

Light comes from the North

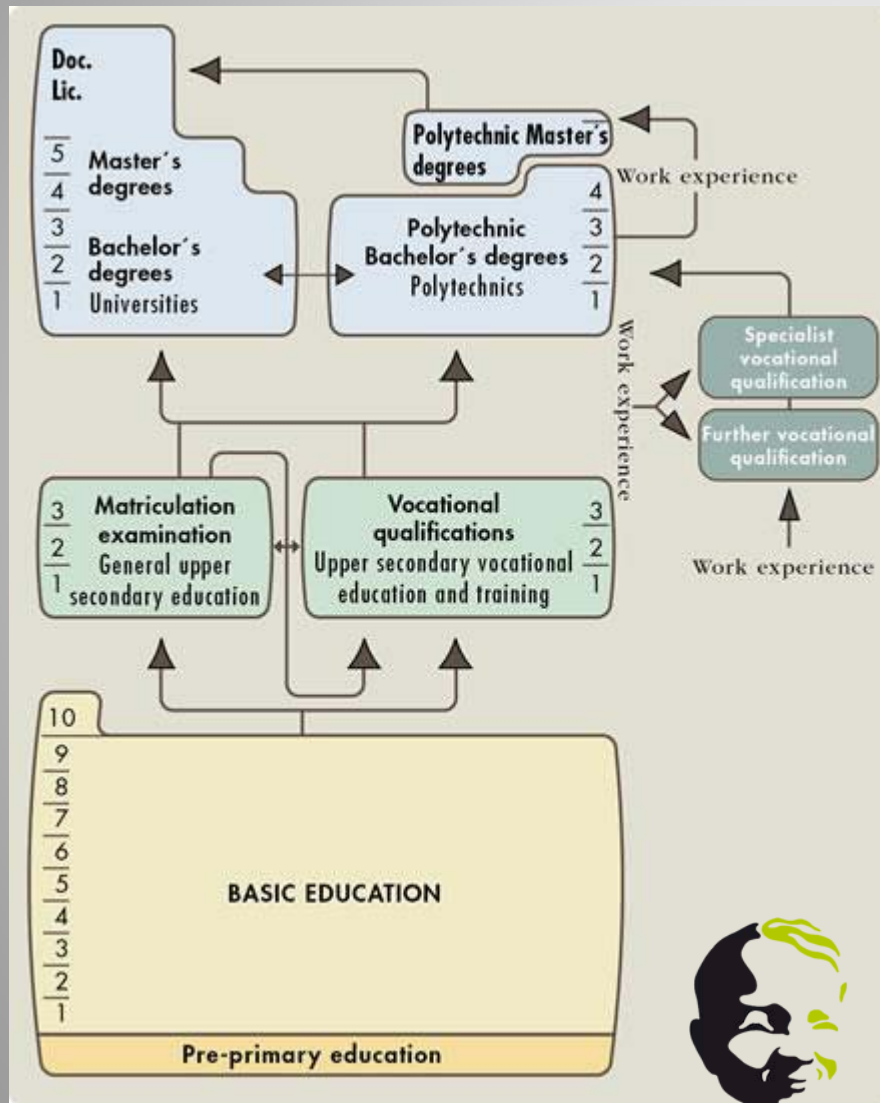
Finnish story of education

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The Finnish Education System in a Nutshell



- Equal opportunities to education irrespective of age, domicile, sex, economic situation, or mother tongue.
- Instruction free of charge.
- Central steering: local decisions and implementation.
- Quality control based on self-evaluation.
- Education system almost entirely publicly funded.



sipoo
sibbo



FINNISH NATIONAL
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Personalized pathways, Focus 2(1)

- Focus: Convince stakeholders with **research**-based arguments.
- **Teacher education.**
- Pilot projects to test suitable solutions.
- To test is to make a laboratory; research-based evaluation is the basis for future decision.



Personalized pathways, Alignment 2(2)

- Child in the middle!
- Teacher's freedom of choice.
- Teacher training gives needed skills and knowledge in all universities.
- Creativity.



Personalized pathways; feedback 2(3)

- No child left behind; problems solved at once; talented supported (laadukas sipoo).
- Non-formal feedways also, school clubs.
- Ubiquity of learning, peer learning.
- Parents' role, discussions, and trust.
- IT.



Systematic, flexible and individual support

Special support

Intensified support

General support



Focus on learning, focus 3(1)

- Research on how learning evolves, not on what has been learned.
- Cognitive approach – CICERO.
- From strong socio-constructivism to even stronger emergence.
- Results don't come overnight.



Focus on learning; alignment 3(2)

- **Principal in a key role.**
- Training for principals.
- Legislation is not about school, but students' rights for teaching and learning.
- General learning objectives are more important than subject knowledge.



Focus on learning; feedback 3(3)

- Formal, external evaluation.
- More important: **teacher-pupil relationship.**
- **Positive feedback.**
- Positive atmosphere, intrinsic motivation, and enthusiasm bring best learning results.

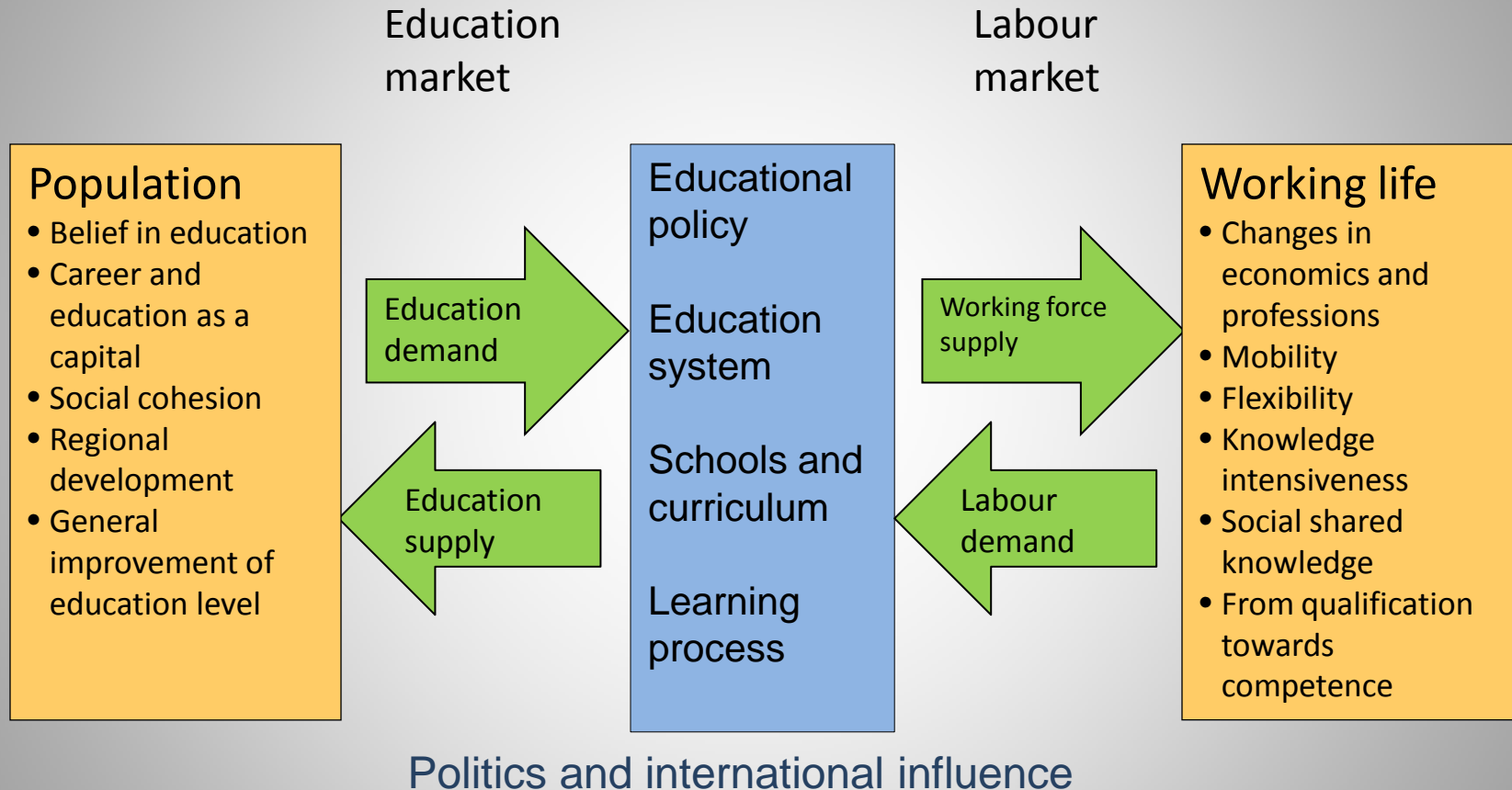


Cultural expectation of value; Focus 6(1)

- Shared cultural value of equal possibilities for every child to learn in mother tongue.
- Finnish Culture is a praxis of Creative problem solving.
- Always a Finnish solution of international trends; Finnish stubbornness.



Education and society



By Kari Kekkonen



Cultural expectation, alignment 6(2)

- Possibilities to train as high as you want, curricular possibilities for life-long learning.
- Learning by doing, parent involvement, and open door policy; All teaching is public.
- Schooling as a means of changing society; society as a means of making change schooling.
- The importance of schooling finds no political boundaries. Strong consensus of the importance of schooling.



Cultural expectation, feedback 6(3)

- Schooling for a good and happy life as a member of society.

