

KILKAS

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According to the Finnish Statistics the unemployment rate of foreigners and citizens of foreign background is double or triple compared with the respective rate of original Finns. Also unemployment among young generations is higher than in older age groups. According to the research of CIMO, foreign degree students would like to stay and find employment in Finland after graduation. The problem, however, is that companies interested in recruiting foreign students and foreign graduates don't meet each other in the same way as Finnish students are met.

At the same time, Finland is undergoing a structural change in the working life. It is therefore of utmost importance to increase the competitiveness and growth, to which Finland needs all the available know-how and competencies that we have in the country. This project aims to promote the employment of foreign UAS students by developing support, guidance and forms for instance for internship and thesis together with business, and by developing a working model to increase foreign students' working life competence from the point of view of the Finnish labor market, raising the prospect of competitiveness and growth.

The main objective of the project is to develop and implement a working model to contribute to the employment and integration of foreign students to the Finnish labor markets. The project will collect and further process into a national working model, the experience and results of the partners' previous projects and pilots, regional good practices as well as new approaches based on them, developed together with business and to be utilized in the internship of foreign students. In addition, companies will be informed about the foreign students' competence in international business. In particular, the start-up companies are interested in internationalization.

Project aims to

1. develop a working model to the Universities of Applied Sciences to promote the employment of foreign student
2. incorporate and entrench the approach into internship guidance as well as part of the student and alumni services supporting employment
3. develop such forms and practices of internship which take into consideration the special challenges of employment of the foreign students as well as their unutilized potential in the Finnish labor markets
4. communicate and share information about the working model to businesses, associations of entrepreneurs and the great public using social media, organizing different kind of events and info sessions



European Union
European Regional Development Fund
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<http://www.tuas.fi/en/research-and-development/projects/kilkas/>

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Project duration

1.4.2016 - 31.3.2018

Operating sphere

National

Total funding

739 711 €

TUAS budget

127 204 €

Project results

The project outcomes generated nationwide:

1. A working model to support the practical training of foreign students and students of foreign origin and to promote their employment in the Finnish labor markets.

2. A Knowledge databank including the good practices of internship and thesis based on working life as well as support material for the employment and integration of foreign students into the Finnish labor markets.

3. An approach to the guidance services of international programs in the UAS which integrates the study process and student services with the Finnish labor markets

4. A successful course of action for guiding foreign students' practical training, thesis process and promotion of employment.

5. New internship practices suitable for foreign students and companies.

6. Practical communication material with examples on how foreign students can contribute to the success of firms in