



VALTIONEUVOSTON KANSLIA
STATSRÅDETS KANSLI

Government plan for analysis, assessment and research in support of decision making 2017

Government plenary session 22 September 2016

GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR ANALYSIS, ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH IN SUPPORT OF DECISION MAKING 2017

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 in support of decision making in society.

The plan will steer studies and research towards specific priority areas selected by the Government that are relevant for the work of the Government and the ministries.

The plan seeks 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, evidence-based policy and comprehensive strategic overview.

The plan provides a description of the main themes for analysis and assessment and defines the responsibilities for preparation and steering. The topics of research to be addressed have a clear link to the information needs and current issues in the Government's decision-making process.

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

The plan addresses the priority areas/themes of the analysis, assessment and research activities to be financed under the Prime Minister's Office budget 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 steering. The purpose for which the appropriation is to be used is defined in the detailed budget statement for the item.

The action plan for the implementation of key projects and reforms defined in the Strategic Government Programme has been used as a basis for identifying the information required for drafting the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research. The numbering of the items in the Government plan for analysis, assessment and research follows the itemisation used in the action plan.

A total of EUR 1,970,000 is allocated under the item to urgent analysis and research needs; EUR 300 000 for the information needs for the assessment of the universal basic income experiment to be determined at a later date, EUR 300,000 for other purposes to be determined at a later date by the Economic Council; EUR 150,000 to respond to the information needs of the Government foresight report to be determined at a later date; and EUR 300,000 for the purposes of the EU impact assessment the details of which will be defined later.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1. EMPLOYMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
1.1 Operation of the housing market A) Effects of the asset transfer tax on the housing market B) Profitability, competition and development needs of the rental housing market	MoF¹	PMO, MoE	200,000
1.2 Promotion of employment and entrepreneurship: impact and targeting of measures A) Assessment of the impact of pay subsidies and start-up grants B) Extension of the set of coordinated actions to promote entrepreneurship C) Analysis of the overall costs of unemployment to society D) Impact of protected earnings on unemployment security	MEAE	MoF, MSAH	380,000
1.3 Assessment and study of the success of regional experiments regarding employment and business services	MEAE	PMO, MoF, MEC, MEAE	200,000
1.4 Immigration and the innovation economy	MEAE	MoI, MEC, MSAH	100,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2. KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
2.1 Elimination of segregation between male- and female-dominated fields of education	MEC	MEAE, MSAH	250,000
2.2 Evolving needs in Finnish and religious education	MEC	MSAH, MEAE	300,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3. WELLBEING AND HEALTH

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
3.1 Meal services for the elderly and ways of supporting living at home	MSAH	MAF, MoF, MoE	200,000
3.2 Measures taken by counties and municipalities, division of duties and cooperation in the provision of housing services for the disabled and the elderly and their domestic circumstances	MoE	MoF, MEAE, MSAH	220,000
3.3 Position of those living alone	MSAH	MSAH	250,000
3.4 Comprehensive reform of rehabilitation systems	MSAH	MEAE	200,000
3.5 Information needs for the assessment of the universal basic income experiment to be determined at a later date	MSAH	PMO, MEAE	300,000
3.6 Social cost of lack of physical exercise	MEC	MSAH	150,000

¹ MAF=Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; MEAE=Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment; MEC=Ministry of Education and Culture; MFA=Ministry for Foreign Affairs; MoD=Ministry of Defence; MoE=Ministry of the Environment; MoF=Ministry of Finance; MoI=Ministry of the Interior; MoJ=Ministry of Justice; MSAH=Ministry of Social Affairs and Health; MTC=Ministry of Transport and Communication; PMO=Prime Minister's Office

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4. BIOECONOMY AND CLEAN SOLUTIONS

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
4.1 Promotion of the circular economy and materials efficiency A) Recovery and recycling of the phosphorus contained in waste waters; Financial incentives and legislative steerage applied in other countries and their potential for Finland B) National measures to promote the circular economy C) What success has been achieved in the national materials efficiency programme and what measures should be taken to promote materials efficiency as part of the circular economy?	MoE	MoF, MAF, MEAE	400,000
4.2 Current status of the recreational wilderness business and its potential for expansion	MAF	MEAE	100,000
4.3 Assessment of risks and vulnerability to climate change	MAF	MEAE, MoE	100,000
4.4 Cost estimation model for harmful effects of emissions into air	MoE	MTC, MEAE, MSAH	150,000
4.5 Impact of the amendments to the Emissions Trading Directive on Finnish industry, energy production and economy	MEAE	MoF, MoE	100,000

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5. DIGITALISATION, EXPERIMENTATION AND DEREGULATION

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
5.1 Innovative public procurement contracts to attain the objectives of the Government's key projects relating to bioeconomy and clean solutions	MAF	MoF, MEAE, MoE	200,000
5.2 Impact of MyData on the operations of public government organisations	MoF	MEC	70,000
5.3 Improved impact assessment through automatic data gathering and analytics	MoE	MTC, MSAH	250,000

6. REFORMS

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
6.1 Support for the health and social services and county reform A) Implementation of the health and social services and county reform A) Cooperation needs in the context the health and social services and county reform A) Steerage for the implementation of the health and social services and county reform D) Use and development of online entrepreneurial services	MSAH	MEC, MAF, MTC, MEAE, MoF, MoE	600,000
6.2 Opportunities and benefits offered by blockchain technology	MoF	MSAH	100,000
6.3 Variations in the legal obligations of municipalities after the implementation of the health and social services and county reform	MoF	MEC	80,000
6.4 Transacting with public sector entities A) Transacting with public sector entities in peer countries B) Impact of changes to customer charges for healthcare and social services C) Customer processes and availability of services	MSAH	MEC, MoF	500,000
6.5 New roles in overseeing regional land use and construction in the context of the county reform	MoE	MoF, MTC, MEAE, MSAH	200,000
6.6 Regional economy database to boost growth and competitiveness	MEAE	MEC, MAF, MTC, MoE	120,000

7. GOVERNMENT'S LINCHPIN PROJECTS

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
7.2 Impact of the United States on security in Europe and Finland	MFA	MoI, MoD	80,000
7.2 Expanding Finland's role in conflict prevention and management	MFA	MoI, MoD	100,000
7.3 Nordic Cooperation on Foreign and Security Policy: Development potential and challenges to further development of cooperation	MFA	MoI, MoD	80,000
7.4 Operation of the laws regarding the identification of and assistance to victims of human trafficking	MoJ	MoI, MSAH	100,000
7.5 Overall assessment of the Emergency Powers Act in relation to section 23 of the Constitution	MoJ	MoD	150,000
7.6 Ensuring the necessary skills and competence in the context of safeguarding the technological and industrial base of Finland's defence	MoD	MEAE	150,000
7.7 Energy and maintenance of stocks of critical supplies: Anticipation of geopolitical and strategic shifts in terms of security policy	MoD	MAF, MEAE	300,000
7.8 Assessment of the effectiveness of the operational objectives defined in the commitment to sustainable development	PMO	MEAE, MoE	100,000

8. OTHERS

ANALYSIS/RESEARCH TOPIC	MINISTRY IN CHARGE	OTHER MINISTRIES	COST ESTIMATE (€)
8.1 Further development of the assessment of the gender effects of the budget	MoF	MEC, MSAH	100,000
8.2 Role of the third sector in supporting security action by the authorities	MoI	MAF, MoD	150,000
8.3 Assessment of the research institute and funding reform	PMO	MoD, MoF, MEC, MAF, MEAE, MoI, MoE	350,000
8.4 Information needs to be determined by the Economic Council of Finland	PMO	MoF	300,000
8.5 Information needs of the Research and Innovation Council to be determined at a later date	MEC	PMO, MEAE	300,000
8.6 Information needs for the purposes of the future report to be determined at a later date	PMO	All ministries	150,000
8.7 Information needs related to the EU impact assessment to be determined at a later date	Coordinated by PMO		300,000
8.8 Urgent information needs to be determined at a later date	Coordinated by PMO		1,970,000
Total EUR 10.4 million			

Principles of the open call for applications

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

Application procedure

The contents of the contract notices will be determined by the Prime Minister's Office. The Prime Minister's Office will pay the costs of the contract notice in newspapers and magazines to be selected at a later date as well as the cost of translation and publication of the notice on the Government website. Additionally, the contract notices are published in the Hilma electronic notification system and the websites of the responsible ministries concerned.

The ministries in charge of each area will coordinate the content assessment of the applications and prepare a proposal to the Prime Minister's Office on the selection of eligible studies and research activities. The selection criteria 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 contracts with the principal research service providers.

Monitoring and steering of project implementation

The government working group for the coordination of research, foresight and assessment activities (TEA Working Group) will serve as the collective contracting authority and 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 study 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 the progress of 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 payment of the project costs relative to the progress made. The steering group will be chaired by a representative of the ministry in charge of the project. The chairpersons of the steering groups will 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 will provide all essential material required for the monitoring of the project.

The ministries in charge will agree, in consultation with the project executor, on ways to harness the new data produced in the course of the projects. The final reports will be published in the publication series for Government's analysis, assessment and research activities.

Where necessary, the Prime Minister's Office will issue 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

State Under-Secretary Timo Lankinen