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Illuminating the blind spot: Language on learning in the career guidance and counselling practice

The overall aim with this session is to contribute to the development of the professional language in the career guidance and counselling practice and education of career professionals. Career guidance and counselling (CGC) can be regarded as facilitation of an integrated learning and decision-making process referring to clients' career narratives (Langström, 2017; Sundelin, 2015). Migrants situation has contributed to bring light to questions on learning dimensions in CGC. Studies (Sundelin, 2015) imply that it is at risk being an overly integrated process, at the expense of clients' opportunities for learning. Counsellors also seem to be decision-oriented when clients might be learning-oriented (Ibid). Other studies (Bergmo-Prvulovic, 2015) imply that counsellors' language for learning processes is limited and that counsellors don't regard themselves as enhancers for learning. Learning seems almost like a blind area in counsellors' field of vision although it's at the core in CGC. This impression was confirmed at a workshop with career professionals at the IAEVG conference in Gothenburg 2018.

We mean that career guidance professionals need to develop both their understanding of learning processes in career counselling and the professional language regarding learning. We also mean that the theoretical and methodological perspectives on learning dimensions need to be strengthen in the training of future counsellors. In the workshop we intend to explore perspectives, language and concepts regarding learning in the career counselling field. We'll also explore approaches that could be helpful in training of professionals regarding learning in career counselling. Exercises and group discussions will be used in order to gather participants' knowledge and experience about the language on learning in career counselling.