

AUDIT OF HAAGA-HELIA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Författare **Karim Khakzar, Henrik Dindas, Hilal Karaoğlan, Hanne Salonen, Hanna Väättäinen & Kati Isoaho, Haaga-Helia ammattikorkeakoulun itsearviointi (toim.) Tia Hoikkala, Elina Iloranta, Merja Lehtomäki, Marjaana Mäkelä, Inka Paakkinen, Johanna Rajakangas-Tolsa**

Publikationsår **2023**, NCU:s publikation **15:2023**

Språk **Engelska**

ISBN **ISBN 978-952-206-796-8 pdf, ISSN 2342-4184 (verkkojulkaisu)**

2.1 Managing societal engagement and impact

- Högskolans självvärdering

Active societal engagement derived from strategy

Engagement with society is built into our strategy and guides our operations. The strategy itself is created in a dialogue with society and the business world.






We actively engage with various stakeholders such as regional, national and international networks, students, alumni, the Ministry of Education and Culture, [Arene](#) (the Rectors' Conference of Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences), as well as other universities and companies. We organise an annual Future Forum for stakeholders and staff. We have many sectoral advisory boards and are in the process of launching an international advisory board. In September 2022, we established a Foresight Forum to develop our foresight model and gather information systematically from different sources.

The Strategic Preparation Group regularly monitors and evaluates changes in the operational environment, producing material for the Management Group. Operational environment is also analysed bi-annually at the Management Group's strategy meeting. Based on the analysis, we update the strategy chart annually and set next year's objectives. The Board approves the strategy and annual action plan. The objectives of societal impact are integrated into the objectives of our main processes.

Four aspects of societal impact

Societal impact arises as a result of our operations in various areas. The setting and monitoring of our societal impact objectives is based on the value creation model built in 2018 and updated in spring of 2022. In accordance with the model, we monitor and evaluate our social impact from four perspectives.

VALUE CREATION MODEL

Inputs	The Haaga-Helia way of working	Outputs	Effectiveness
Competence	Haaga-Helia opens doors to the future careers. Our aim is to be a courageous and international reformer of business.	Completed university of applied sciences bachelor's and master's degrees	 The impact of high-quality education on individuals and society
Image and operating culture	We train experts in business, the service sector and education, and we research and develop expertise in these fields and act as a meeting place for continuous learning. Our activities are based on the needs of businesses and organisations.	Completed degrees in vocational teacher training	 Applied research that is academically impactful and of benefit to industry
Networks	At the heart of our activities are applied research creating new competences, innovative solutions for continuous learning and guidance and relevant national and international networks. This is enabled by the enthusiasm and well-being of students and staff.	Continuous learning	 International and regional impact
Working environment	We work in collaboration with courage, accountability, transparency and respect for each other and our partners. Students, staff, businesses and organisations, university networks and other partners work together to create new competences and to develop our activities.	Student feedback	 Accountability
Financing		Employment and quality of employment	
Natural resources		External RDI funding	
		Publications, public artistic and design activities, audiovisual material and ICT software	

Picture 17. Value creation model

The first aspect is the impact of a high level of education on individuals and society (I). At the centre are students who complete a high-quality education and are employed in positions corresponding to their education. The development of pedagogy helps achieve learning objectives. Competences meeting the current and future requirements of business promote the competitiveness of companies and the wellbeing of their staff. Productivity increases through new technologies and operating models. Our graduates and staff influence society and its networks in many ways.

The second aspect is applied research that is academically influential and benefits the business (II). The expertise generated in RDI operations increases the know-how of both the partners and our staff and students. Effectiveness is reflected in academic discussion, internationalisation and the strengthening of competitiveness through service and product innovations.

The third aspect is international and regional impact (III). Haaga-Helia is both a strong international player and closely attached to the region's business. International partnerships and networking create the basis for student and staff mobility, as well as for large-scale education, research and development projects involving universities from all over the world. Hundreds of

study projects, theses, and development projects are carried out annually in cooperation with the region's business, creating new services, products, and operating methods in the daily lives of companies and other partner organisations.

Accountability (IV) is part of all our operations. We support sustainable development through our education and RDI activities. Promoting equality, inclusion, and accessibility is important to us. The direct and indirect economic effects on society through our sustainable operations are also significant.

Shared management of societal engagement and impact

In 2020, the management of societal impact was centralised to one director, which proved challenging due to the diverse activities. In the autumn of 2022, management will change and objectives of societal impact will be closely integrated into our main processes.

The following persons are responsible for setting, monitoring, and reporting societal impact by sub-sectors: (I) Pedagogic Vice President, Director Responsible for Competence and Director of the Vocational Teacher Education; (II) Vice President for RDI and Digitalisation and Director for Research Services; (III) Commercial Director and (IV) Responsible Haaga-Helia Team, including experts from different areas of responsibility.

The Management Group coordinates the set of objectives which are turned into action through the main processes. Haaga-Helia's key joint results are reported in the annual report, and the impact of the sub-sectors described in reports published every two years. In 2022, report from sub-sector (II) has been published. We regularly communicate our operations, projects and results to our stakeholders.

Strengths

- Extensive networks
- Good brand and desired partner
- Clear value-creation model for societal impact
- Shared responsibility of societal impact

Enhancement areas

- Systematic description and development of networks
- Maintaining our brand
- Adoption of existing indicators for societal impact
- Enhancing communication between different responsibility areas