Asia Programme, final report for projects 2015-2017

SUMMARY REPORT FOR PUBLICATION

Name of the project
ProPeda - Promoting teachers' pedagogical expertise in multicultural contexts

Coordinating Institution
Karelia University of Applied Sciences

Objectives of the project (as indicated in the project proposal)

ProPeda project goal was to promote high quality, influential and strategic international cooperation between the Finnish and Chinese partners by developing an in-service training tool to raise teachers' pedagogical expertise and multicultural understanding promoting also mobility and internationalisation at home. ProPeda met with these aims and accomplished even much more.

ProPeda aimed at supporting the universities in developing systemic teacher mobility with a close working life co-operation with teachers' in-service training programme and promoted both students' mobility and internationalisation at home with joint teaching and mobility plans. Furthermore, ProPeda aimed at empowering the impacts of internationalisation of education raising the quality and working life relevance of education with building a joint degree-awarding programme. Accordingly, ProPeda supported the launching of a double degree programme in renewable energy and the work plan of systemic mobility in nursing and rehabilitation programmes.

Achieved results and outcomes

ProPeda results can be explore on three thematic levels: First, on social level, ProPeda promoted educational policy aims in both partner countries meeting with the scheme of the collaboration set on national levels in both countries aiming at long-lasting and significant educational collaboration. As a result of this, ProPeda project, following the project plan, continued the work started in the previous Asia project DORE, building the international programme in renewable energy. Karelia teachers carry out one third of the whole programme in China, in addition, part of the Chinese students come to Finland for one-year study to be awarded also with the Karelia degree.
**Second, on educational level** Karelia and HLJIT developed expertise in the field of renewable energy, gerontology and general health care. The joint international programme raise the quality and impacts of education and serve as systemic teacher competence building pool. This development work and joint programme is one of key actions in Karelia’s internationalisation and global education strategy. The implementation embeds into one-entity teachers’ competence building, chargeable expertise services, and curriculum development as well as student & teacher mobility for both partners benefit. In the field of gerontology and health care, the work started in a form of teachers from Karelia and HUCM meeting with each other while PedaCamps and starting to analyse and compare the curriculum and practises. The mobility work plan for nursing and rehabilitation degrees proceeds after the project.

**Third, on professional level** Karelia, HLJIT and HUCM all shared a definite need to develop teachers’ professional expertise in international contexts. During ProPeda project, competence building was done by designing, organising and piloting two intensive and interactive teacher training courses - one-week-long PedaCamps - one in China and one in Finland.

**Activities carried out during the project**

ProPeda project included joint activities in both China and Finland and internal thematic working at partner organisations. Joint activities included preparatory workshop planning and preparing PedaCamps, two PedaCamp trainings (one in China, one in Finland), reflective workshop analysing the results and impact and finally, a workshop negotiating about the principles of collaboration in the implementation of the joint programme.

The activity scheme was simple and directly embedded with the development process. Each activity had its own goals, tasks, indicators and follow-up to support coherent project implementation.

**Future developments, resulting from the project**

Karelia continues developing strategic partner network in China and ProPeda project significantly promoted this aim providing opportunities for deepening relationships, fostering thematic collaboration and working with concrete output design leading to the goal. The good practices for relationship building, competence building and collaboration models as well as concrete training tools can be and are applied in different contexts working with Chinese partners and even more widely.