

## Helena Viita

### IMI States Representatives Group



Helena Viita, representing Finland in IMI State Representatives Group, is an Advisor (Health and Wellbeing, Ecosystems funding) with **Business Finland**, Finland's government organisation responsible for the development and growth of Finnish enterprises in world markets in addition to being Finland's national contact agency for EU Framework programmes.

Business Finland is the Finnish government organization for innovation funding and trade, travel and investment promotion. Business Finland's 600 experts work in 40 offices globally and in 16 regional offices around Finland. Business Finland is part of the Team Finland network.

#### Previous Positions

- Chief Adviser (Health and Wellbeing, SME companies) for Business Finland (2018 -11/2019)
- Senior Adviser (Services and Wellbeing, SME companies) for Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation (2017)
- Team Finland Coordinator for Northern Savo at Tekes (employer: the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa) (08/2015-2016)
- Chief Adviser for Tekes (employer: the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa) (07/2015-2016)
- Senior Adviser for Tekes (employer: the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Pirkanmaa) (01/2015-06/2015)
- Technology Manager for Tekes (employer: the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Northern Savo) (02/2013-2014)
- Senior Technology Adviser (Biotech and Wellbeing) for Tekes (employer: the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Northern Savo) (09/2010-01/2013)
- Senior Manufacturing Development Scientist for Ark Therapeutics Oy (12/2009-08/2010)
- Manufacturing Development Scientist for Ark Therapeutics Oy (2006-11/2009)
- Researcher (part-time) for Ark Therapeutics Oy (11/2001-2005)
- Researcher, University of Kuopio, Kuopio, Finland (1995-2005)
- Researcher, University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland (11/1991-1994)
- Research Assistant/Bioanalyst/Deputy Chemist for Tampere University Hospital (05/1991-11/1991)
- Approved Board Member, Tampere Chamber of Commerce (2017)
- PhD in Molecular Medicine, University of Kuopio (2009)
- MSc in Biochemistry, University of Turku (1991)

**Field of Expertise**

- Innovation funding
- SME growth and exports
- Over 10 years of experience in innovation funding for companies and research organizations in the health & wellbeing sector.
- Experience from the production, product and analytical development in biotech/drug development and from academic research.