



Validation of non-formal and informal learning - opportunities for special target groups

28.11. – 1.12.2017, Kuopio, Finland

The Finnish National Agency for Education has a pleasure to invite European adult educators and staff working with adult learning to a **thematic seminar on Validation of non-formal and informal learning**.

In most European countries Validation of non-formal and informal learning is carried out in the context of formal education - vocational education and training or higher education. However, the non-formal AL sector often has a crucial role in dealing with special target groups, such as immigrants, long-term unemployed, prisoners and individuals with special needs, and making their competences visible.



Questions we will tackle in the seminar are various: How can adult education better integrate validation in their core activities? What kind of tools are available for validation? How do we indicate the key stakeholders essential to validation? How do we provide high-quality validation procedures and have the individual in the focus?

The seminar will take place in **Kuopio, Finland on the 28th of November – 1st of December, 2017**. In the seminar, you will have a fantastic opportunity to learn from expert key notes and interactive workshops. You will have a chance to create a wide European network of adult educators, who are interested in the same theme – and, of course, to see a bit of Finnish Lake District and enjoy the Eastern Finnish hospitality.

After the seminar, you will be able to better



- comprehend the VNIFL (Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning) process with its benefits and challenges; understand the terminology related to VNIFL and depict the quality assurance outlines of the VNIFL process
 - grasp the VNIFL process from the viewpoint of national as well as European frame of reference
 - use and have access to available tools created for VNFIL practitioners
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- take advantage of a European network of adult educators and pool of experts working with VNFIL
 - plan and implement VNIFL procedures in your organization.



Target group of the participants

Adult educators and other staff working with adult learning, who have a focus on special target groups, such as immigrants, refugees, long-term unemployed, prisoners, people with special needs etc. We also encourage the AL staff of National Agencies to participate to share the common learning experience.

Seminar fee

The seminar fee is **750 euros**. It will be covered by your [National Agency](#) in case you have been selected to participate the seminar. The seminar fee includes accommodation, meals and the seminar programme (including all materials). The travel costs are not included in the seminar fee, but they will be reimbursed by your National Agency. We have limited the number of participants to 70 people, which means that 2-4 persons per country can participate.



Start and end of the seminar

The seminar will kick off on **Tuesday the 28th of November**. The registration will start at **18.00** and we are inviting the participants to a relaxed get-together. The **dinner will start at 20.00**.

The end of the seminar is on the **Friday the 1st of December at 13.00** (official programme will end at 12.00, after which we will have lunch).

We wish that all participants could book their flights so that they will be able to stay for the entire duration of the seminar.

Click the button and register now!

Register Now



To-do-list prior to the seminar

1. You will need to **confirm your participation by Friday 28th of July and register [here](#)**. In case you do not meet the deadline, we may give your spot to a person on the reserve list.
2. You will get **access to a dedicated seminar website** with materials, detailed programme, further reading and practical information after you have confirmed your participation. Please, study the programme and the material prior to the seminar.
3. If you are not yet **registered to [EPALE](#)**, please, do so at least **one week before** the seminar. In case you have problems registering, contact your [National Support Service for EPALE](#). A virtual Collaborative Space will be created for all participants.
4. In case you wish to stay **extra nights** either in Kuopio or Helsinki, **you will need to arrange your own accommodation**.
5. On Tuesday (arrival day), all the participants are invited to arrange a **European Fair** with us. This means, that you are encouraged to **bring materials of your organisation / country and bring some typical snacks for the participants to taste**. Each country will have a small stand where you can place your items. This way, you will have a great opportunity to meet and greet people and learn about them, their culture and organisations.





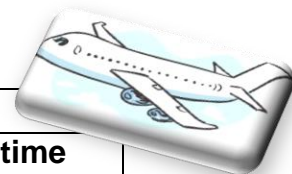
Practical information

Contact info of the seminar hotel

Venue of the seminar: [Hotel Scandic Kuopio](#)
Address of the hotel: Satamakatu 1, 70100 Kuopio, Finland
Telephone: +358 17 195111
Fax: +358 17 1952211
Email: kuopio@scandichotels.com

NB! You will not need to make your own booking. Rooms will be booked for you from Tue 28th Nov – Fri 1st Dec (3 nights) as you confirm your registration. **Only, in case you wish to stay longer, you will need to make your own booking arrangements.**

Connecting flights from Helsinki to Kuopio (Finnair – OneWorld alliance)



Tuesday 28.11.2017 Helsinki - Kuopio		
Flight number	Departure time	Arrival time
AY361	07:40	08:30
AY 363*	10:15	11:15
AY 365*	13:15	14:05
AY 369*	16:50	17:50
AY 371	20:55	21:45
AY 379	23:45	00:35

Connecting flights from Kuopio to Helsinki (Finnair – OneWorld alliance)

Friday 1.12.2017 Kuopio - Helsinki		
Flight number	Departure time	Arrival time
AY380	6:15	7:00
AY 376	7:30	8:15
AY 362	8:55	9:45
AY 364	11:35	12:35
AY 366*	14:30	15:20
AY 370*	18:05	18:50
AY 372*	19:40	20:40

*Recommended connections



Trains

Trains run regularly between Helsinki and Kuopio several times a day. The train journey takes ca 4,5 hours. See further information <https://www.vr.fi/cs/vr/en/frontpage>



Transportation from the Kuopio airport to the hotel

Airport taxi



- A fixed-price shared taxi from Kuopio city (home address, hotel, etc.) to Kuopio airport and vice versa.
- Airport taxi can be booked only for domestic flights (Kuopio-Helsinki)
- Book your airport taxi in advance by phone 0200 30 300 **(+358 200 30 300)** and be sure to **mention that you are booking an airport taxi.**
- From hotel/home address to airport: Booking must be made at least **three (3)** hours before your flight departs. You will be asked for your name and phone number, an airline and departure time of your flight. Taxi center will tell your pick-up time based on your address.
- From airport to hotel/home address: **Booking must be made at least 45 minutes before your flight arrives.** Your reserved airport taxi will be waiting you in front of the building at Airport taxi stand.
- You can also take an airport taxi from the airport without booking it in advance. First, check if there is a taxi already at airport taxi stand. If there is no available airport taxi, then go to a normal taxi stand and tell the driver that you want an airport taxi. If there is no available taxi at all, call 0200 30 300 (+358 200 30 300) and tell that you are calling from the airport and ask for an airport taxi. You can use a free phone at the airport lobby.
- In airport taxi, you can have one normal size suitcase and a cabin luggage (no skis, golf bags, pets, etc.)

Airport taxi operates:

- Only on weekdays, from Monday to Friday (NOT Saturday and Sunday)
- NOT on midweek holidays

Price (per person):

- Kuopio city center 22€ / person

NB! It is likely that there will be quite many participants on the same flight. If you can inform us your flight schedule, we will be able to coordinate regular taxis for you to share. Regular taxi from airport to city center is ca. 50-55 euros. (You can inform us about your flights on the registration form)

Buses

There is an hourly bus connection from airport to city center. However, the bus does not stop at your hotel, so you'd have to walk ca 1,5 km. Bus timetables for November are not confirmed yet. Further info will follow.

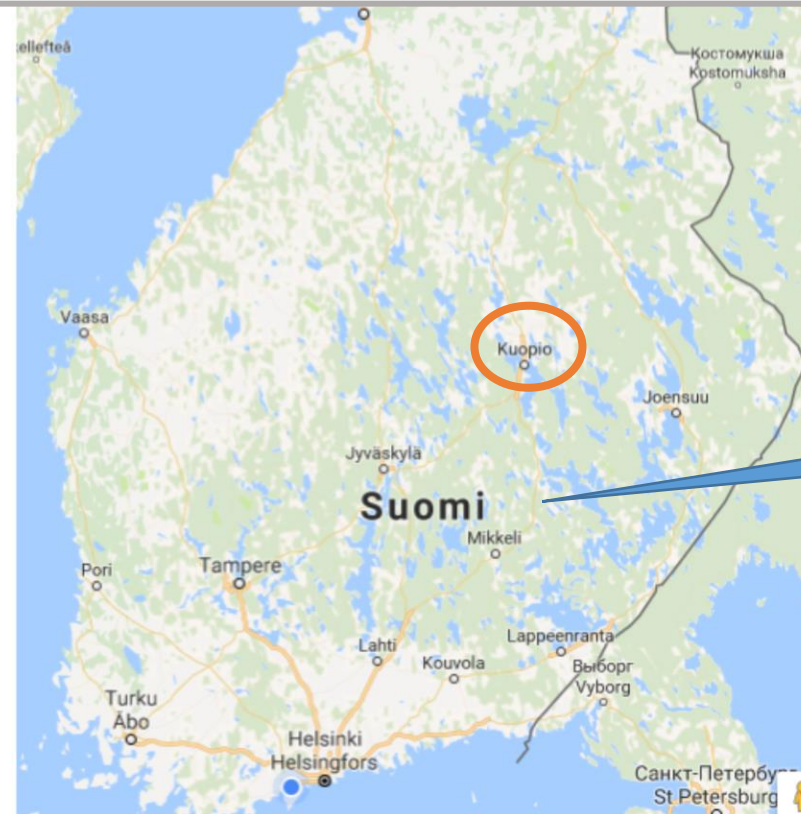




Further info on Kuopio: <http://www.discoveringfinland.com/lakeland/kuopio/> or

<http://www.visitfinland.com/article/kuopio-a-lakeland-harbour-town/>

[Learn Finnish phrases](#)



"Suomi" = Finland
in Finnish

