Project title: Zambia 21st Century Forestry Education

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The proposal for the Zambia 21st Century Forestry Education-project seeks to develop 21st century skills through working life relevant forestry curricula planning and implementation processes in higher education in Zambia. The aim of the project is to co-create and co-develop inputs, i.e. methods and knowledge, that can serve project partners’ operations and collaboration.

The project will strengthen, deepen, and widen existing HAMK collaboration network in Zambia within the fields of natural resource management, forestry, and education development. HAMK has collaborated with the University of Zambia (UNZA) for years within various projects and service provisions. Zambia Forestry College (ZFC) is an important extension to HAMK’s network of Zambian and African bioeconomy sector collaborators. The ZFC have been offering several B.Sc programmes through affiliation and accreditation by UNZA since 2016. Project’s climate-smart forestry expertise topics and possible links to TVET education (ZFC diploma and certificate education delivery) are planned and implemented in collaboration with EduNova Ab (later referred as EduN), represented by NOVIA University of Applied Sciences and Pohjanmaa Vocational Academy.

The project activities include:

- Baseline survey for Zambian partners’ students and staff to detail state-of-art curricula processes, and collaborative refining of the project activities based on the survey findings
- Setting up project’s organizational structures and digital learning environment
- Organizing training workshop in HAMK premises in collaboration with EduN for practical learning, participatory observations, and benchmarking.
- Zambian partners working with individual Development Works with topics on curricula processes improvement, by utilizing the HAMK workshop learnings. Withing the development works at least one model of competence-based course will be designed;
- Tentatively four online sessions, organized by HAMK & EduN to guide the development works
- Organizing training workshop in ZFC premises to collaboratively build action plan towards student-centered pedagogy, competence-based curricula design and collaborative learning environment in the forestry education based on the Development Works.
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Disseminating project results

The expected project results are:

- New knowledge and models with close proximity with the world of work, for higher and vocational forestry education in Zambia and Finland
- Increased knowledge and skills in designing and implementing competence-based and work life -relevant curricula for forestry sector.
- Widened collaboration networks and strengthened collaboration between the partners
- Tightened linkages of the Zambian partners for quality forestry education in Zambia
- Increased competence of HAMK in curricula trainings in varying environments
- Enriched understanding of and competence of HAMK to work and collaborate within Southern African educational context

Partners
University of Zambia
Zambia Forestry College