

STUDENT COOPERATIVES AND COOPERATIVE MODEL IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Partner: Vocational Education Sedu

Context: Etelä-Pohjanmaan pajoilta urille, ESF project, Student Cooperatives KAMP and Artesaaniosuuskunta Pohjanmaa

Description:

Through the project Etelä-Pohjanmaan pajoilta urille, which is an ESF-funded youth workshops' development project; Vocational Education Sedu has launched in house co-operative activities. The project also piloted in the school premises summer use and the development of career guidance for young people.

The student cooperatives have been working under the names of KAMP and Artisans' Cooperative of Ostrobothnia. Under the business name KAMP, cooperatives' business activities includes: the construction work, renovation, painting, small home electrical wiring, light machinery and appliance repair, communications and information technology, car maintenance and polishing, machine repairs, development-related activities and metal work, sub-contracting, machinery and metal development and training activities, stewarding, security consulting and design, and installation activities, agriculture and forestry sector work, log construction, forestry, heavy equipment contracting, environmental management jobs, hospitality activities, catering operations, yard and garden work, housekeeping services, upholstery and interior design work, barber shop operations, accounting, graphic design, event organization.

Priority members of the cooperatives are Sedu students and Youth Workshops trainees. The work that students do can be accumulated as study credits. Membership application should be written and subjected to authorization by the Cooperative board. Board is responsible from hiring staff , purchases of goods / services , pricing of the services,) convene a meeting of the delegates of the cooperative and prepare its agenda , to draw up proposals for measures to be adopted in balance sheet, and decide on the admission and expulsion of members

The student cooperatives give a chance to students to learn by doing. It is a good way of learning customer service, cost management, responsibility and inner entrepreneurship by dealing with real life situations personally.

Membership is voluntary, and each has their own roles and responsibilities.

Outcomes and Evaluation:

Opportunities:

- Does not require an annual establishment of a Youth Enterprise Business
- Professional directors help in operation.
- "Real learning" -> really doing for the right people.
- Inspiring learning method.
- Testing your enterprise safely.

- Cooperative activities could also be piloted among a smaller proportion of the municipality.

Wishes / Objective:

- Money motivates
- Student cooperatives are used more as a teaching tool rather than an instrument of entrepreneurship education. It is an alternative way to learn about a profession, learning outside the "school hours".
- It helps developing Social skills, quality control and scheduling.
- Students may also be responsible for their own learning.
- Channeling of entrepreneurial activity, understanding of internal and external entrepreneurship and "entrepreneurship testing."
- Is, in itself also an activation and engagement tool.

Assists on improving characteristics: self-help, ownership, marketing know-how, enthusiasm and motivation.

PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES FOR THE WORKPLACE TRAINERS IN YOUTH WORKSHOPS

Partner: Vocational Education Sedu and Kaks Kättä – Two Hands Youth Workshop

Context: Etelä-Pohjanmaan pajoilta urille, ESF project and South Ostrobothnian Youth Workshop Foruumi

Description:

Through the project Etelä-Pohjanmaan pajoilta urille, which was an ESF-funded youth workshops' development project. Vocational Education Sedu has developed workshops, functions, and business skills, to enhance co-operation between the workshops and Upper secondary education institutions.

Main goals include preventing social alienation of the youth, improving youths work application skills, creating new learning environments to vocational schools and workshops in the region, improving youth workshops' business knowledge, developing further cooperation between local youth workshops.

Outcomes and Evaluation:

The outcomes expected from the vocational education, and the students who need special guidance have been both expanding in the previous years. More and more students feel that classical classroom education does not fit them. These students are in danger off dropping out and marginalizing. Studying vocations through Youth workshops offer diversified, flexible and personalized education paths, which through students' motivation may remain high.

Vocational Education Sedu and Two Hands Workshop has been developing the model and keeping the quality of the education by in house trainings and several development projects.