

TFK programme, funded projects 2022

<p>Project title: Global Social Workers of the Future: North-SAUT Collaboration</p>	
<p>Coordinator</p> <p>Novia University of Applied Sciences</p> <p>Johanna Wikgren-Roelofs johanna.wikgren-roelofs@novia.fi</p>	<p>On the one hand, St. Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT) is currently planning to introduce Social Work as a discipline in its institution. Their goal is to provide high-quality education that meets global standards. With its reputation of having the best education, high quality pedagogical models and a successful social welfare system, Finland as a Nordic country comes in as a natural choice to learn from and to benchmark.</p> <p>On the other hand, with the increasing need for labor force, Finland will be the new home to many people from different cultural background now and in the future. Thus, there is a need to provide global competence and cultural awareness to students so that they can better serve their future clients. Similarly, teachers must develop their skills to be able to train globally competent graduates. Based on this information, the project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the global competence and cultural awareness of participants. • Benchmark curricula in social work education and the social welfare system in Finland that will help SAUT in developing their own degree program. • Help understand and compare what social work is from two different culture perspectives, that will lead to the creation of a new course.
<p>Partners</p> <p>St. Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT),</p>	<p>The project activities include an online course and workshops, internships and site visits, as well as student and staff exchange. As a result of the project, we expect the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a new course in “social work from an African-Nordic perspective”. • Improved competence and cultural awareness for both teachers and students. • A better understanding of social work through a different cultural lens. • Beyond this project, this cooperation will serve as an inspiration for experts from SAUT to structure their own curriculum in social work and social services through the lessons learnt and benchmarking. We hope to continue cooperating through other source of funding (e.g., Erasmus Global) to further develop the field of social work and social services in the partner HEIs and countries.

	<p>It is worth highlighting that Finland is also going through major reforms in the field of health and welfare, which will also affect the field of social work and social services. Also, current reforms to develop interprofessional family centers in Finland, where collaboration is increased between for instance public service providers and NGOs, can take inspiration from countries such as Tanzania - where services are structured in a different way and NGOs play a significant role in the field of social work and social services.</p>
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