

## COACHING FOR GROWTH

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# TURKU SCIENCE PARK, FINLAND

### Kasvu Open

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Kasvu Open is the largest project for sparring eager to grow companies with growth experts in Finland. Throughout the competition every eager to grow company has an opportunity to present own growth plan to a great number of experts free of charge. As a result, companies have a clarified growth plan, enlarged network of the best possible growth venture experts and investors in the country.

The name of the competition combines two words “kasvu”, which means growth in Finnish, and “open”, which summarizes the idea of the competition being open for every type of a company and for any expert willing to share own knowledge on a pro bono basis.

In 2018 over 900 experienced managers will meet 450 small and medium size companies for a total amount of time exceeding 4550 hours. Following the main goal of Kasvu Open, hundreds of experts offer own knowledge and skills on a voluntary basis. Kasvu Open gathers growth professionals, investors, and other partners into one solid network, which supports companies.

Although first defined as a competition, Kasvu Open does not aim at bringing companies to compete for the titles. On the contrary, it builds a platform where each company can introduce own ideas, test them, receive feedback, polish the plans and try to solve problems together with the experts on the way of making own dreams come true. Absolutely anyone can participate in Kasvu Open, regardless of the scale of growth or goals.

Turku Science Park has participated twice in the program, and now we are discussing whether we will join the program in 2019. The feedback from companies and people involved has been very good, but one drawback is the price which is very steep for one organization to pay. If, however, several organizations can arrange and host a regional competition then the cost would naturally be much lower.

### For more information on Kasvu Open, Turku Science Park

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<https://www.kasvuopen.fi/en>

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