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# Higher Education in Finland and possibilities for international cooperation

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Sini Piippo, Anni Kallio

Finnish National Agency for Education EDUFI



# Finland in brief

- population 5.5 million (18 inhabitants / sq. km)
- two official languages: Finnish and Swedish
- persons with foreign background: 7 % of the population
- education level of the working age population:

- 9 % basic education
- 44 % upper secondary education
- 45 % tertiary education



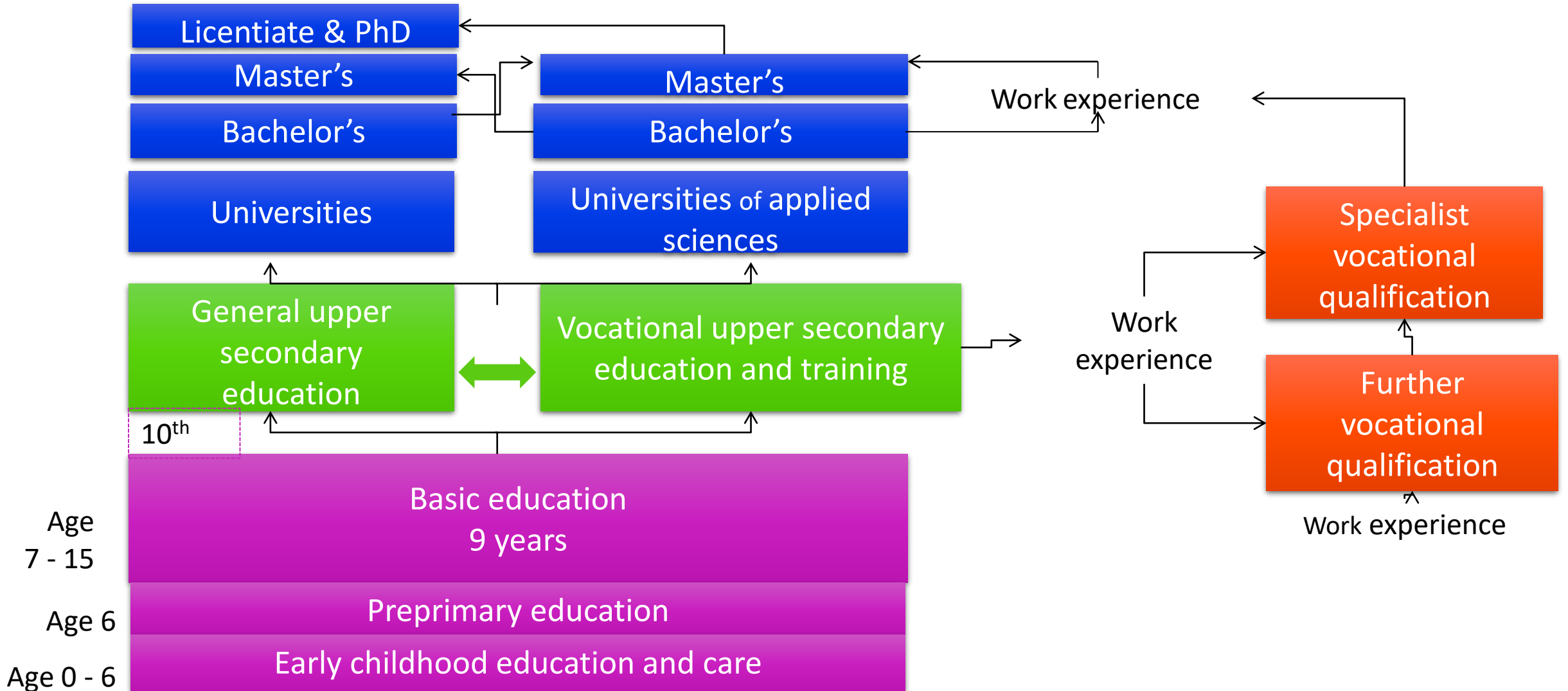
Statistics Finland 2020, Education at a Glance 2019, City of Helsinki media bank



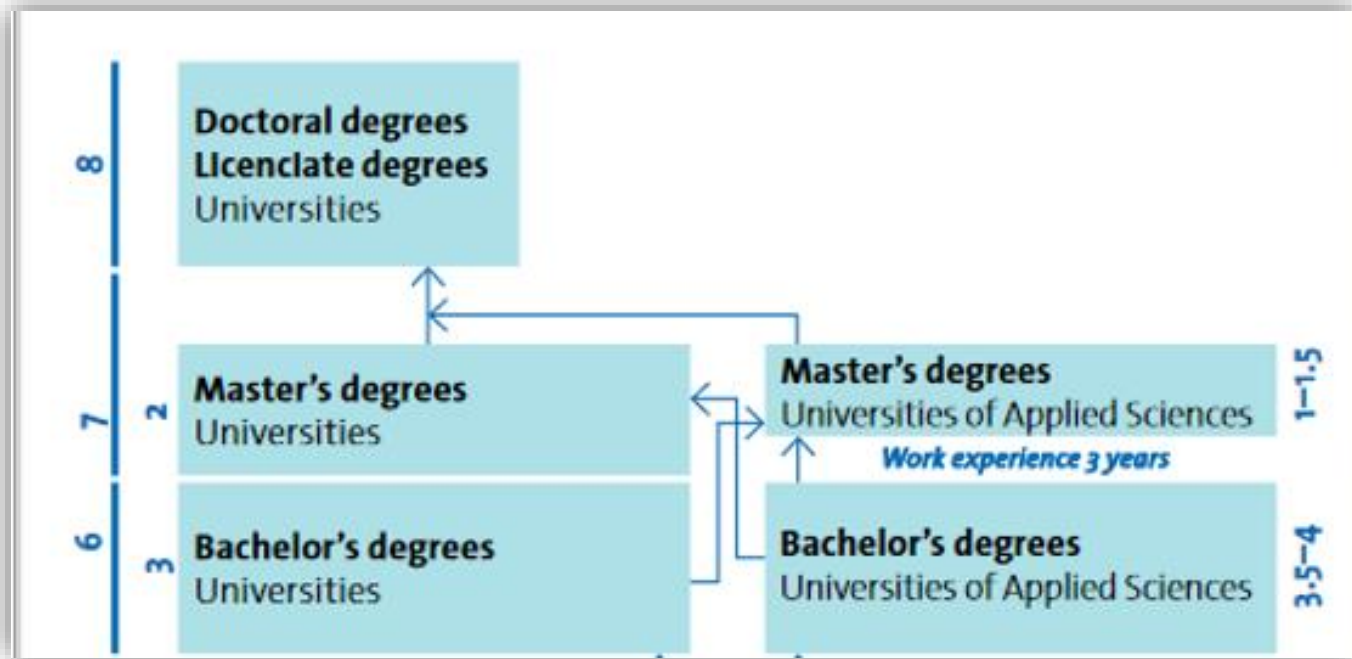
FINLAND RANKS AS THE HAPPIEST  
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD IN THE UN  
WORLD HAPPINESS REPORT (2021, 2020,  
2019, 2018)



# Finnish education system



# Higher Education in Finland



13  
Universities

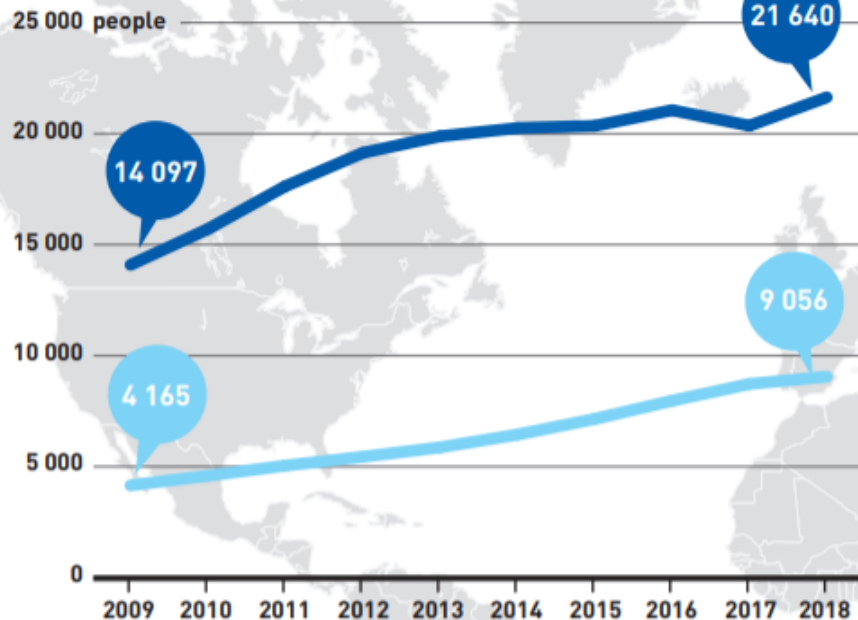
22 Universities  
of Applied  
Sciences

## English-taught degree programmes

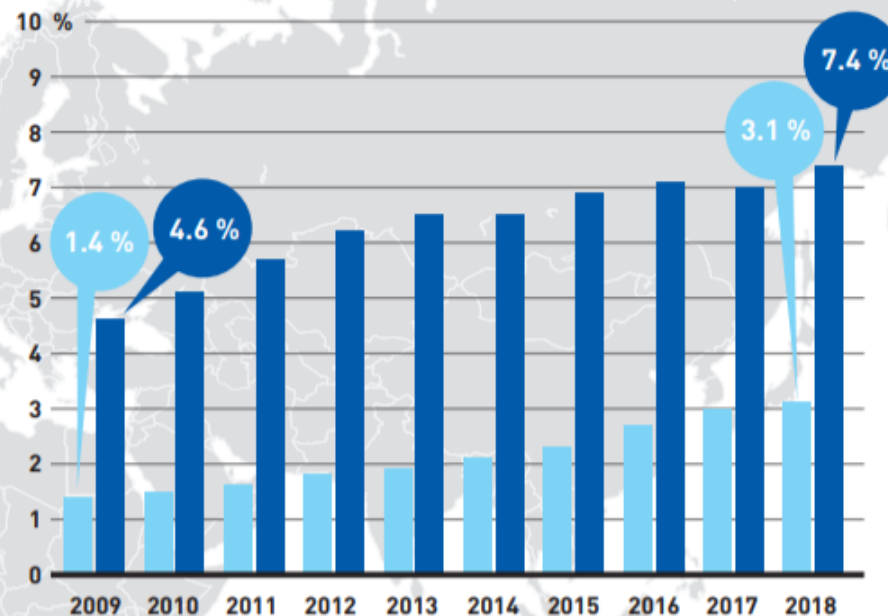
- Universities of Applied Sciences: 100 Bachelor's degree programmes and over 20 Master's degree programmes
- Universities: 10 Bachelor's degree programmes and over 100 Master's degree programmes, and English-taught doctoral degree options.

# Degree students from and to Finland 2009–2018: Higher education

Number of students



Compared to total number of students, %



There were **292 897** students in Finnish higher education institutions in 2018.

● Finnish degree students in higher education institutions abroad  
 ● International degree students in Finnish higher education institutions

Sources: Social Insurance Institution Kela, Statistics Finland and Vipunen database, graphics: Liisa Valtonen



# INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY PERIODS OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS FROM AND TO FINLAND 2015-2020



FINNISH NATIONAL  
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION

## Longer mobilities abroad (3 months or more)



## Shorter mobilities (under 3 months)



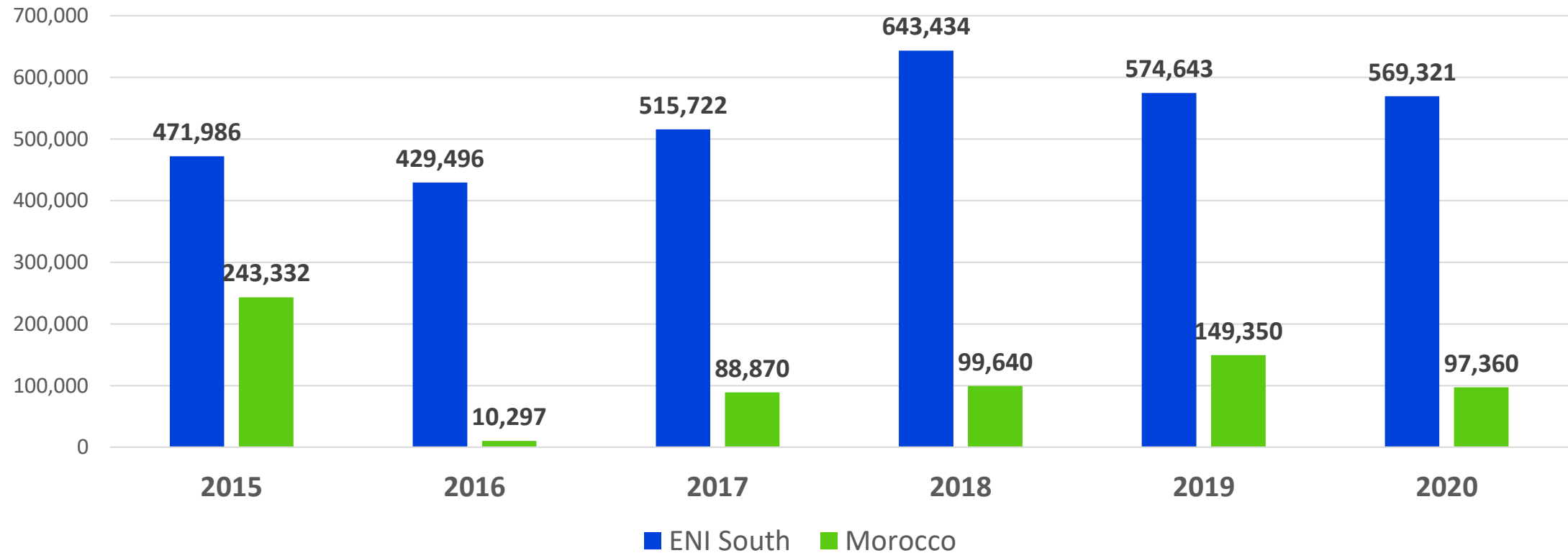
# Internationalisation of Finnish Higher Education

National level policies to promote internationalisation with implementation and action plan led by the Ministry of Education and Culture

Coordination and follow-up in the steering and funding process of the higher education system and in continuous development structures with the stakeholders

Institutional level internationalisation strategies of each higher education institution

# Finnish Erasmus+ ICM grants with Morocco / Southern Mediterranean region





## Finnish HEIs with Erasmus+ ICM projects with Morocco

### Centria University of Applied Sciences (2020)

- Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Rabat
- Cadi Ayyad University

### University of Helsinki (2019, 2018, 2016)

- UNIVERSITE MOULAY ISMAIL
- UNIVERSITE SIDI MOHAMMED BEN ABDELLAH

### University of Oulu (2019, 2017)

- IBN TOFAIL UNIVERSITY
- UNIVERSITE CHOUAIB DOUKKALI

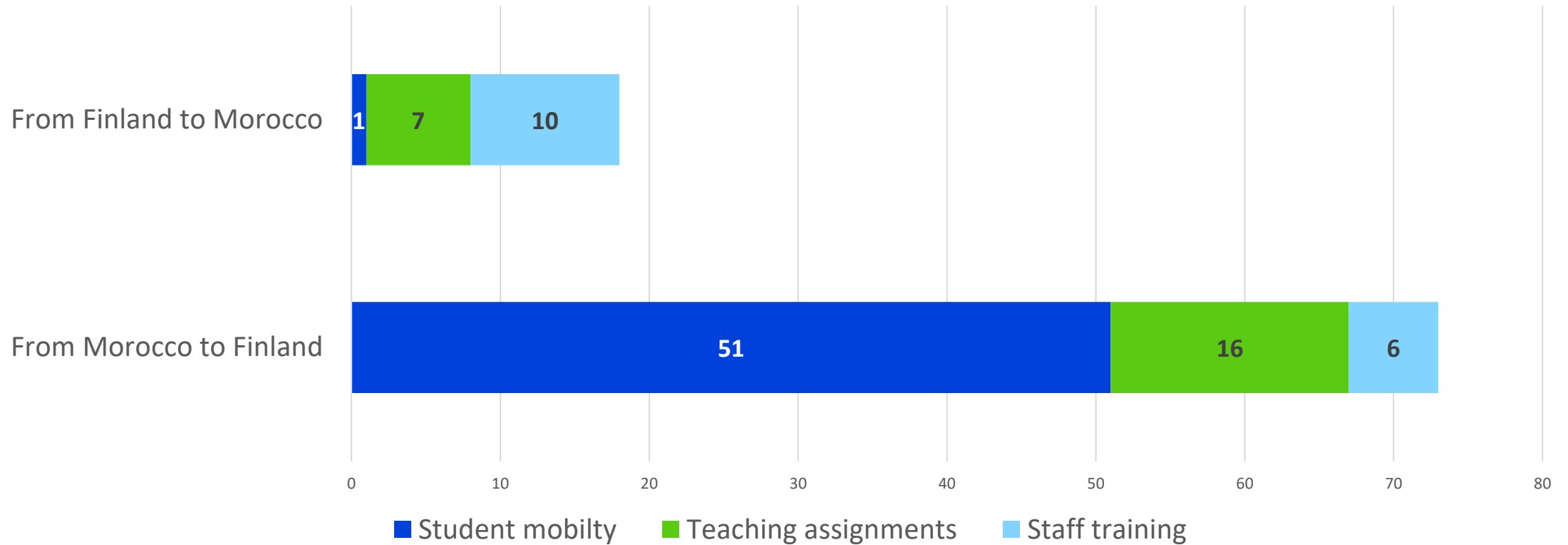
### Aalto University (2018)

- UNIVERSITE MOHAMMED V DE RABAT
- UNIVERSITE MOHAMMED V-SOUISSI
- UNIVERSITE INTERNATIONALE DE RABAT
- ECOLE NATIONALE SUPERIEURE DES MINES DE RABAT

### University of Eastern Finland (2018, 2017, 2015)

- UNIVERSITE IBNOU ZOHR A AGADIR
- UNIVERSITE ABDELMALEK ESSAADI
- UNIVERSITE AL AKHAWAYN D'IFRANE

# Realized Erasmus+ higher education mobilities between Finland and Morocco 2015-19



# How to set up cooperation with Finnish HEIs?



Academic contacts and research interests are often the best way to initiate mobility projects



Provision of studies in English is the key for increasing cooperation with Finnish HE

# Further information

- Finnish higher education institutions:  
<https://www.studyinfinland.fi/universities-list-view>
- [Finnish education in a nutshell \(pdf\)](#)
- [Finnish VET in a nutshell \(pdf\)](#)
- Policies to promote internationalisation in Finnish higher education and research 2017–2025 (Ministry of Education and Culture):  
<https://okm.fi/en/international-strategy-for-higher-education-and-research>



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# Thank you for your attention!

Sini Piippo [sini.piippo@oph.fi](mailto:sini.piippo@oph.fi)

Anni Kallio [anni.kallio@oph.fi](mailto:anni.kallio@oph.fi)

