**Project title: Blended Intensive Study Programme in Pune and Oulu**

| Coordinator                  | The Faculty of Education at the University of Oulu (UOULU) and School of Education at the Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU) are working on possibilities to increase intercultural learning experience, sharing the philosophy of teaching, methodologies and the techniques of teaching used at partner universities. Combining the three ways of internationalisation together: mobility, internationalisation “at home”, and virtual mobility, universities are able to stimulate increased student and staff mobility in the areas of study abroad, teaching practice and joint research. Global learning, cooperation, supporting SDGs and promoting quality in higher education by training young teacher education (TE) students is a priority and will be undertaken through this project. The aim of the project activities is to offer TE students and teacher educators a learning experience across the continent and beyond, based on mutual learning, focusing on contextualising, and using inquiry-based learning and dialogical education as a method. Co-creating and co-teaching the Blended Intensive Study Programme in Pune and Oulu (BISPPO), a 5 ECTS course that includes preliminary assignments, two-week visits in partner universities, and a reflection after the visit fits well into both the students’ study schedule and the course structure used in both universities. Learning working life skills obtained by conducting visits and teaching students to generate and develop the content via short videos will further enrich their learning experience. Visits organised as a group encourage students with concerns about security or loneliness to join, and expose students to the real-life experiences of the different philosophies of teaching in Finland and India. |
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| Partners                    | Savitribai Phule Pune University |
International experiences increase students’ curiosity, persistence, productivity, and can-do attitude in addition to improving their linguistic capabilities and cultural understanding. The students will actively participate in discussions and create their own content and share their experiences in the project. Supporting students’ initiatives and communication channels to spread information, as they have experienced it firsthand, will inspire other students to attend courses online or join mobility activities. The visibility of students and visiting staff members will also influence the teaching staff in both Universities and develop a more positive atmosphere towards internationalisation.

The cooperation helps the participating institutes to get familiar with each other’s strengths, resources, and research and their expertise in the field of teacher education. Establishing relationships with universities and civil society in developing countries requires long-term commitment. Both the new Indian National Educational Policy 2020 and Finnish Vision for higher education and research in 2030 guide to accomplish activities as developed in this project.