



# Adapting to Changing Labor Market: Cooperation between Vocational Education and Working Life

**Date:** 2.12.-4.12.2025

**Venue:** Scandic Grand Central Hotel, Helsinki, Finland

*In what different ways is working life involved in vocational education? How can cooperation help respond to the changing needs of the labor market?*

## **Programme:**

### **Tuesday 2.12.2025**

11.00–12.00	Arrival and registration
12.00–13.00	Lunch
13.00–13.20	Opening words and welcome <i>Minna Koutaniemi, Director of International Affairs, Finnish National Agency for Education</i>
13.20–13.40	Icebreaker
13.40–14.20	Keynote from the Finnish National Agency for Education <i>Heli Tirri, Head of Unit, Finnish National Agency for Education</i>
14.20–14.50	Coffee break
14.50–15.10	Good practice: Practical Application and the Importance of Cooperation: <i>Care about IT</i> project (Digital badges for the health

- care field / health technology)  
*Minna Ikiviita, Lecturer, Turku Vocational Institute*
- 15.10–15.30 Erasmus+ funding opportunities  
*Sari Turunen-Zwinger, Head of Unit, Finnish National Agency for Education*
- 15.30–15.50 Good practice: WIN4SMEs project, Centre for Vocational Excellence  
*Marko Kempainen, Head of International Affairs, Sataedu*
- 15.50–16.30 Working life cooperation in Europe
  - Workshop
- 19.00 Dinner at the Hotel

### **Wednesday 3.12.2025**

- 9.00–10.00 How can workplace learning be best supported?  
*Johanna Herrala, Apprenticeship Manager, Ohjaan.fi -network*
  - Group discussion
- 10.00–10.15 Coffee break
- 10.15–12.15 Aligning Education with Labor Market Needs: Forecasting Regional and National Workforce Demands in Finland
  - Regional Perspective: Insights from an Education Provider
  - Technology Industries of Finland
  - Group discussion

*Kari Nyyssölä, Counsellor of Education, Finnish National Agency for Education*  
*Juha Jokinen, Director of Technical sector, TAKK*  
*Touko Apajalahti, Technology Industries of Finland*
- 12.15–13.15 Lunch
- 13.15–14.00 How does education promote sustainable development in cooperation with working life?  
*Tiina Taipale, Trainer, Quality and Sustainability Expertise, SYKLI Environmental College*
  - Group discussion

Coffee available
- 14.00-14.15 Time to move to the buses

14.15	Buses departure for company visits
15.00–17.00	Company visits: Fazer Experience Visitor Center Vantaa Energy Waste-to-energy-plant
17.00	Buses leave to the hotel  Free evening

#### **Thursday 4.12.2025**

9.00–10.15	Digitalization's and AI's Impact on Working Life: Transforming Collaboration, Guidance and Opportunities Tomi Ahokas, <i>Chief Technologist, Finnish National Agency for Education</i> <i>VET representative (tbc)</i>  Working group
10.15–10.30	Coffee break
10.30–12.00	Keynote: Fostering Empathy and Interaction in the Digital Age <i>Katri Saarikivi, PhD (psych), psychologist, cognitive neuroscientist</i>
12.00–12.15	Wrap-up
12.15–13.15	Lunch and Goodbye

Miika Kekki will be facilitating the TCA event.

*Please note that the organizer may adjust the program if needed.*