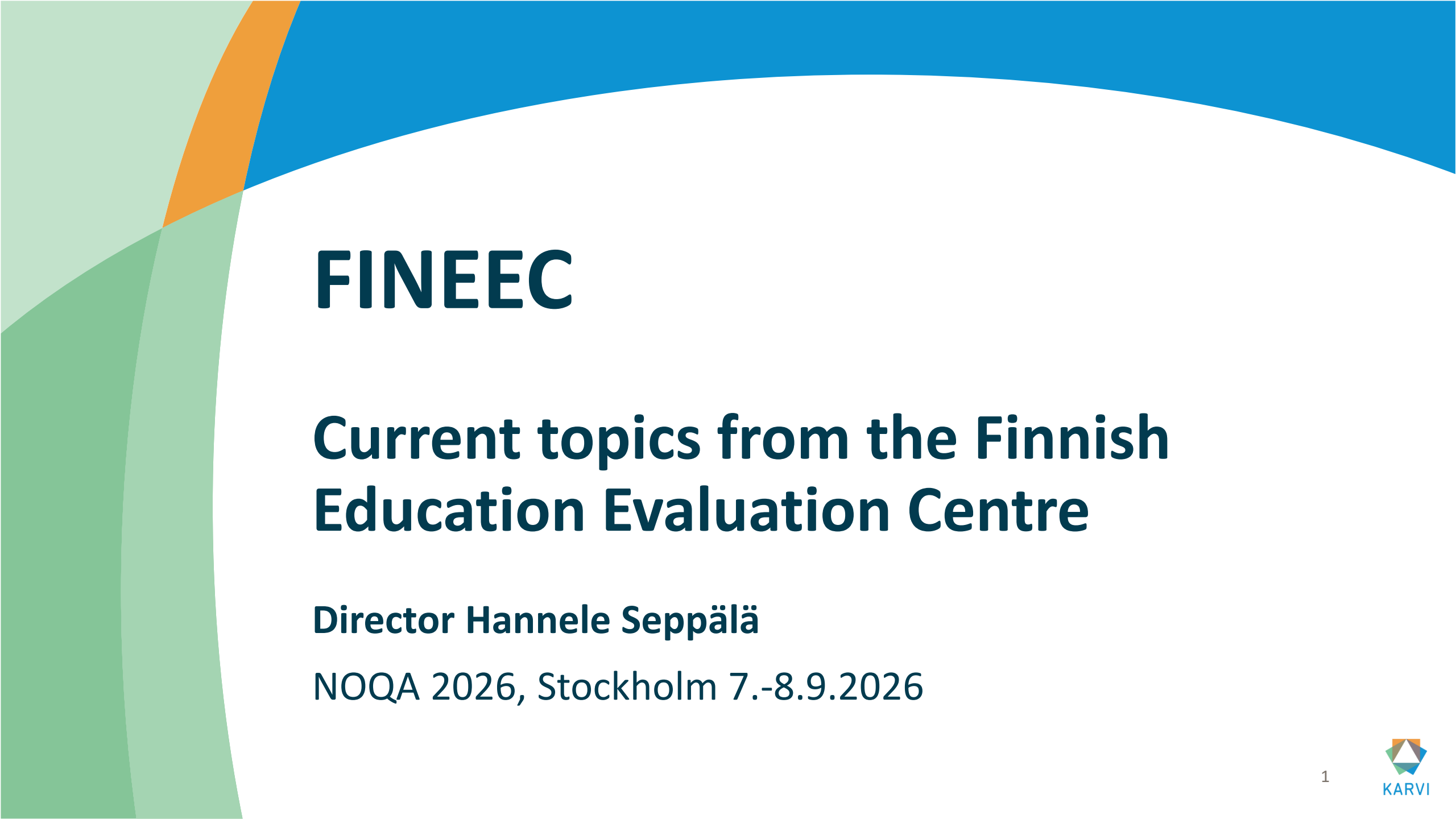




FINEEC

Current topics from the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre

Director Hannele Seppälä

NOQA 2026, Stockholm 7.-8.9.2026

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FINEEC produces reliable national evaluation information, competence and understanding regarding education and its quality. FINEEC's evaluation information is used to develop Finnish education to make it even better.



FINNISH EDUCATION
EVALUATION CENTRE

For the benefit of society and education

Our work is aimed at increasing competence, equity, non-discrimination and well-being.

We are responsible for evaluating the entire education system.

VISION
We build trust in a sustainable future through the evaluation of education

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Raising the competence and education levels

Fostering social, ecological and economic sustainable development

Continuous improvement of the quality of education

Shared solutions nationally and internationally

We produce educational knowledge, competence and understanding that lead to wise decisions.

We value cooperation and interaction in our work approach.

VALUES

Impactful
Our assessments are enhancement-led, participatory, bold and transformative.

Independent
We carry out our assessments independently and impartially.

Trustworthy
We are a proficient, experienced and competent forerunner in evaluation.

Aligning evaluation with the current needs

- The accessibility, quality and equality of education are currently being challenged by several simultaneous societal changes.
 - Shrinking age cohorts and demographic change, the regional and socio-economic segregation, digitalisation, the transformation of work life, sustainability
- Responding to systemic challenges requires a holistic perspective and a clear understanding of interconnections between individual phenomena.
- There is also a need for information synthesis and collaboration with other providers of evaluation and research information.
- The Ministry of Education and Culture, in collaboration with stakeholders at various levels of education, has drawn up visions for basic education, vocational education, and higher education for the 2040s

Clarification of an evaluation approach

- The evaluation approach explains the basis of FINEEC's evaluation thinking and its principles and strategic orientations.
- FINEEC's approach to education evaluation is based on decades of experience of enhancement-led evaluation.
- The impact of enhancement-led and transformative evaluation is created through collaboration.



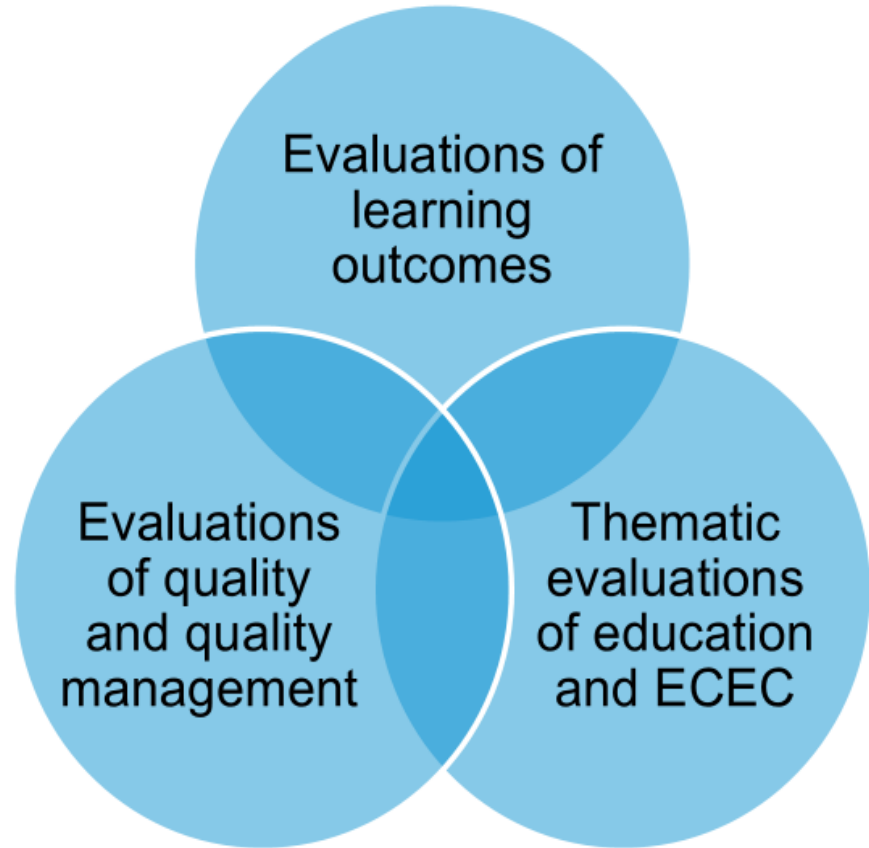
NATIONAL
EVALUATION OF
EDUCATION AND ECEC
Evaluation approach



FINEEC's evaluations across education levels

Evaluation plan 2024-2027

Evaluation activities



Strategic objectives

Raising the competence and education levels

Fostering social, ecological and economic sustainable development

Continuous improvement of the quality of education and early childhood education and care

The development of FINEEC's organisation

- FINEEC's operations and organisational structure has been developed to meet the information needs of educational development more effectively, whilst taking into account the level of the FINEEC's operating budget.
- FINEEC's operating expenditure allocation has been reduced in the state budget. FINEEC's appropriation for 2026 is 4 664 000 EUR.
- The number of staff members is 40.

FINEEC's organisation 1.9.2026->

The growth, development, well-being and learning of children and young people, and the conditions necessary for these.

General education and the knowledge and skills required for life.

A broad general education and the skills required for further study and active citizenship.

Director and Administration

Hannele Seppälä

Early Childhood Education and General Education

**Head of Unit
Salla Venäläinen**

Vocational Education, Higher Education and Liberal Adult Education

**Head of Unit
Kirsi Hiltunen (Vice Director)**

Evaluation and Development Services

**Head of Unit
Mira Huusko**

Evaluation Council

HE Evaluation Committee

A skilled workforce, professional development, responding to the changing needs of the labour market and individual employability.

Promoting culture, skills, research, the arts, innovation and social development

Preparation for further study, lifelong learning, active citizenship and the continuous updating of skills.

Objectives of the organisational reform

- **Focus on impact:** A focus on results, the benefits generated, and the type of information produced and how it is utilized.
- **Understanding the bigger picture and adopting a systemic approach:** We need to gain a better understanding of the broader context of evaluation activities, as well as the links between different levels of education and educational pathways.
- **Strengthening cross-level activities:** Data strategy and management, methodologies, communication, and fee-based services.
- **Results, benefits and the significance of the activities:** Clarity of objectives, choices and scope.

ENQA Targeted Review

- The ENQA Review Panel visits FINEEC 23-25 September
- Key focus is on the new fourth cycle audit framework
- Enhancement topic chosen by FINEEC: audit reports
- The self-assessment report is available on [FINEEC website](#).
 - In addition to highlighting strengths and improvement areas in the SAR, we chose to also highlight what we had improved in order to make our improvements visible to the panel.

Fourth cycle audit framework

Fourth cycle audit framework

- The fourth cycle audit framework was piloted in one university and one university of applied sciences last spring.
- The decisions were made in August and pilot reports have been published on FINEEC's website.
- The reports have been made with FINEEC's new online reporting tool.
- The revisions to the framework based on pilot feedback and experiences are currently made. The final version of the framework and manual are planned to be published at the beginning of October 2026.

Evaluation area I: Strategic management supported by the quality system

- The HEI's management and quality systems support the achievement of its strategic objectives and the development of its operations.
- The HEI has effective practices to ensure and develop the quality and societal impact of its education.
- The HEI has effective practices to ensure and develop the quality and societal impact of its research, RDI or artistic activities.
- The HEI has inclusive and open organisational culture.
- The HEI promotes diversity, well-being at work and in studies, the development of staff competence and transparent recruitment.

Evaluation area II: Learning supported by teaching and guidance

- The planning of degree programmes is systematic, and it ensures student-centred and research-based education, labour market perspectives and internationalisation.
- The development of education, teaching and guidance is based on data and engagement.
- Teaching and guidance support goal-oriented studies and the active role of students in their learning process.
- Continuous learning is systematically led and organised.