

TFK programme, funded projects 2023

<p>Project title: Taking the e-leap - Toolbox for interactive and motivating online courses</p>	
<p>Coordinator</p> <p>Karelia Ammattikorkeakoulu Oy</p> <p>Kaija Saramäki, kaija.saramaki@karelia.fi</p>	<p>Taking the E-leap - Toolbox for interactive and motivating online courses is a project implemented by two Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences and two Zambian Universities. Karelia University of Applied Sciences (Karelia) is the project coordinator. Lapland University of Applied Sciences (Lapland UAS), Copperbelt University (CBU) and Mulungushi University (MU) are partners.</p> <p>Zambian universities have had to respond to online teaching needs at a rapid pace since the Covid-pandemic began in 2020. Online software and internet connections were not necessarily sufficient for large scale online teaching. Due to lacking e-learning skills and the fast shift from f2f lecture to online, the lectures were largely delivered as passive lectures with little interaction and motivation of the students. The staff and students' readiness to take up online teaching and learning was not adequate. Since then, the universities have returned to (mainly) face to face teaching but some courses are still run in online mode. To ensure high quality teaching in the universities, course design principles including pedagogical aspects of online teaching and learning need to be revised.</p>
<p>Partners</p> <p>Copperbelt University</p> <p>Mulungushi University</p> <p>Lapland University of Applied Sciences</p>	<p>The project activities will answer to these needs by capacity building of the Zambian higher education institutes' (HEI's). The project aims to increase the pedagogical skills of the staff for providing online courses. It will include workshops which introduces the basics of e-learning, for example pedagogical aspects, technical (i.e. learning management software, bandwidth and complementary applications), planning, execution and evaluation of the courses and hands on course design.</p> <p>Two identical workshops will be held in Zambia, where the participants are introduced to the above-mentioned course design contents. The participants will design a microcourse (smaller part of a larger course) during the workshops with the help of the facilitators. 60 staff members will participate in the workshops.</p> <p>One workshop, with 14 participants from Zambia, will be implemented in Finland and it will elaborate on the earlier workshop. The participants will design a whole online course, facilitated by Karelia and Lapland UAS staff. A joint course will also be designed during the workshop in Finland. The courses designed during this workshop will be implemented and evaluated during the project. Participant of the workshop can also act as e-learning mentors in their respective universities after the project.</p> <p>In addition to the workshops and the courses implemented, an E-leap toolbox, written guidelines on online course design, will be published.</p>

