

1 - What institutional barriers do you face in your country which limits prisoners' involvement in education?

2 - What promising/inspiring practices/projects exist in your country to motivate and support prisoners into education?

FINLAND

1.

- First of all, e-learning is almost impossible, at least in closed prisons which hinders learning opportunities.
- Another problem is the lack of “earmarked” money for Prison Education from educational institutions. Even educational institutions are currently facing financial difficulties which is often an obstacle for the organisation of teaching in prisons.
- There might be improvements as a result of reform within vocational training in 2018. At the moment, in our prison, we don't have elementary schooling for the prisoners, due to low numbers of students, but also lack of money for providing this type of education.

2.

- Education in prisons at policy level is positive and co-operation with educational institutions is going well (if the financial difficulties are overlooked). The principle is that normality in teaching should be achieved compared with the normal teaching in civilian schools.
- When prisoners graduate or accomplish education, their certificates/diplomas do not show that teaching has taken place in prison.
- Increasingly, we are providing prisoners with the opportunity to work and study at the same time to get qualifications – for example as cobblers, or in the fields of clothing or cleaning. Apprenticeship training enables prisoners to learn by doing and achieve a professional degree.