessment:** of, for and as learning*
- ***Tailored learning** as the personalized learning path*



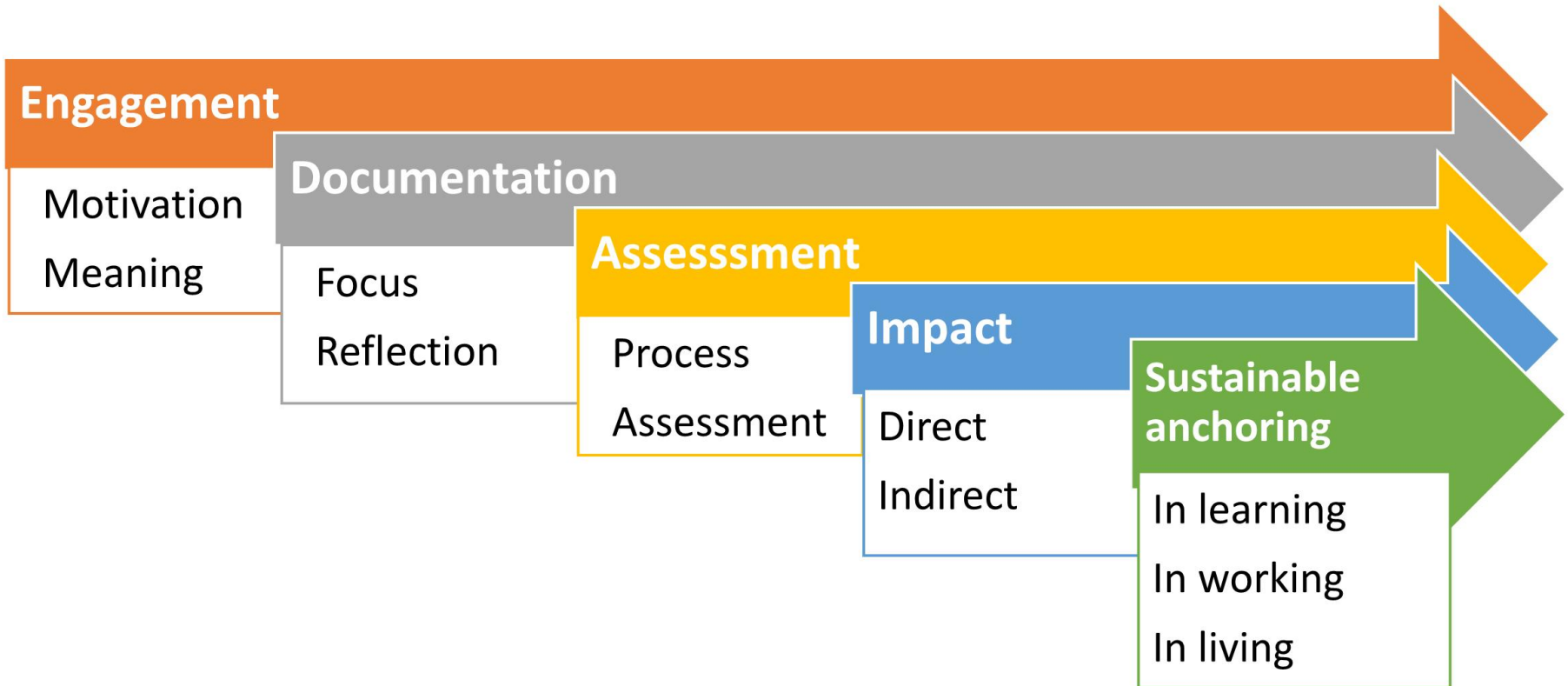
# VPL is the linking device

***Validation of Prior Learning*** is a tool (or process) to help people get formal recognition for what they have learned through their experiences and for what they can do, know and understand.





# The process of VPL





# What does it mean for providers?

- Create an open dialogue with learners (outreach)
- Offer guidance in all process steps
- Link validation and blended learning opportunities
- Capacitate staff
- Learning programmes in terms of learning outcomes
- Allow the personal portfolio to steer (lifelong) learning, and tune-in to the PERSONAL story/stories



# Jacques Delors, 2013

*Lifelong learning is about work and life, success in work that benefits the community, and the future of our young people. But on a deeper level,*

*it is about knowing oneself better [-] gaining a kind of self-esteem to help us deal with the risks and constraints of life, and acquiring the ability to take control of our own lives.*

*Jacques Delors, 2013*



Thank you

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