

## **Tarja Hännikäinen**

### **Education Background, professional certifications**

- Classroom teacher for comprehensive school, 1981
- Special education teacher, 1984. Main subjects: visual impairment, logopedics
- Master in Special Education 1995; Planning, organizing and administrating special needs education
- Adult Education - diploma, 2004
- EU - project management training programme - diploma, 2011

### **Work Experience**

Since 1981, in municipalities: Class teacher at regular school. Special education class teacher

Since 1990: Jyväskylä School for the Visually Impaired Pupils; which was named as Onerva, Center for Learning and Consulting, Jyväskylä 1-2011.

Several roles and assignments

- Consulting teacher for educating pupils with visual impairments. Consulting teachers, educational officers and principles in organizing education for pupils with visual impairments
- In-service-teacher-trainer: Planning, organizing and running courses for professionals educating pupils with visual impairments in inclusive education. Producing training materials.
- Teacher trainer at university level: Courses for students studying special education needs. A lead role in planning and delivering a training course for teachers specializing in visual impairment.
- Executive tasks as a Deputy and Head of Learning: Responsibility to organize nationwide support services for pupils with visual impairments in inclusive education
- Project Coordinator for Onerva and national Valteri – network: Organizing national trainings financed by the National Board of Education

Since 2015: Valteri, Nationwide Center for Learning and Consulting (Onerva, Center for learning and consulting, Jyväskylä merged to Valteri 2-2015)

- Consulting teacher. Main task: cooperation with the stakeholders and networks; planning and updating modules for trainings, international cooperation

International work experience

- Years 2006 – 2008 Montenegro. An Assistant Adviser in development program "Towards Inclusive Education", funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
- A short time expert (certain modules):  
During years 2009 – 2013 in Kosovo. Finnish Support to Inclusive Education System in Kosovo. Modules: Itinerant Teachers, Resource Centers  
During years 2010 – 2011 in Ethiopia. Program by the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Support the establishment of multi-leveled support service system of SNE / Reorganization of the educational system.

### **Publications**

Articles in several books concerning education of pupils with visual impairments, mostly with the theme "How to organize education and schooling for a pupil with visual impairment".

Several articles in different publications concerning visual impairment:

- Publication of the Association for Parents of Visually Impaired Children
- Publications by Teacher Trade Union
- Publications by Special Educational Needs - union
- Paper and electronic publications by Valteri.

Study materials

- Wide production of study materials for trainings by Onerva, Valteri (since 1995 -)
- Guidelines for doctors "What to consider when drawing up a statements for prolonged education?".

### **Participation to conferences**

Several participations yearly in conferences with presentations

- for special educational needs, organized by the National Board of Education
- for Nordic conferences, organized by Nordic cooperation
- for international conferences like ICEVI, WCSNE. Main theme for presentations: Service network for pupils with special needs in Finland.

### **Organizations, associations**

- Member of ICEVI. Contact person for Finland. Representing subregion Nordic and Baltic Countries
- Member and contact person for NOVIR, Nordic Visual impairment Network
- Association for Special Education, Finland
- Association for teachers working with visual impairment, KSOLLI, Finland