

## Finland Project Management Roundup<sup>1</sup>

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### INTRODUCTION

This roundup continues the coverage of Association of Project Professionals Finland, PMI Finland Chapter and some of the key projects currently going on in Finland.

### ASSOCIATION OF PROJECT PROFESSIONALS FINLAND

Association of Project Professionals Finland (APPF) is a not-for-profit organization, and the International Project Management Association (IPMA) Member Association (MA) in Finland. Founded in 1978, APPF promotes the interaction, project-oriented thinking, and exchange and development of practical and theoretical knowledge among project management professionals with over 4000 individual and 200 organizational members.



Mrs. **Anna-Maria Mäkelä** has started as the new APPF General Manager following Mr. **Timo Saros**, who has retired. Mrs. Mäkelä can be contacted at [anna-maria.makela@pry.fi](mailto:anna-maria.makela@pry.fi).

APPF organizes two annual conferences: *Projektipäivät* in late fall and *3PMO* in early summer. This year the 3PMO took place on 8.6.2022 in Tampere, Finland, under the theme *Agility climbs to the bridge*. *Projektipäivät* will take place on 25 ... 26.10.2022 under the theme *The place for growth*. Please navigate to [www.pry.fi/en](http://www.pry.fi/en) for general information on APPF, and to <https://oppia.fi/events/projektipaivat22> for information on *Projektipäivät*.

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## PMI FINLAND CHAPTER

PMI Finland Chapter is a not-for-profit organization providing project practitioners in Finland continuous learning, networking and community support. The Chapter was founded in 2005. Today, with more than 400 members, the chapter is increasingly recognized as a community where its members can enhance their project management and leadership skills, as well as network with other project management professionals.



PMI Finland Chapter hosts a number of events such as Breakfast Round Tables, regular meetings taking place once a month in Helsinki and occasionally also in other locations. The chapter members have the opportunity to attend events for free or with a discount and the chapter sends its members a regular newsletter with localized content on project management. Additionally, the Chapter supports its members in their professional development and training.

PMI Chapter Finland organizes an annual conference in the spring, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 event was cancelled. Please navigate to [www.pmifinland.org](http://www.pmifinland.org) for general information on the PMI Finland Chapter and its annual events.

## OLKILUOTO 3

The 1 600 MW Olkiluoto 3 nuclear power plant, originally contracted to be built by consortium comprising **Areva** and **Siemens** for **Teollisuuden Voima** (TVO) at Olkiluoto, Finland, has been completed.

The unit was scheduled to go into commercial power generation mode in September 2022, however, the start has been postponed until December 2022. Operational trials were suspended for a month in mid-June due to loose parts found inside the turbine reheater. Once the trials are resumed, and finally completed, the output power will be increased gradually to the nominal 1600 MW. This is especially important now that the importing of electrical power from Russia has ceased due to the Russian war in Ukraine. Under the circumstances the price for electrical power has sky-rocketed – sometimes as high as seven times what it was in Finland a year ago.

With 1 600 MW electrical power generation capacity, Olkiluoto 3 is one of the most powerful nuclear power plants in existence. Once fully operational, Olkiluoto 3 is expected to produce roughly 14% of the electricity consumed in Finland.

The contract for building the Olkiluoto 3 power plant was signed in 2003 for 3 000 M€, and construction began in 2005, targeting completion in June 2009. Due to numerous challenges during the planning and construction phases, the target date was pushed forward several times.

At the project completion, after all litigation costs have been paid, and all delay penalties have been applied, the Olkiluoto 3 power plant has cost TVO a total of 5 700 M€. TVO has been understandably disappointed that the project is almost over 100 % over the original budget and 13 years behind the original time schedule.



*Olkiluoto 3 power station is now completed (photo courtesy Kari Suni)*

## **HANHIKIVI 1**

Fennovoima, the organization driving the Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant project, announced in late May that it is cancelling the application for nuclear power plant construction permit, and initiating negotiations to terminate the employment contracts of almost all – 350 out of 356 – employees by the end of the year.

This is a logical follow-up of the termination of contract with **RAOS Project**, the Russian supplier of nuclear know-how and equipment. Fennovoima had been experiencing increasing headwind due to the Russian involvement in the project and the Russian attack on Ukraine. Mr. **Mika Lintilä**, Finnish Minister of Economic Affairs had announced earlier, that due to Russian attack on Ukraine, he was ready to shut down the endeavor.

Fennovoima explained in a news conference on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, that the main reasons for terminating the contract were the significant delays in the time schedule, and the inability of RAOS Project to implement the Hanhikivi 1 project. This means, in practice, that the cooperation with RAOS Project ends with immediate effect. Both the design and licensing work and the work on the Hanhikivi 1 site with the RAOS Project is to be concluded.

Fennovoima has announced it will now focus on maintaining the Hanhikivi 1 site and preparing for the legal processes it considers likely. Plant supplier Rosatom has said that it will be seeking compensation from Fennovoima for the project termination.



## LÄNSIMETRO

The second implementation phase of Länsimetro extension to the existing Helsinki metro system is now completed. All construction work has been completed, and testing the new systems is well under way. The date when the extension will open for public transport has not been announced. The exact time will be announced later this year. It appears likely that the second part of the extension will not be available to public after the summer holiday season, as some have speculated - new year appears more likely.



*The Espoonlahti metro station is located in the new Lippulaiva shopping center (photo courtesy Länsimetro / Iiro Mikola)*

The westward metro extension is being implemented in two phases: The first phase of the extension lengthened the existing line from *Ruoholahti* to a new terminus at *Matinkylä* in late 2017. The second phase of the extension will lengthen the line further from *Matinkylä* to *Kivenlahti*.

The second phase of the extension, a 7.4-kilometer (4.7 mi) route was approved for construction in February 2014, and the construction began flexibly as the work on the first phase was being completed. The second phase of the westward metro extension runs entirely within Espoo city limits. The second phase of the extension was originally planned to be completed in 2020, and now in 2023. The cost of the second phase was originally estimated at 801 M€, however, now stands at 1 159 M€.

## RAIDE-JOKERI

The consortium comprising **YIT** and **VR Track** is finalizing the construction of the Raide-Jokeri light rail line. The project is well ahead of the original time schedule, and construction works are almost completed. The new tracks are currently being tested with an all-terrain vehicle modified for running on tracks. Due to the smooth construction phase, it may be possible to start commercial operations in early 2024. Further to this, several rail lines are being considered for the Helsinki metropolitan area.



*New rail lines considered for the Helsinki metropolitan area (graphics courtesy Sonia Zaki)*

The Raide-Jokeri light rail transit system – similar to the *Metro Blue Line* light rail in Minneapolis, Minnesota, US, and the *Metrolink* in Manchester, England – is planned for the metropolitan Helsinki area to complement the existing public transit service. Raide-Jokeri will connect two Helsinki metro stations – *Itäkeskus* in eastern Helsinki, and *Keilaniemi* in the eastern Espoo – to one another with 25 km of street-level double track and 33 stops. Raide-Jokeri will replace bus line 550, which is currently the most heavily congested line in metropolitan Helsinki area, in 2024 summer. The new light rail transit system is intended to enhance the reliability and travel comfort of the transverse public transportation i.e. traffic in the areas surrounding the immediate downtown Helsinki.

The first idea of a transverse light rail transit system was introduced in 1990 and agreed to be one of the next-generation public transit systems to be constructed in 1994. Instead of a light rail system, the transverse connection has been operated with bus service since 2006.



## KRUUNUSILLAT

Kruunusillat [*Crown Bridges*] is a major new infrastructure project in downtown Helsinki. The project is set to construct a string of bridges to traverse *Kruunuvuorenselkä*, a waterway east of the downtown area, and to establish a new tram line to connect the *Laajasalo*, *Korkeasaari* and *Kalasadama* areas to the immediate downtown area by means of 10 km light rail line. The project is facing headwind due to the availability and pricing of construction materials due to the Russian attack on Ukraine. Mr. **Ville Alajoki**, the director of the project, confirms the growing pressure on the project.

The most visual parts of the project are the three new bridges: *Kruunuvuorensilta*, *Finkensilta* and *Merihaansilta*. With a total length of 1,200 meters, the *Kruunuvuorensilta* will be the longest bridge in Finland. In addition to the construction of the three new bridges, *Hakaniemen silta* bridge will also be upgraded as part of the project.

The project will be implemented in two phases: The first phase includes the main construction works, including the bridges, at an estimated cost of 326 M€. The second phase includes extending the tram tracks to the Helsinki Central Railway Station at an estimated cost of 10 M€. Other works project costs, such a new rolling stock and a new tram depot, are estimated at 214 M€, bringing the total cost to 550 M€. The alliance way of working adds to the challenge of creating an exact cost estimate for the project.



*A temporary construction bridge, with downtown Helsinki in background (photo courtesy Sanna Hellström)*

Kruunusillat project implementation is scheduled to complete by the end of 2026. The new tram lines are estimated to commence operations in the beginning of 2027.

Two continuous live video feeds are available from the main construction sites at [https://enlapser.cloud/1339551240/fi/read/Kruunusillat\\_Helsinki\\_toistin\\_1\\_video](https://enlapser.cloud/1339551240/fi/read/Kruunusillat_Helsinki_toistin_1_video) , and at [https://enlapser.cloud/2065466739/fi/read/Kruunusillat\\_Helsinki\\_toistin\\_2\\_video](https://enlapser.cloud/2065466739/fi/read/Kruunusillat_Helsinki_toistin_2_video) .

## About the Author



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**Dr. Jouko Vaskimo** is an International Correspondent and Senior Contributing Editor for **PM World** in Finland. Jouko graduated M.Sc. (Tech.) from Helsinki University of Technology in 1992, and D.Sc. (Tech.) from Aalto University in 2016. He has held several project management related positions with increasing levels for responsibility. Jouko holds a number of professional certificates in the field of project management, such as the IPMA Level C (Project Manager), IPMA Level B (Senior Project Manager), PMP, PRINCE2 Foundation, and PRINCE2 Practitioner. Jouko is also a Certified Scrum Master and SAFe Agilist. Jouko is a member of the Project Management Association Finland, a founding member of PMI Finland Chapter, and the immediate past chairman of the Finnish IPMA Certification Body operating IPMA certification in Finland. Since October 2007, he has been heading the Finnish delegation to ISO/TC 258. Jouko resides in Espoo, Finland and can be best contacted at [jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi](mailto:jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi) . For more information please navigate to [www.linkedin.com/in/jouko-vaskimo-6285b51](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jouko-vaskimo-6285b51) .