



PHOTO: HANNA TUURI

The Hope project, coordinated by the Western Pirkanmaa joint municipal authority for education, aims to inspire people to embark on the collaborative learning of entrepreneurial skills in new learning environments. The goal is to encourage students to become entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurship education provides instructions for life

Improving the popularity of entrepreneurship and enhancing entrepreneurial skills beyond school level are the goals of the development programme focusing on entrepreneurship education. The programme is intended to create networks, in which the most comprehensive possible group of actors collaborates in the development of entrepreneurship education.

THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ‘ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION and entrepreneurial skills provide impetus for change’ includes projects for creating learning pathways in support of entrepreneurship education beyond school level. They are also helping create a pro-entrepreneurship atmosphere. These projects are developing operating models for enhancing the entrepreneurship education skills of teachers and rectors, while testing the learning environments and teaching materials used for entrepreneurship education. Through these projects, alongside representatives from the business sector, experts in education and entrepreneurship are cooperating in the development of entrepreneurship education.

Entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurial skills provide young people with the resources to cope in a world of continuous change and ever greater complexity. In addition, these projects highlight creative and innovative aspects, alongside the willingness to take risks in education, as well as the ability to plan and manage activities in order to achieve one’s goals.

The long-term effects of the projects enhance growth, competitiveness, productivity and finding employment. As a country with a welfare system, it is important to Finland that its young people view entrepreneurship as a valued career option. It is also vital that they participate in creating new entrepreneurship opportunities and business activity for Finland.

YES Centres and Entrepreneurship Education Indicators provide entrepreneurship-related instructions

The project of the Federation of Finnish Enterprises involves establishing YES Centres for entrepreneurship education services. These centres help bring together and produce services that support learning pathways towards entrepreneurship education in regional schools and secondary-

level educational institutions. They also train teachers, and provide mentoring for entrepreneurial cooperation in schools and entrepreneurship education projects involving schoolchildren. In addition, they provide Young Enterprise Finland services from local offices. YES Centres also offer advisory services for creating curricula for entrepreneurship education.

The development project ‘Measurement Tool for Entrepreneurship Education’ involves creating a measurement tool and indicators for entrepreneurship education. It also includes the creation of a manual providing information on entrepreneurship education, while supporting the introduction of this tool. The set of indicators developed in cooperation by the Lappeenranta University of Technology and the Centre for Training and Development, is being used to concretise and assess the work of teachers as entrepreneurship educators, and to guide entrepreneurship education. This measurement tool can also be utilised by decision-makers in assessing the state of entrepreneurship education. The goal is to make school cultures more entrepreneurship-friendly.

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