

### FUTURE – VERY MUCH POSSIBLE!

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- Futures research and futures thinking in a context of career management and guidance: futures orientation, futures literacy and futures guidance
- Examples of the futures guidance tools
- Change in the work life, change in the guidance?





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## Why future orientated thinking is meaningful?

- The world is complex and constant changes in the society calls for the ability of future-orientation and long-term thinking
- The future is not singular but plural, not-preordained but chosen
- We need skills such as self-reflection, proactiveness, self-directing, life and career management in order to cope in modern work
- Consciousness and exploration of various personal futures helps us to deal with uncertainty
- Futures orientation promotes questioning, critical thinking and alternative developments
- Making meaningful choices is easier if you can picture alternatives







# Futures thinking concepts





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Futures consciousness (FC) dimensions and examples of items



Ahvenharju ja Minkkinen 2018







### Futures guidance in a nut shell

- It promotes active and hopeful attitude towards the future, self-reliance as well as creative and open-minded attitude towards the future.
- It promotes non-linear thinking and plurality of futures
- The world is seen not fixed but in constant motion
- Connection to values and ethical thinking is strong
- Futures studies methods are applied (scenarios, backcasting, futures images...)
- Learning from the futures images and by simulating and testing







### How to guide into the future?

- 1. Thinking about the future at different scales temporal perspective
- 2. We make the future together and apart
- 3. Reflecting on one's own future is based on trust and openness
- 4. Peer support and feedback
- 5. World of personal possibilities
- 6. Future is built of notions
- 7. Responsibility for oneself and the environment





# Guidance tools and experiences





# Futures guidance tools engourage students to:

- Exchange opinions and experiences with other students (learning from another)
- Imagine alternative futures
- Find and think about different paths to the future
- Make meaningful choices
- Think about the values behind the choices and actions
- Think about futures as plural and non-linear





### Futures guidance tools

- Holistic guidance model
- Future-oriented and engaging guidance tools
- Future Camp -concept
- Training and consultation services for teachers and guidance personnel
- Development processes of education systems
- All services can be tailored to meet users needs

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### Student experiences: futures guidance tools

### 2nd year Upper secondary school students:

"I got new ideas from senior students' stories"

"I took the time to find out information about possible studies and application procedures"

### **University students:**

"It was a relief to see that other people have similar issues on their mind" "Others' ideas were useful"

"The future is so constantly changing it's hard to plan"





### How to guide to something which does not exists yet?

"I believe that next year my plans concerning the future are clearer."

"Smart materials and 3D printing are commonplace in the future."

"I believe that in the future I can find a job that does not exist yet."

"In the future different languages will rule in the working life that the ones now."

"I am open to new things."



FINLAND FUTURES RESEARCH CENTRE



The main goal is to create a responsible and sustainable future

