

Future Skills and Innovation Ecosystems Through Robotics Education

Forerunner from Finland

Riihimäki Model boosting, competitiveness, participation and talent

INVITATION to the seminar

The green and digital transitions open many new opportunities for people and the EU economy. Innovation hubs and ecosystems play an important role in value creation.

Robotics, together with digitalisation and artificial intelligence AI, is a vital and highly promising component of economic growth and innovation. A future oriented education model fostering skills and talent is a vital part of building a successful innovation ecosystem.

The City of Riihimäki in Finland wants to bring its contribution to building of a successful, green, digital and inclusive future. City of Riihimäki implements an unique robotics education model that provides robotics education from day care to the university level, to all the children living in the city. Riihimäki model has gained a lot of attention and interest in the last years and is considered very pioneering and innovative both in the European Union and also on a global scale.

Every child in Riihimäki city learns robotics at kindergarten and school. Robotics is integrated in many of the school subjects such as crafts, mathematics, physics, environmental studies etc. Studying robotics is intentional and it has learning objectives of the national curriculum.

A close and strategic collaboration with businesses and industry is also very active, which fosters building the entire robotics business and innovation ecosystem in the region.

When studying robotics pupils learn not only robotics but also other key working life and future skills such as teamwork, problem solving, project management, critical thinking and information retrieval. Robotics, Internet of Things IOT, artificial intelligence Al are all increasingly central to our daily lives and the way we work.

Riihimäki Model contributes in a very concrete way to the European Year of Skills 2023 by being a good example how future skills are created by joint and coordinated efforts of the city authorities, educational administration and schools, businesses, industries and universities.

You are most welcome to participate this very topical seminar of the European Year of Skills 2023 – and to learn and discuss more about EU's skills agenda, innovation ecosystems, businesses, new generation of robotics and digitalization.

Best regards, Jouni Eho, Mayor, City of Riihimäki Toni K. Laine, Region Mayor, Häme Region









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Time: Thursday 23 March 2023 at 9-13.30

Venue: Häme EU Office, Square de Meeûs 1, 1st floor, Brussels

Registration latest on Tuesday 14 March: Registrate here
This seminar is free of charge and in person. To secure your place, kindly register early.

Seminar programme

| 9.00-9.30 | Registration and coffee |
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| 9.30-9.45 | Opening speech Moonshots and big visions - City of Riihimäki quest for scaling robotics education to a world class innovation ecosystem Jouni Eho, Mayor, City of Riihimäki, Finland |
| 9.45-10.20 | Robotics education model – creating future talent Team Robotics Campus, City of Riihimäki, Finland |
| 10.20-10.40 | Keynote: Trends and future skills in education Veronica Mobilio, European Commission |
| 10.40-10.50 | A little surprise by pupils in robotics education |
| 10.50-11.00 | Break |
| 11.00–11.20 | How to avoid killing Europe's robot industry William Echikson, E+Europe, CEPS |
| 11.20-11.40 | Keynote: Skills needed when building Metaverse Angeliki Dedopoulou, META |
| 11.40-12.20 | Expert Panel Discussion |
| 12.20-12.30 | Conclusion Invitation to co-creation and collaboration Toni K. Laine, Region Mayor, Regional Council of Häme |
| 12.30-13.30 | Lunch and networking |

Should you need any further information regarding this event, please contact: krista.taipale@hame.fi







