

Finland Project Management Roundup

June 2023



By Jouko Vaskimo

PMWJ Senior Contributing Editor & International Correspondent
Espoo, Finland

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. APPF organizes two annual conferences: *Projektipäivät* in late fall and *3PMO* in early summer.

This year the 3PMO will take place on 13.6.2023 in Tampere under the theme *Virstanpylväs* [milestone]. *Projektipäivät* will take place on 10 ... 11.10.2023 in Helsinki. Please navigate to www.pry.fi/en for general information on APPF, and to www.pry.fi/tapahtumat for information on 3PMO and *Projektipäivät*.

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 300 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. This year the event took place – after a three-year break due to COVID-19 – on 25.5.2023 in Espoo under the theme *Projects in sustainability & Technology – What's next ?* There was an international audience of over 50, and six keynote presentations. Mrs. **Donna Roberts**, Director of Special Events for the chapter, welcomed the audience in the morning.



Mrs. Roberts welcoming the conference audience (photo courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)

Mr. **Domenico Dargenio** delivered one of the keynote presentations. His presentation was titled *Elevate Business Performance – The Human Way*.



Mr. Dargenio presenting his keynote presentation (photo courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)



Conference group photo at the end of the conference (photo courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)

Please navigate to www.pmi-fi.org/ for general information on the PMI Finland Chapter.

RAIDE-JOKERI

The consortium comprising **YIT** and **VR Track** is finalizing the construction of the Raide-Jokeri light rail line. The project is ahead of the original time schedule, and the project is achieving project target below cost estimate. Due to the smooth construction phase, commercial operations on the new line – expected to be number 15 – are expected to start in August 2023. The original time schedule called for service to commence in late 2023 / early 2024. Technical trials are currently on-going, and the first tram moving in Espoo was spotted in early February.

The *Alliance model* that has been employed in the Raide-Jokeri project, is what the customer project leader Mr. **Juha Saarikoski** and alliance project leader Mr. **Kari-Pekka Lumme** consider the main contributor towards successful project completion.



Raide-Jokeri rolling stock running technical trials (photo courtesy raidejokeri.info)

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 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.

Construction works are now proceeding in *Kalasadama*, as well as *Verkkosaari*. In addition to the bridges, more apartment buildings are being constructed along the future tram line. The tram line from *Kalasadama* to *Pasila* will start operations in 2024, and all the Kruunusillat bridges will be completed in 2027.



Kruunuvuorensilta construction is well under way (photo courtesy Kalle Koponen / HS)

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 as 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.

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 , and at https://enlapser.cloud/2065466739/fi/read/Kruunusillat_Helsinki_toistin_2_video .

About the Author



Dr. Jouko Vaskimo

Espoo, Finland

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. For more information please navigate to www.linkedin.com/in/jouko-vaskimo-6285b51.