



One of the goals of the APAKE development programme is to increase the number of enterprises with growth potential.

Competitiveness and growth by developing business competence

The APAKE programme assists start-up enterprises and SMEs in developing their business competence. The programme's aims include promoting the establishment of innovative enterprises with growth potential, and successful generational change.

APAKE DEVELOPS NEW TRAINING PROGRAMMES and expert services, or redevelops and disseminates existing ones. One of its goals is to create new operating methods and models, to be added to SMEs' selection of services. Other objectives include establishing new, innovative enterprises, increasing the number of enterprises with growth potential and improving their internationalisation competencies. In addition, the APAKE programme strives to promote successful generational changes within enterprises and to enhance the development of staff competencies. All of these measures are intended to enhance the business environments of start-up enterprises and SMEs.

Support for generational changes and changes of ownership

The APAKE programme has provided concrete evidence of having achieved its goals, for example by means of the project for 'Promoting generational changes and changes of ownership within enterprises'. This project involved a nationwide evaluation of services related to ownership changes. It also included the development of the coaching programme 'Accounting agencies as experts in changes of ownership'. This coaching programme will be piloted by the ELY Centre of the Häme region (i.e. one of the Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment). After the pilot project, the programme will be introduced around the country. The guidebook 'Preparing your company for sale' activates entrepreneurs, who intend to retire from their business, to plan the change of ownership process and prepare their company for sale well in advance.

The Jalostamo model guides entrepreneurs in the creative industries

The goal of the project for the development of the creative industries has been to embed the Jalostamo service model as part of the ELY Centres' selection of services for enterprises. This model assists both existing and aspiring entrepreneurs in drawing up plans for profitable business operations. In connection with the product development project, the business plans of around 80 enterprises have been reviewed. This has been done to improve the survival rate of enterprises which have been operating for under three years. Correspondingly, the reform and development of commercialisation-related expert services has involved, for example, identifying overlaps in services and potential blind spots.

Programme for the development of start-up entrepreneurs' and SMEs' business skills (APAKE)

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