

What value added from area-based partnerships during an economic downturn?

**Building Strong Partnerships with the Private Sector for
Better Jobs and Inclusion
9-10 February 2009, Vienna**

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Challenges and Partnerships, cases from Finland

What is the crisis impact on skills and jobs today and in the medium term?

Gathering information and insight.

What action can be taken at local level to remedy the effect of the crisis on skills, jobs and social inclusion? Why and where partnerships?

Engaging companies: summer jobs, workplace training, recruiting students. Adult learning. Making services more accessible and easy to use.

What are the policy implications: what is required from the national level (more flexibility; better integration ...)?

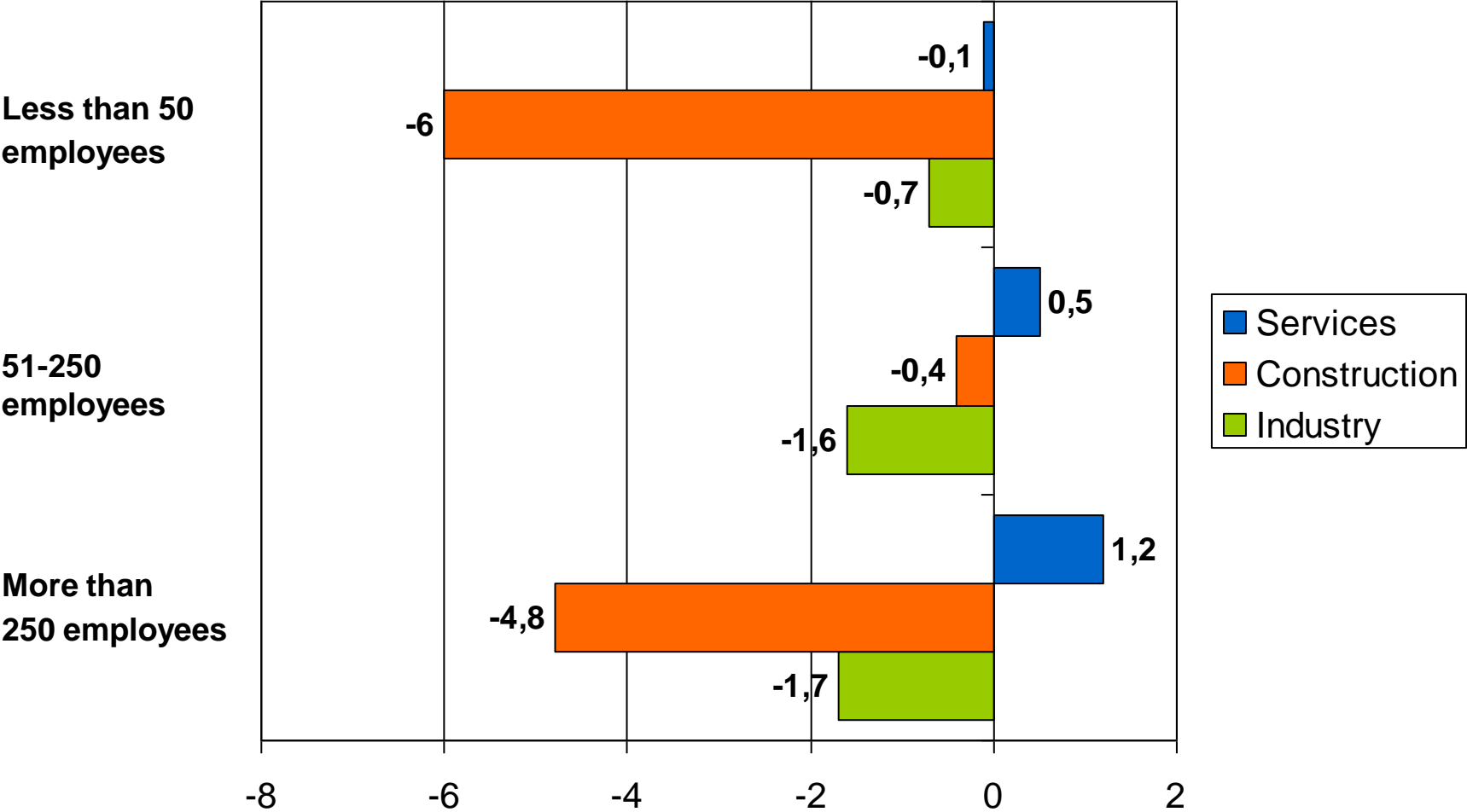
Partnerships in Higher Education Policies. Education policies and growth policies in synergy with each other. Looking beyond the crisis: partnerships in foresight.



What is the crisis impact on skills and jobs today and in the medium term?

Gathering information and insight

Estimated Change in Staff by Company Size

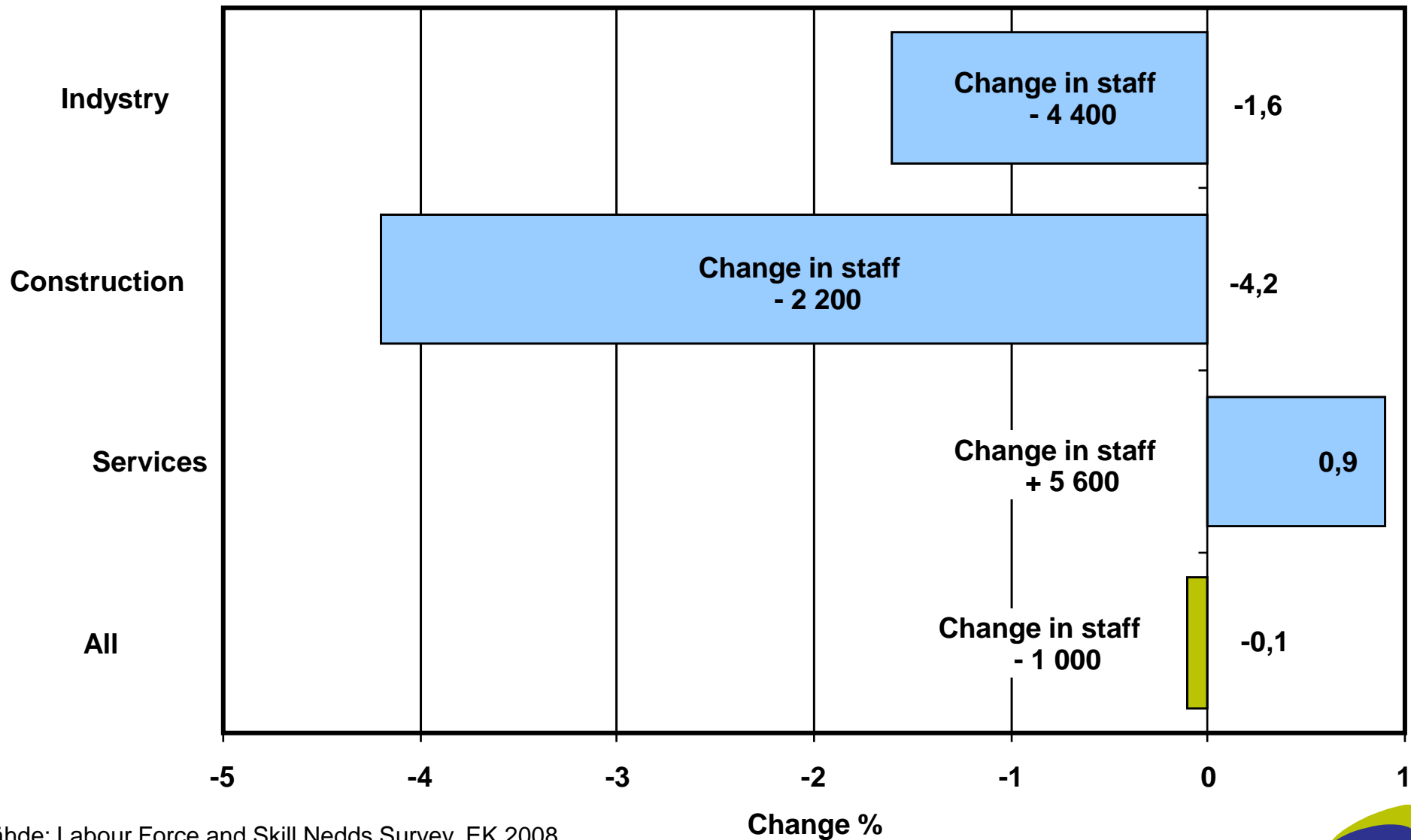


Lähde: Labour Force and Skill Needs Survey, EK 2008

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Estimated Change in Staff by Sector 10/2008 – 10/2009

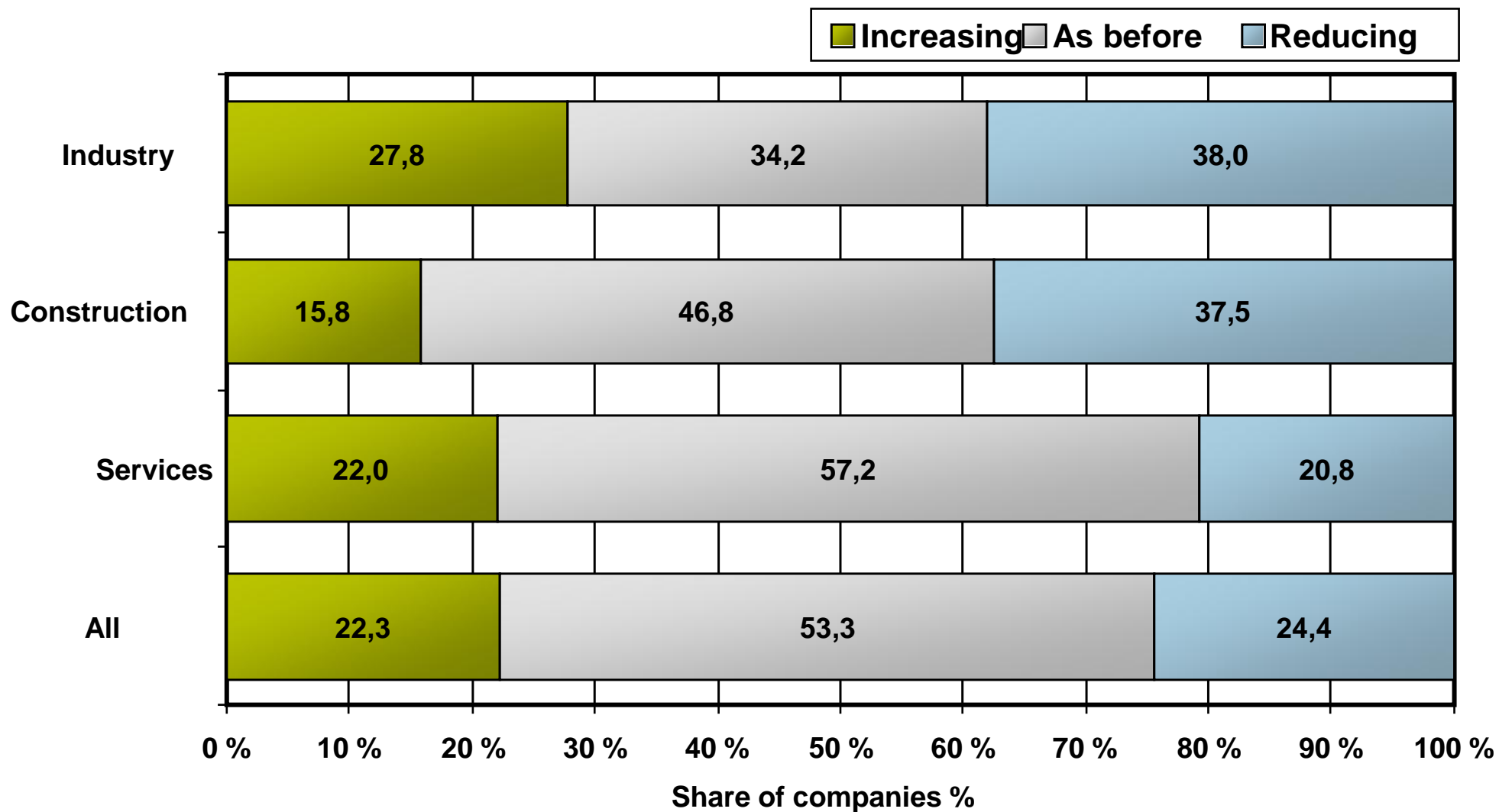


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Companies Increasing/Reducing Staff 10/2008 – 10/2009



Lähde: Labour Force and Skill Needs Survey, EK 2008

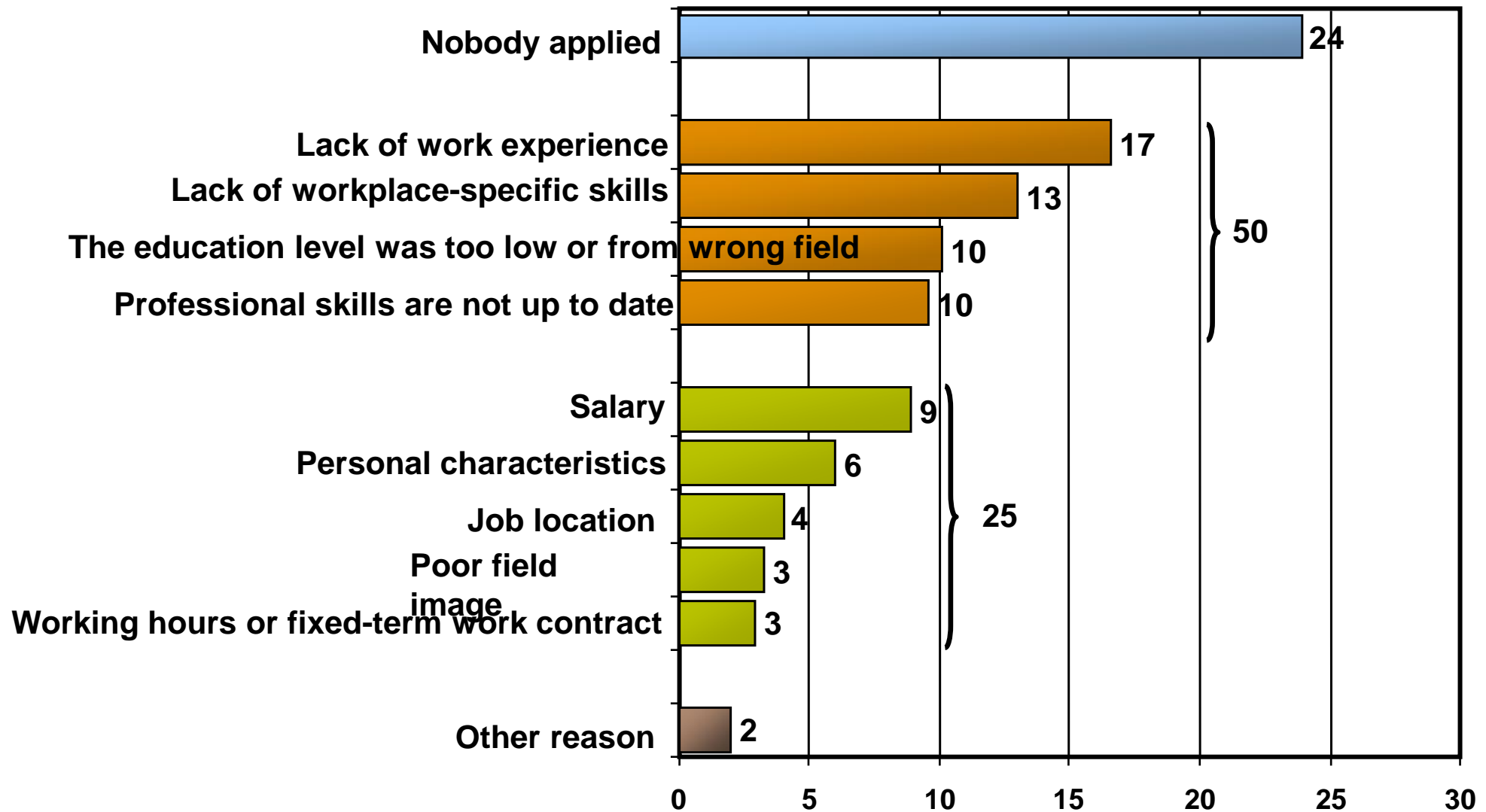
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What action can be taken at local level? Why and where partnerships?

Engaging companies: summer jobs, workplace training, recruiting students. Adult learning. Making services more accessible and easy to use.

Reasons for recruiting difficulties: Partnerships needed!

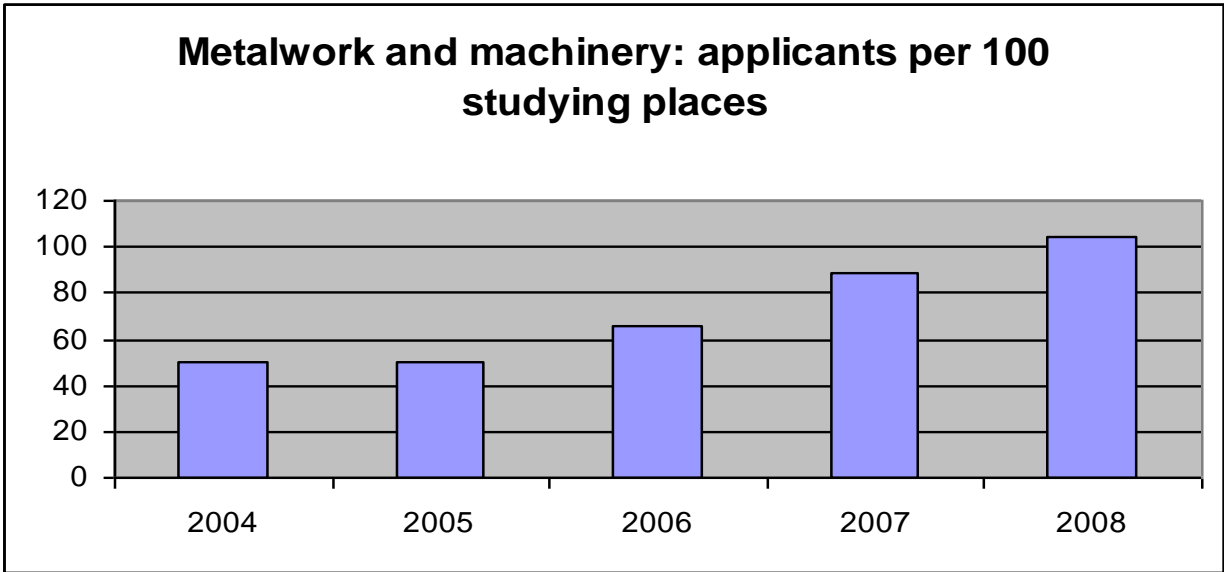
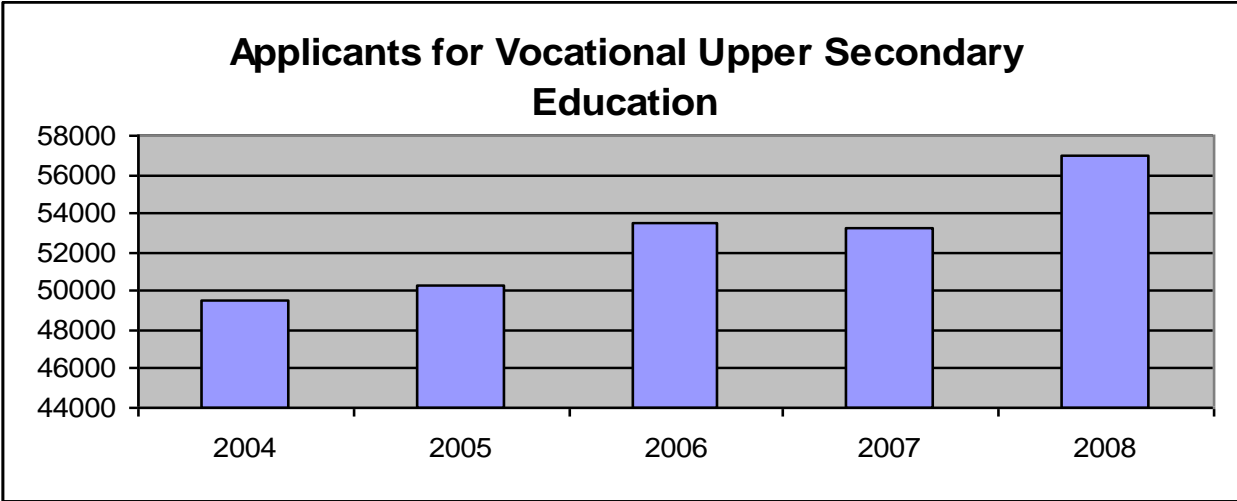


Backstage - partnership

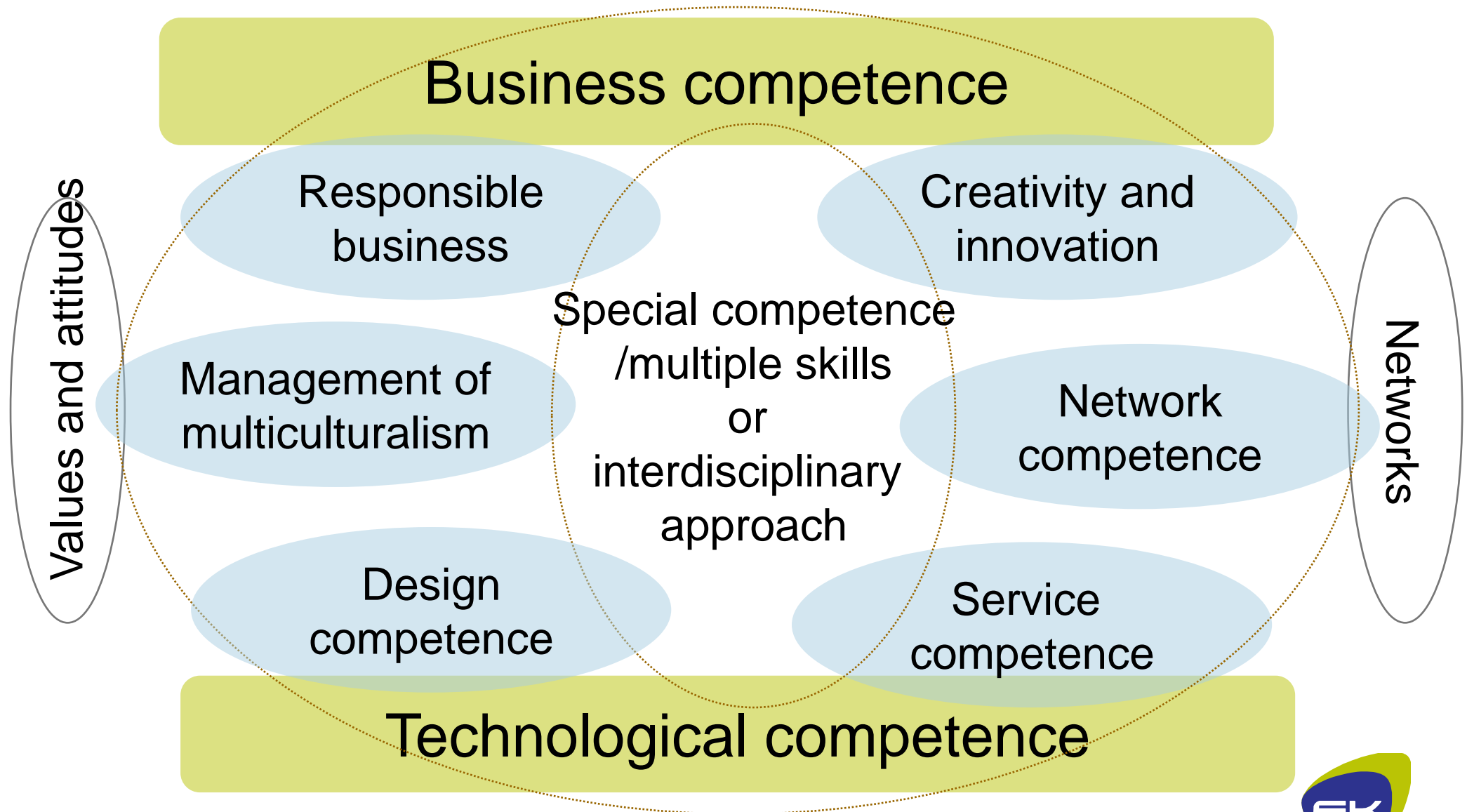
- Increasing young people's awareness of the possibilities and requirements in working life
- Bringing the young into companies, to the *backstage*
- Giving the young concrete experiences of working life and different professions
- Programme financed by the Confederation of Finnish Industries and some Industry Branchies (Chemical, Forest, Technology) and Social-Healtservice Associations
- Coordinated by the Economic Information Office
- Nine regional School Industry Coordinators, *school-coaches*
- Started in 2004 - continues



Backstage - partnership



Adult Learning: Identifying Competences contributing to successful business



Partnerships in Adult Learning: Pedagogical Dimensions

- New role and skills for teacher– tutor – mentor
- Personalisation of learning – personal curricula
- Recognition of Prior Learning – concentrating in competence gaps
- Modular structures – more choice
- Keeping up students' motivation



Partnerships in Adult Learning: Organising Studies

- Flexible structures: work and studies can alternate according to needs and possibilities
 - On-the-job-learning
 - Studying on leisure time
 - Part-time studies
 - Apprenticeship for adults
- Competence-based-qualifications – independent testing and certification
- Special Programmes for groups which are difficult to motivate
- e-Learning
- Financing: training must be more attractive than unemployment



Policy implications?

**Partnerships in Higher Education Policies.
Looking beyond the crisis: partnerships in foresight.**

New Universities in Finland

- New bill is given to the Parliament in spring 2009
- Universities' financial administrative powers increased
- New legal status of personnel
- Powers of the university governing boards and rectors expanded
- Number of external members in the boards increased
- Board chaired by an external member
- Performance management system between the Ministry of Education and the universities developed



Aalto University

- A merger of Helsinki School of Economics, University of Art and Design and Helsinki University of Technology to a new university
- Aalto University is based on a foundation
- Economically independent and strong foundation funds
- External strategic board
- The new university will start 1 August 2009 and the final merger will take place 1 January 2010
- Aalto University will have approximately 21,000 students and a staff of 4,250



Main Objectives for Partnerships in HE

- High quality and impact of education and research
 - Learning Outcomes based Quality Assurance
- Efficiency (institutions, network)
- International orientation
- Adequate funding
- Capacity for renewal
- Wide-ranging cooperation

The greatest challenge of all: how to make changes take place in practice?



Partnerships in HE Quality Assurance

- Towards shared expectations and goals of HE
- Understanding about learning – what enhances it, what hinders it?
- Attention to both system-level and individual processes
- Attention to the quality of teaching: learning experience, learning outcomes
- Making outcomes visible: new indicators needed: e.g. indicators measuring capacity to build partnerships, to create national and international complementarities, to build cross-border individual learning and research paths...
- Sense of ownership → self-evaluation → diversity of methods

Sources: OECD Tertiary Education Review

Finnish pilot project in the field of Technical HE



Foresight: Learning Networks – New Businesses, New Skills

Leverage from
Leverage from
the EU
2007–2013
ERDF



Entrepreneurship

Infrastructures
of Life

Responsible Business

Knowledge
Intensive
Services (KIS)

Empowerment

New Business
Areas:
- Learning Services

Implementation

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