



PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
FINLAND

Government plan for analysis, assessment and research in support of decision making 2016

Government plenary session 3.12.2015

GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR ANALYSIS, ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH IN SUPPORT OF DECISION MAKING 2016

Objectives of the plan

The objective of the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research in support of decision making is to ensure the creation of a strong and horizontal knowledge base to support decision making in society. Many of the challenges facing society are highly complex and concern several administrative branches. To respond to these challenges, it is necessary to transcend administrative boundaries and generate research, foresight and assessment data that will effectively serve the needs of the entire spectrum of activities. The plan will steer studies and research towards specific priority areas selected by the Government that are relevant to the work of the Government and the ministries.

The aim of the plan is to create a basis for systematic and broad-based use of research data in the decision making of the Government and the ministries, and to strengthen the knowledge base for the Government's and the ministries' decision making, knowledge-based policy and overall strategic insight.

Content and implementation of the plan for analysis, assessment and research and related responsibilities

The plan addresses the priority areas/topics of the analysis, assessment and research activities to be carried out under the Prime Minister's Office item 23.01.22 Analysis, Assessment and Research Activities (deferred appropriation of EUR 10.4 million for a three-year period) including financial estimates and the necessary responsibilities for preparation and guidance. The purpose for which the appropriation is to be used is defined in the detailed statement for the budget item.

The [action plan for the implementation of key projects and reforms in the strategic government programme](#) has been used as the basis for identifying information needs when drafting the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research. The itemisation in the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research follows the one adopted for the action plan.

Under the budget item, EUR 700,000 will be reserved to be allocated to urgent analysis and research needs as determined at a later stage and EUR 100,000 to the information needs for the Government foresight report as determined at a later stage.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1. EMPLOYMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
1.1 Strengthening competitiveness by improving conditions for business and entrepreneurship	1.1.1 How will Team Finland activities be developed to have greater impact and be more customer-oriented?	Prime Minister's Office	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	150,000
	1.1.2 What actions are required by the structural changes penetrating the whole of society caused by digitalisation to strengthen competitiveness, employment and viability of regions?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	100,000
	1.1.3 On what basis are the operational areas and regions of potential growth determined and how will their development be reconciled with regional development and overall regional planning?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment	80,000
	1.1.4 How successfully have the cleantech and bioeconomy strategies been implemented? How should the breakthrough of bioeconomy and clean solutions be promoted in the future?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment	200,000
1.2 Incentive traps preventing acceptance of work will be removed and structural unemployment	1.2.1 What type of inclusive social security model enables the promotion of employment and the reduction of structural unemployment?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	100,000

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1.4 Reform of employment administration to support employability	1.4.1 What is the effectiveness of employment policy in long-term employment?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture	200,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2. KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
2.1 New learning environments and digital materials for comprehensive schools	2.1.1 What is the current situation in digital pedagogy and new learning materials and environments, and what development potential is there in these areas?	Ministry of Education and Culture	Ministry of Finance	150,000
2.2 Reform of vocational upper secondary education	2.2.1 How will the reform measures in vocational upper secondary education help strengthen skills-based competence and customer-oriented approaches and improve the efficiency of activities?	Ministry of Education and Culture	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	150,000
2.3 Acceleration of transition to working life	2.3.1 Have the reforms in student admissions into higher education institutions in 2010–2015 accelerated students' access into higher education and had an impact on their study progress?	Ministry of Education and Culture	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	200,000
2.5 Cooperation between higher education institutions and business life will be strengthened to bring innovations to the market	2.5.1 How will the cooperation between higher education institutions and research institutions, and the operating conditions of business life be improved?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	260,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3. WELLBEING AND HEALTH

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
3.3 Programme to address child and family services	3.3.1 How are services promoting the health and wellbeing of children and young people produced in different countries carried through between different administrative departments, such as the social services, healthcare and education?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Justice	100,000
3.4 Home care for older people will be developed and informal care enhanced in all age groups	3.4.1 How can the wellbeing and sense of community among older people be strengthened in housing and in residential areas?	Ministry of the Environment	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	250,000
	3.4.2 What kind of support measures do home carers need in order to cope in their role as a carer?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance	150,000
3.5 Career opportunities for people with partial work ability	3.5.1 How can entrepreneurship among those with disabilities be promoted?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	150,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4. BIOECONOMY AND CLEAN SOLUTIONS

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
4.1 Towards carbon-free, clean and renewable energy cost-efficiently	4.1.1 What energy policy measures and measures in other sectors are effective in achieving the targets set in the 2030 Energy and Climate Package of the EU?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment	1,000,000
	4.1.2 How should Finland prepare for the obligations imposed by the international climate agreement	Ministry of the Environment	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign	150,000

			Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communicat ions, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	
4.3 Breakthrough of a circular economy, getting waters into good condition	4.3.1 How will Finland achieve the targets for recycling and material recovery?	Ministry of the Environment	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	150,000
	4.3.2 What are the most feasible models for the management of nutrient recovery and water resource management?	Ministry of the Environment	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	250,000
	4.3.3 Which risk management tools for polluted soil areas are cost-effective and conducive to a sustainable circular economy?	Ministry of the Environment	Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	100,000
4.4 Finnish food production will be profitable, trade balance and the blue bio-economy on the rise	4.4.1 What are the main factors affecting the cost competitiveness and productivity of the Finnish food supply chain and its international competitive stance?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	200,000
	4.4.2 How can improvements in legislation help reduce food loss	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport	100,000

			and Communicat ions, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environmen t	
	4.4.3 How can digitalisation be used in the development of the food supply chain?	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	100,000
	4.4.4 How could environmental permit policies be reformed to accelerate sustainable growth in the hydroponic cultivation sector?	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	200,000
	4.4.5 To what extent has the environment-related hazardous substance content changed in Finnish fish and what kind of development can be expected in the future – can the competitiveness of Finnish fish as a foodstuff and animal feed be improved based on purity?	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	200,000

4.5 Nature policy based on trust and fair means	4.5.1 What is the economic and wellbeing impact of using forests and bodies of water for sustainable recreation and tourism, and what are the estimated growth, innovation and business opportunities for the sector?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	300,000
	4.5.2 What innovative and cost-effective solutions and methods that take into account the environmental flow objectives can be applied in the effort to revive migratory and endangered fish populations in bodies of water with built structures without causing grave harm to hydro-energy production?	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of the Environment	150,000
	4.5.3 What is the prevalence of the most significant harmful non-native species, what are the risks associated with these species and how should the control measures against non-native species be prioritised?	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment	175,000
	4.5.4 Will Finland be able to bear its responsibility for the internationally agreed objectives to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020?	Ministry of the Environment	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	150,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5. DIGITALISATION, EXPERIMENTATION AND DEREGULATION

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
5.1 Public services will be digitalised	5.1.1 What are the effects of digitalisation on productivity in public administration and what measures does public administration have at its disposal to create opportunities for new businesses?	Ministry of Finance	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport	150,000

			and Communicat ions, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environmen t	
	5.1.2 How will the use and effectiveness of open data and key basic public-sector information resources be improved in a cost-efficient manner?	Ministry of Finance	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environmen t	150,000
5.2 A growth environment will be created for digital business operations	5.2.1 How can services in rural areas be developed and diversify through digitalisation and pilot projects?	Ministry of Transport and Commun ications	Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the	250,000

			Environment	
	5.2.2 How to improve the reliability of digital commodities and business models?	Ministry of Transport and Communications	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	100,000
	5.2.3 What impact will robotisation and automation have on Finland's national economy, and what kind of promotional measures are required?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	150,000
5.3 Legal provisions will be streamlined	5.3.1 What are the challenges in implementing EU legislation?	Ministry of Justice	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	100,000
	5.3.2 What changes are required by the Data Protection Regulation in Finland's national legislation?	Ministry of Justice	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	100,000
	5.3.3 What options are there for redevelopment after demolition and what are its outcomes?	Ministry of Justice	Ministry of the Environment	100,000
	5.3.4 Reviewing the regulative burden – overall assessment to streamline legal provisions	Prime Minister's Office	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of	300,000

			Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communicat ions, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environmen t	
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6. REFORMS

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
6.1 Reform of healthcare and social welfare	6.1.1 Reports on the healthcare and social welfare reform and formation of autonomous areas	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture	300,000
	6.1.2 What indicators support the strategic and operative management of healthcare and social welfare in the new autonomous areas?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance	200,000
	6.1.3 What is the financial impact of the integration of healthcare and social welfare services and customer information systems, and what is the impact of the integration on the quality and effectiveness of the services?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance	100,000
	6.1.4 How to update the internal division of responsibilities and the use of the skills set of personnel to improve the cost-efficiency and productivity of healthcare and social welfare services?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance	100,000
6.2 Cutting local government costs by shedding duties and obligations	6.2.1 What is the overarching impact of the new early childhood education act?	Ministry of Education and Culture	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	150,000
	6.2.2 How can monitoring and effectiveness impact healthcare and social welfare services be improved by adopting new, more cost-effective methods?	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	Ministry of Finance	150,000
6.4 Regional administration reform	6.4.1 How will the regional organisation and the customer-orientation, cost-efficiency and societal impact of the services provided by Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment and the Employment and Economic Development Offices be addressed in the planned regional administration reform?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment	150,000

7. LINCHPIN PROJECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT

KEY PROJECT	ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
7.1 Report on Finnish Foreign and Security Policy	7.1.1 How will the changes in the global and regional operating environment determine the functioning and competitiveness of Finnish society?	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence,	260,000

			Ministry of Transport and Communications	
7.2 National plan for the international sustainable development agenda	7.2.1 What is Finland's readiness to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda?	Prime Minister's Office	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for the Environment	50,000
7.4 Report on Finnish Security and Defence Policy	7.4.1 How have Finland's total defence concept and legislation developed in northern Europe?	Ministry of Defence	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior	60,000
	7.4.2 What does recent research carried out in Finland say about development trends in Russia and how will these trends affect Finland's position regarding its foreign and security policy and defence policy questions?	Ministry of Defence	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior	90,000
7.6 Updating the Arctic strategy	7.6.1 What is the political and economic situation like in the Arctic Region, specifically from the perspective of the themes agreed for the Arctic Council during Finland's chairmanship (2017–2019)	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	180,000
	7.6.2 What are the obstacles, instruments and incentives for the product development, commercialisation, export and visibility of Finland's Arctic competences?	Ministry of Transport and Communications	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications	100,000

			ions, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environmen t	
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7.9 The implementation of the reform programme for the administration of justice, including the structural reform of district courts, the merger of the supreme courts, National Courts Administration	7.9.1 Will the increase in fixed and unit fines affect traffic safety?	Ministry of Justice	Ministry of Transport and Communications	80,000
7.10 Government foresight report	7.10.1 Information needs to be determined later to support the Government foresight report	Coordinated by Prime Minister's Office		100,000

8. OTHERS

ANALYSIS/ RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
8.1 How to secure managed immigration, an effective asylum seeking process and successful integration in all circumstances?	MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Ministry of the Environment	300,000
8.2 What is the societal impact of research conducted in Finland with international funding?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of	100,000

		the Environment	
8.3 How can innovative public procurement and its potential be applied in achieving societal objectives and the renewal of businesses?	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Environment	200,000
8.4 What can international experiences teach us about the indigenous peoples' affairs?	Ministry of Justice	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	165,000
7.10.1 Information needs to be specified at a later date	Coordinated by Prime Minister's Office		700,000
			Total € 10.4 million

Open call principles

Studies and research projects based on the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research will be selected based on an open call for proposals using objective and non-discriminatory criteria. The procurement will be conducted based on an equal treatment of potential suppliers according to the principles of good governance.

In the application procedure, the Act on Public Contracts shall apply to service procurement for the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research only where the benefits accrue exclusively

to the contracting authority for use in the conduct of its own affairs and on condition that the service provided is wholly remunerated by the contracting authority (Act on Public Contracts 348/2008, section 8(1)(6)).

Application procedure

The content of the call for applications will be determined by the Prime Minister's Office. The Prime Minister's Office publish the call for applications in press papers that will be specified at a later date, and will cover the costs of translation and the publication of the call for applications on the Government web service. Additionally, the call for applications will be published in the Hilma electronic notification system and the websites of the pertinent designated ministries.

The designated ministries will be responsible for assessing the content of the applications and will propose to the Prime Minister's Office which applications could be selected for the analysis, assessment and research activities. The selection criteria that will be applied to the projects are relevance, impact, applicability, quality and feasibility.

The Prime Minister's Office will make the decisions on the procurement of studies and research activities and sign project agreements with the main research service providers.

Monitoring and steering of project implementation

The government working group for the coordination of research, foresight and assessment activities (Working Group) shall serve as the collective contracting authority. It will monitor performance in attaining the objectives of the plan for analysis, assessment and research.

The Prime Minister's Office will appoint a steering group for each Government analysis, assessment and research project or programme, settle the payments of project costs and monitor the use of appropriations and man-years on an annual basis.

The steering group's remit is to monitor progress in the project and to facilitate the application of the project outcomes as well as to prepare a proposal to the Prime Minister's Office on the payments of the project costs as required by its progress. The steering group will be chaired by a representative of the ministry in charge of the project. The steering group will invite as its members other contributors crucial to the steering of the implementation of the strategic priority. The chairpersons of the steering groups shall report to the ministerial groups of each strategic priority and the TEA Working Group, which is in charge of the overall monitoring of the Government analysis, assessment and research plan, on the progress of each project on a regular basis and shall provide all essential material required for the monitoring of the project.

The ministries in charge shall agree, in cooperation with the executor of the project, on the promotion of the application of new information produced in the course of the project. The report will be published in the publication series of the Government's analysis, assessment and research activities.

The Prime Minister's Office will issue, as necessary, more detailed regulations and instructions for the implementation of the plan for analysis, assessment and research.

Anu Vehviläinen, Minister of Local Government and Public Reforms

Timo Lankinen, State Under-Secretary