

## TFK programme, funded projects 2023

<b>Project title:</b> Action Lab Mexico - co-creating intercultural mentoring model through joint student cases and community engagement	
<p><b>Coordinator</b></p> <p>Aalto-korkeakoulusäätiö sr</p> <p>Matleena Muhonen, matleena.muhonen@aalto.fi</p>	<p>The ALM co-mentora project develops a new co-mentoring model for intercultural and multistakeholder learning in higher education cooperation. The model includes developing a virtual learning and cooperating culture for peer-to-peer mentoring and co-learning through joint transdisciplinary student cases and community engagement with Mexican indigenous communities and HEIs in Mexico and Finland.</p> <p>The core activities include 1) further development of joint virtual learning opportunities in the existing parallel courses that are run independently in each partner HEI, 2) joint student cases that include two-week intensive field workshops in collaboration with a community in Mexico, and 3) reciprocally, one-week co-creation camps in Finland.</p> <p>The joint student cases with local community and partner HEIs promote holistic understanding and sustainable development to equip students with intercultural competencies, communication and collaboration skills, and field research methods in practice.</p>
<p><b>Partners</b></p> <p>Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México UNAM</p> <p>Universidad Modelo</p>	<p>The co-mentoring model is an innovative approach to intercultural and multistakeholder learning that employs empathic design thinking and participatory methods in a collaborative and interdisciplinary learning environment. The model will equip mentors with competencies in PBL pedagogy, leadership, project management, and intercultural communication/collaboration.</p> <p>The project includes one-week co-creation camps in Finland, where high-level experts (both educational and topic-related), mentors and students are invited to share their learnings and experiences, evaluate the project and give feedback. The co-creation camp also involves academic impact wherein findings will be collected and disseminated through different formats, e.g. conference papers and working reports. The co-creation camps give an opportunity for involvement of other student-led projects alike, stakeholders, civil society and companies to join in. The academic impact and co-learning will be strengthened by developing a virtual platform in which all the relevant materials and findings will be shared with open access.</p> <p>The project aims to facilitate the growth of a student initiative into a strong institutional partnership with a well-established, equal and responsible cooperation model in teaching practices through co-mentoring, community engagement and responding to future competence needs in working life. To achieve this, the project relies on an interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach to create a comprehensive and dynamic learning environment that promotes sustainable growth, development, and innovations.</p> <p>The model is integrated into existing curricula of each partner HEI, and it connects to MEC EDUCASE Platform's educational activities. Collaboration with similar projects at partner HEIs expands perspectives and enhances knowledge-sharing. Co-mentoring model promotes curriculum development, research and innovation, and internationalization of students and staff through mobility in HEIs.</p>

