



The VaSkooli project is developing an educational guarantee model for young immigrants.

Timely guidance, the required support, and a glimpse of the future

How can we prevent dropping out of education, encourage students to complete their degrees sooner and provide enhanced support for transitional stages in education? How might we help young people improve their skills in managing everyday life, their ability to participate in education and working life, and to become active citizens?

Projects under the development programme 'Better life skills and finding work through studies' have tackled these challenges.

THIS PROGRAMME HELPS to lower the number of educational drop-outs, while increasing the number completing their qualifications on schedule. Multidisciplinary cooperation and early recognition of problems are being improved. This provides young people with the guidance and support they need in handling everyday life, their studies and finding employment.

With respect to higher education institutions, projects have been created on the basis of university networks. This programme focuses on various issues, including fluent study, degree completion and employment issues, such as educational choices and career guidance, the ability to study, and study support and guidance.

Quality criteria were developed in relation to workshop activities for young people. At the same time, the competencies of workshop coaches, in providing support to young people, were improved. In addition, young people were provided with better possibilities for participating in decision-making in workshops. The provision of multidisciplinary support to young people of immigrant origin is being developed on the basis of 'learning by doing'. Some 30 workshops have introduced a VAT system to guide the assessment of coaching suitable for operational planning and reporting. In addition, cooperation between workshops and educational institutions, multidisciplinary cooperation between authorities, and a network of Swedish-speaking activities have been developed.

With respect to the transitional stage between basic and secondary education, there are projects enhancing study guidance and student welfare. Many such projects comprise multidisciplinary cooperation between various authorities and professional groups. Moreover, some are designed to promote a community among students by developing student dorm and leisure activities. Attention is also being paid to the mental wellbeing of students, enhancing the studying and life management skills of special groups and promoting multiculturalism.

VaSkooli and Campus Conexus strengthen young people's life management

The Turku Vocational Institute has implemented the VaSkooli project for young immigrants, with the aim of developing and implementing a regional education and training guarantee model in the Turku and Salo regions. This model is based, for instance, on multidisciplinary cooperation between various actors, supporting parents in taking educational responsibility and strengthening students' life management skills. In turn, the research and development project 'Campus Conexus' is strengthening the learning and teaching culture in higher education institutions. If successfully implemented, this project should prevent exclusion.

Development programme 'Better life skills and finding work through studies'

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