



DIALOGUES
&
DESIGN



Dialogical approach

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First dialogues

“Our brains are built in a dialogical, intersubjective way. We experience life in many voices from the beginning. This is the basic experience of life. I am not born as an individual, I cannot exist alone. I am born into relationships and I live in relationships.” (Jaakko Seikkula 2009, 4)

“Life is not psychology, it is music.” (Trevarthen, Stern, Bråten)

“Most parents and caretakers have experienced how their babies in the first months of life appear to complement them in a finely tuned interplay of mutual fulfilling and follow-up of gestures and expressions. Even in the first weeks after birth mother and child can achieve such coordination of expressions and movements in a sort of circular dance of mutually completing and interwoven bodily motions.” (Bråten 2009, 190)

A dialogue is thinking together

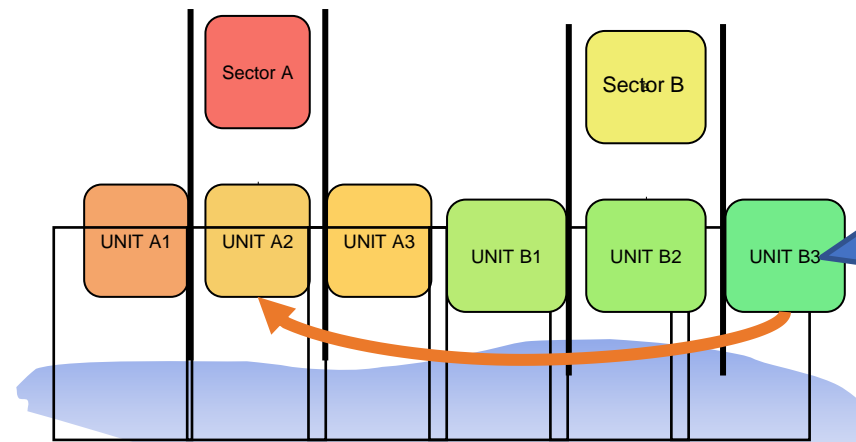
“In an ordinary conversation, the participants make a point and argue it. Dialogue, on the other hand, is a conversation where the participants build on each other’s contribution. In a dialogue, participants are willing to let go of their pre-set ideas and listen to the contribution of others and, thus, are open to ideas generated as a result of this joint interaction which would have otherwise gone unnoticed.”

“In other words, your opinion is not final, but a step towards the ultimate outcome. The aim of dialogue is to gain a new insight, a new understanding of an issue. However, it does not seek consensus, but to appreciate how others think. Thus, the secret of dialogue is that no one will know where it leads. Therefore, dialogic methods are ideal for acting appropriately differently.”
(Arnkil & Erikson 2009, 36)

Sectored bureaucracies and comprehensive everyday life: the need to cross boundaries

- It is necessary to cross boundaries horizontally and vertically
- ✓ across sectors, agencies and professions
 - ✓ with citizens
 - ✓ towards clients and their personal networks
 - ✓ across hierarchical levels of management
 - ✓ between public, private and 3rd sector players

Bureaucracies are sectored, everyday life is not



Networking and a mandate problem: how can a director of the Unit B3 lead processes on Unit A2?

Comprehensive everyday life



Thank you!

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