Orientation for the SIMHE (Supporting Immigrants in Higher Education) services in Finland
### Objectives

<table>
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<th>Objective</th>
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<td><strong>To guide immigrants</strong>, who have interest to apply for higher education studies/ qualification <strong>to find the most suitable educational or career path.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>To identify</strong> and <strong>recognise prior learning and competence</strong> for immigrants in higher education.</td>
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<td><strong>To establish a model that can be used by all HEIs</strong> in Finland.</td>
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SIMHE institutions

Pilot 2016
• Metropolia UAS
• Jyväskylä Uni

New institutions 2017
• Helsinki Uni
• Turku Uni
• Karelia UAS
• Oulu UAS
How to integrate highly educated immigrants in Finland?

SIMHE integration model

Guidance
To find suitable study and/or career path

Education & recruitment model for nurses and kindergarten teachers
Co-operation with cities (public sector)

Matching & recruitment co-operation with companies

Co-operation with TE-office

Co-operation with integration training organisations

Recruitment training

Training courses for the higher education studies

Co-operation with different organisations

Co-operation with TE-office

Lack of national references

Lack of expertise

Lack of networks

Matching & recruitment co-operation with companies

Co-operation with companies

Expertise and insight for the future

To find suitable study and/or career path
Education possibilities

- Preparation courses for entrance examination
- Open university studies > < supplementary studies
  - Bachelor´s or Master´s Degree
• There have been two projects launched for recognizing immigrants’ competences and to support higher education paths and career paths in the higher education sector in the year 2016. The projects were funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The pilot projects were coordinated by the Finnish University Partnership for International Development (UniPID) -network in Jyväskylä and Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Helsinki.

• The supporting Immigrants in Higher Education in Finland (SIMHE) project’s aim was to streamline the recognition of prior learning (RPL) of highly educated immigrants, who reside in Finland with various statuses, and to guide them to higher education both on a national and regional level. The projects cooperated with labour authorities, other authorities, education organizations and with a broad network of experts. The aim was to support the immigrants’ integration to the Finnish society, education and work life, and to establish a model which can be used by other higher education institutes in Finland joining the activities. The Ministry of Education and Cultures’ publication The educational tracks and integration of immigrants - problematic areas and proposals for action is behind the launches of the projects (the Ministry of Education and Culture releases 2016:1).

• In 2017, SIMHE was joined by four new higher education institutions: University of Helsinki, Karelia University of Applied Sciences, Oulu University of Applied Sciences and University of Turku. SIMHE-services are funded by the Ministry of Education and the culture.

• https://www.metropolia.fi/en/services/for-immigrants/
SIMHE co-operation with finnish IQ-network

• There have been organised matching & recruitment events for the companies, international students and SIMHE-customers
  (https://blogit.metropolia.fi/variables/2018/02/13/supporting-highly-educated-immigrants-career-paths-finland/)

• SIMHE-role in finnish IQ-network is to support Highly Educated Immigrants’ Career Paths in Finland by recognising their competencies and guiding to find supplementary studies and professional networks and jobs