

Major New Funding for Nature's Future, Quantum Technology, and Culture

The Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation is supporting eight projects in technology, economics, and culture that seek solutions to some of the key future challenges. The newly approved grants, totaling €11.5 million, have raised the Foundation's total funding awarded since its establishment to more than half a billion euros.

Major Grant Awarded for Economics Research

A research group led by **Anna-Liisa Laine** and **Lassi Ahlvik** at the University of Helsinki was awarded €2.5 million for an environmental economics project. The group is developing new ways to make the impacts of biodiversity visible in the economy and society. In this interdisciplinary project, ecologists and economists are jointly building a model for assessing natural capital. The aim is to integrate natural capital into policymaking, national accounting systems, and corporate decision-making. The project represents a major strategic and interdisciplinary investment by the Foundation in the field of economics.

Supporting the Future of Nature

Another significant grant was awarded to a project focused on the future of nature. A research group led by **Anu Eskelinen** at the University of Oulu is studying how climate change and other global environmental changes affect plant biodiversity. The project explores why plant species respond differently to environmental changes and how biodiversity can be better protected and restored. The findings will help anticipate changes in nature and identify ways to halt biodiversity loss. The project received €1.4 million in funding.

Multiple Grants for World-Class Quantum Research

Three research projects at Aalto University received grants for quantum research. The largest grant, just over €1.8 million, was awarded to the group

led by **Jukka Pekola**, which is investigating solutions to one of the key challenges in quantum technologies: component overheating in future quantum computers. Additional grants in the field of quantum science were awarded to the research groups of **Sebastiaan van Dijken** and **Anton Zasedatelev**.

Nationwide Initiative Supports the Renewal of Music Education

The Association of Finnish Conservatories received funding for a three-year continuation project aimed at strengthening the ability of music education institutions to renew themselves and respond to changes in their operating environment. The project seeks to implement previously developed operating models nationwide. At the same time, it aims to reinforce the vitality, adaptability, and societal significance of the field.

Over Half a Billion Euros for Finnish Science, Arts, and Culture

The eight newly awarded grants have raised the Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation's total funding to more than half a billion euros. Since its founding, the Foundation has provided long-term support for Finnish science, arts, and culture through substantial grants.

"The half-billion-euro milestone reflects the Foundation's long-standing commitment to strengthening Finnish research, expertise, and cultural life," says **Nils Ittonen**, Chair of the Foundation's Board.

Over the years, some of the Foundation's largest grants have supported projects such as the Dance House Helsinki and the AD Museum in the arts and culture sector, as well as biomedical and cancer research in the sciences.

Further information:

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