

<p><i>Theme: Active inclusion & Employment; Service planning; Skills development : Long-term unemployed people; unemployed people Country: Finland; Language: English; Year: 2015; Event: Seminar on Integrated Services (Manchester)</i></p>	
<p>Programme's name:</p>	<p>The Labour Force Service Centre (LAFOS) for long-term unemployed</p>
<p><i>Original title:</i></p>	<p><i>Työvoiman palvelukeskukset</i></p>
<p><u>Organisation / Country:</u></p>	<p>Ministry of Employment and the Economy / Finland</p>
<p><u>Website:</u></p>	<p>Here</p>
<p><u>Contact:</u></p>	<p>Can be provided upon request.</p>
<p><u>Summary:</u></p>	<p>LAFOS is a collaboration between the Public Employment Services (PES), local social and health services and the national social insurance institution. Professionals are using IT-based databases to exchange user-related data. The main user group are long-term unemployed, who have been unemployed for 12 months or longer. To access LAFOS, a referral is required. For that, professionals from PES or local public social workers assess a user's needs. This assessment considers the user's working capacity and life circumstances. Only if the user qualifies for support, the user receives a referral. In an individual appointment, professionals from LAFOS develop suitable responses to the user's needs. Any intervention is planned along the user's needs and result in an action plan. The user will find support services in the same building or information on how to access other services. The services can include support regarding social problems, the identification of rehabilitation services, and the search for suitable jobs, training or education.</p>
<p><u>Issues:</u></p>	<p>The reform has not been sufficiently successful in enhancing work-life balance and employers' satisfaction.</p>
<p><u>Resources:</u></p>	<p>The cooperating parties fund the practice jointly.</p>
<p><u>Objectives:</u></p>	<p>Decreasing structural long-term unemployment Improving job search and easing the subsequent entry into employment for long-term unemployed people Assisting long-term unemployed in developing and achieving person-centred and activating employment solutions</p>

<u>Outcomes:</u>	For service users: users felt that services were better than before in order to find jobs through web-based tools For organisations: the service was successful in reaching better cross-governmental cooperation and broader networks
<u>Evaluation:</u>	The evaluation recommends PES to take steps towards better work-life balance and user orientation, clearer goals for services, and more service integration, notably for vulnerable people.
<u>Resources:</u>	-