



REPORT

on participation in the HERE Study Visit

“Enhancing University-Industry Collaboration for current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems”

Name of the event: Study Visit “Enhancing University-Industry Collaboration for current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems”

Date: September 3-4, 2024.

Venue: Tampere University of Applied Sciences, Tampere, Finland.

Participants from Ukraine: Higher Education Reform Experts Yuriy RASHKEVYCH, Member of the National Qualifications Agency; Professor of the Lviv Polytechnic National University and Iryna ZOLOTARYOVA, Member of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance; Professor of the Information Systems Department, Simon Kuznets Kharkiv National University of Economics.

Target Audience: The event was specifically designed for Higher Education Reform Experts (HEREs), NEOs and focused on collaborative efforts between Universities and Industry to drive social and economic development based on supporting current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems.

Experts from the Tampere University of Applied Sciences and partner countries have shared cases from their institutions and countries to: analyze the achievements and challenges presented; acquire a global understanding of the changing role of universities in their ecosystems; explore institutional strategies aimed at improving collaboration between academia and industry.

The event showcased how the higher education institution fosters partnerships with business to achieve goals such as graduate employability and the creation of sustainable innovation ecosystems. Participants gained comprehensive insight into how the Tampere University of Applied Sciences employs various forms of collaboration to develop curricula, integrated learning, and cooperation between lecturers and students, as well as initiatives such as learning laboratories and applied research centers.

Iryna ZOLOTARYOVA, Ukrainian HERE, presented institutional case and shared University unique experience of initiatives and collaboration with the Kharkiv IT Cluster as an employer representative.

Projects supporting and advancing professional development of academics, reviewing educational programmes, career guidance initiatives, participation in teaching professionally oriented modules, student internships, entrepreneurship training, and numerous social projects attracted significant interest and received positive feedback from participants representing over 20 partner countries.

Learning Outcomes

1. Gain a comprehensive understanding of the opportunities for enhancing University-Industry collaboration.
2. Explore institutional strategies for enhancing University-Industry collaboration to support current

and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems.

3. Acquire knowledge of innovative approaches and best practices in University-Industry collaboration to support current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems.

Development prospects for Ukraine:

- *Universities' role in socio-economic development based on supporting current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems.*

Further development of Universities' role in socio-economic development on supporting current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems at various levels is significant for Ukraine, but the strategic vision for the higher education development in this context needs to be reviewed, updated through:

1. Development and implementation of an operational action plan 2025 to implement the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in Ukraine for 2022-2032, taking into account trends and approaches to enhancing cooperation between universities and industry for current and future employment, innovation and sustainable ecosystems in the European Higher Education Area.
2. Key interaction and mutual influence process between the University and industry at different levels (internal / institutional, external: local, regional, national).
3. New instruments and approaches to enhance University-Industry Collaboration to break barriers for mutual penetration on the way to improving the socio-economic sphere.

- *Institutional strategies for enhancing University-Industry Collaboration.*

The key steps within which the Ukrainian higher education system at the institutional level can develop or improve their University-Industry Collaboration even during the war are:

1. Analysis and revision of Ukrainian Universities' existing mission, vision and strategy for cooperation with business in accordance with local requirements and needs as well as taking into account national strategies and documents on enhancing University-Industry Collaboration.
2. Analysis and systematization of business representatives needs and corresponding review of University approaches and services to build a new system of relevant cooperation.
3. Deepening of research in the University-Industry Collaboration sphere in the context of promoting current and future employment, innovation and Sustainable Ecosystems.