

Good Experiences of Skills and Abilympics Competitions

Competitions for All – International Abilympics
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Skills Finland



Skills Finland

- Founded in 1993
- Background
 - Ministry of Education
 - Finnish National Board of Education
 - VET providers
 - Labour Market Organisations
 - Organisations of teachers and students

Objectives of Skills Finland

- improve the **quality** and increase the **internationalization** of vocational education and training
- increase the **attractiveness** of VET
- **encourage students** to improve their professional and entrepreneurial skills

Skills Finland

Key activities

National Skills competitions

- Taitaja 9 for primary school students
- Taitaja, national skills competition for students in initial VET
- TaitajaPLUS, national skills competition for VET students with disabilities and special needs

International Skills Competitions

- WorldSkills
- Abilympics
- EuroSkills

Training of competitors and team Finland

Training of skills competition specialists

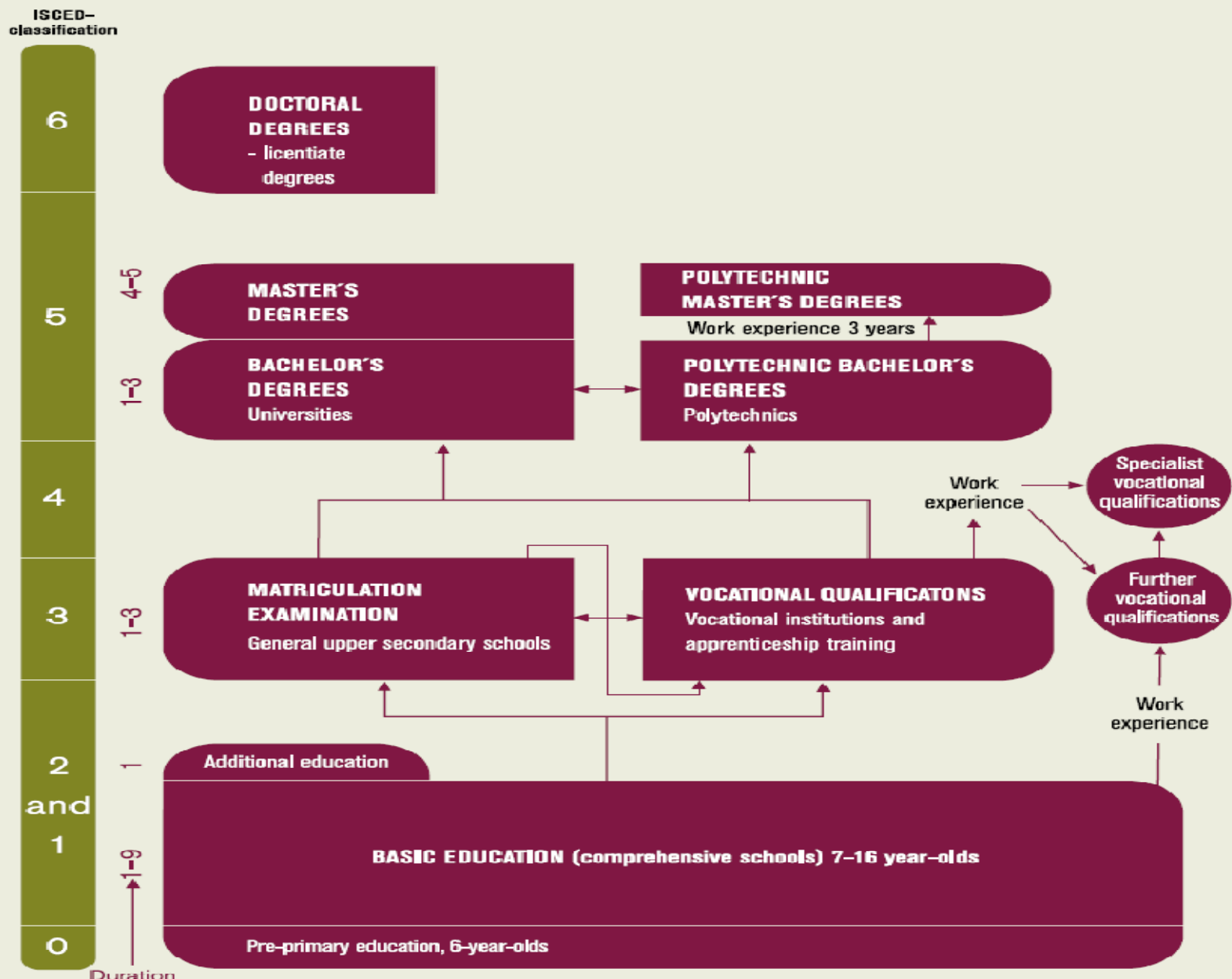
Research, development, communication



Guiding principles

- Each competition has its special objectives and tasks
- Each competition has its place in the education and training system
- Supporting national objectives of VET
- National and international networks
- Finland is an active member of WSI, IAF and ESPO

THE FINNISH EDUCATION SYSTEM



History of Skills Competitions in Finland

- 1988: Member of WorldSkills International (WSI)
First National Skills Competitions
- 1989: For the first time in WSC (Birmingham)
- 1993: Foundation of Skills Finland
- 2000: Application for WSC2005
Development of national Skill Competitions
Supporting projects funded by ESF
- 2005: Host of WSC2005
Member of International Abilympics Federation (IAF)
- 2007: Member of European Skills promotion organisation (ESPO)



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