



# Finland

## Finnish Partnerships

### Framework and setting

- Geographic scale** There are three area-based partnerships established in Finland which cover sub-sections of counties: the Central Uusimaa Partnership covers 160,000 inhabitants; Kumppaniksi ry Kainuu has 56,000 inhabitants and Seinäjoki Regions Development Partnership Association is responsible for 199,800 inhabitants.
- Policy framework** The partnerships were created in the framework of the Finnish National Action Plan and the regional and local employment strategies. All partnerships work independently.

### Partnerships at work

- Rationale** The partnerships have been established to develop new methods of work in order to reduce unemployment and social exclusion.
- Objectives** The main objectives of the Finnish partnerships are to combat unemployment, especially long-term unemployment, and prevent social problems associated with unemployment. The partnerships aim to promote co-operation among the parties responsible for tackling unemployment and the problems caused by it.
- Functions** The functions of partnerships in Finland are to develop and implement programmes and projects, to create and maintain co-operation and networks related to employment and to act as an intermediary body and give support, help and guidance for third sector organisations.
- Policy areas** Local and regional employment policy
- Policy tools/ Instruments** The actions of the partnerships include labour market training, tailor-made training programmes, guidance to third sector organisations, the creation and maintenance of networks, support and capacity building for long-term unemployed and disabled jobseekers and the implementation of Local Employment Strategies.
- Timeframe** Ongoing
- Partners** Local municipalities, labour authorities, educational and third sector organisations, companies, the Social Insurance Institution of Finland, congregations and the Employment and Economic Development Centres
- Contracts** Partnership contracts are drawn up between the local actors. Each project has its own steering group consisting of experts from partnership networks.
- Legal status** NGOs
- Sources of Financing** Sources of funding are e.g. European Social Fund / Objective 3, the municipalities and the Employment and Economic Development Centres.
- Results** No figures available

### Partnerships' highlight

- Programme/Project** Project "Partnership+" in Central Uusimaa
- Timeframe** 2000 – 2007
- Objectives** The objectives of the project are to activate those individuals excluded from the labour market and support the development of self-initiative amongst unemployed individuals. Additionally, the aims of the project are to share information about problems and actions needed to address them and, thus, create a positive attitude towards employment and prevention of exclusion in Central Uusimaa. At the same time, the local economy and the opportunity for companies to employ new people are strengthened. "Partnership+" is funded by the municipalities of Central Uusimaa and the European Social Fund/Objective 3.

**Activities** The long-term unemployed and those in danger of exclusion from the labour market require individual, need-based, tailored and multi-skill based approaches. The project includes evaluation of employability and vocational education, improving employability and vocational skills, new ways of working and methods to develop increased work participation and motivation.

**Results** In regards to the target group of the long-term unemployed, the following results were achieved: 31% of the clients have been employed (without financial support to employers: 18%; with financial support to employers: 13%), 5% received work training, 5% went for rehabilitation, 1% build up their own business, 8% received vocational training and for 16% of the clients other solutions were found.

## Contacts **Partnership co-ordination on national / sub-regional level**

There is no co-ordination on the national level or sub-regional level.

### **Partnership co-ordinators on regional / local level**

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