

Finland: One-Stop Guidance Centers and e-Guidance services

Description	
<p>1. Overview of Program</p>	<p>One-Stop Guidance Centers and integrated e-Guidance provide low-threshold support for young people in various transitions in their individual life path. As well as official bodies, educational institutions and workshops, social rehabilitation and health services, the Centers' wide collaborative networks include third sector organisations, voluntary organisations and other bodies that work with young people. The Centers also function as a link to the business community through local companies and trade associations and promote connections between employers and young people. The young people themselves have an active role in the design and evaluation of the Centers and are actively involved in the daily activities.</p> <p>The Centers will be developed with the support of the European Social Funds as a national development project 2015-2020.</p>
<p>2. Why Developed?</p>	<p>As an integrated model with face to face and online services, the Centers strengthen and simplify services for young people and eliminate the duplication of activities. Development of this service is co-ordinated by a national Meeting Site project (Kohtaamo). In addition, the Centers complement the national telephone helpline and education advisory service provided through the TE Customer Service Centre and the Finnish National Board of Education's Studyinfo.fi portal.</p>
<p>3. Key Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Innovative</i> • <i>Effective</i> • <i>Promising</i> 	<p>The One-Stop-Guidance-Centers are based on the knowledge, advisory and guidance services of various organisations as well as on the complementary skills and cooperation between social and health care providers. The operating model requires strong partnerships between the various actors and will develop new operating practices and skills in multi-sector management.</p> <p>The fundamental idea of the operation of the Center is that the professionals working at a Center work as employees of their host organisations (e.g. municipality, career and education guidance, educational institution, the Kela benefits service, etc), but are based in the joint Center premises. The labour input into a Center's operation can vary from full time to collaborative periodic on-duty sessions. The development of the competences of those working at the Center is supported by the Ministry of Education and Culture.</p> <p>A long-term goal is to develop an integrated career guidance model with parallel face-to-face and multi-channeled online services.</p>

4. Targeted Audience	<p>The focus is on young people below the age of 30. The Centers offer services to various groups: pupils, students, employed and unemployed.</p>
5. Difficulties or Barriers	<p>Lifelong guidance is a shared policy and administrative responsibility of several ministries at national and regional levels and one of the challenges for the pilot projects is how to establish consistent co-operation model with other sectors and service providers.</p>
6. Key Results or Outcomes	<p>The first Centers were established early 2010 before the current national project. By November 2015 there are 30 regional pilot Centers providing services for young people. The development of the regional Centers will be evaluated by the national Meeting Site - project and the first interim results will be available in 2016.</p>
7. Key Contact Details/ Website or Other Information Source	<p>The national website for the Centers will be available in 2016. The temporarily website provide information of the current progress mostly in Finnish language at: http://www.peda.net/veraja/keskisuomenely/ohjaamot</p>
8. Other Relevant Info	
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