

TFK programme, funded projects 2025

Project title: Promoting circular bioeconomy in higher education by sharing and refining best practices in Finnish-Namibian collaboration	
Coordinator Tampereen ammattikorkeakoulu Oy Silja Kostia, silja.kostia@tuni.fi	Climate change is a global challenge that affects every corner of our planet and the need for green and just transition is widely accepted. The aim of the project is to strengthen collaboration between Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK), University of Turku (UTU), Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) and University of Namibia (UNAM) to promote circular bioeconomy. The project underlines the important role of higher education institutions (HEIs) in transition towards more sustainable future and responds to the need for renewal of education which was identified in an on-going project. The main project activities are 1) a staff visit from Namibia to Tampere and Turku to share good practices by company visits, workshops and lectures, 2) an intensive course in Namibia focusing on circular bioeconomy and including short term student and staff exchange, 3) webinar engaging networks of global south in circular bioeconomy development, 4) online teaching implementations, 5) long-term student mobilities. The project supports the internationalization of participating organizations and opens possibilities for developing new collaboration activities. Long-term mobility strengthens collaboration, especially from a research and development point of view, and develops practices for future activities. Altogether four short-term student mobilities from Finland to Namibia, eight short-term staff mobilities both ways (4 + 4) and four long-term student mobilities both ways (2 + 2) are included in the project. The anticipated results are 1) co-created study units, courses, and digital resources on circular bioeconomy integrated into HEIs' programmes, 2) enhanced staff skills in interdisciplinary, digital, and sustainability education, 3) strengthened international partnerships, 4) applied learning models for industry and community partnerships, 5) integrated circular bioeconomy principles into teaching and research, advancing SDGs 4, 9, 12, and 13. The impact of the project is created for students and staff through intercultural exchange experience and built networks, better knowledge in circular bioeconomy and professional skills, better understanding of global South context in resource-limited settings, online course implementations and strengthened capacity for managing international partnerships and mobility. The project directly integrates development activities in educational and research of participating organizations ensuring the impact.
Partners University of Turku, Namibia University of Science and Technology, University of Namibia	



OPETUSHALLITUS
UTBILDNINGSSTYRELSEN

Finnish National Agency for Education EDUFI
Hakaniemenranta 6, P.B. 380, FI-00531 Helsinki
Puh. /Tel. +358 (0) 29 533 1000, Faksi /Fax +358 (0) 29 533 1035
www.oph.fi