

# **Contribution to the Focus chapter of the Fundamental Rights Report 2022: Social rights and equality in light of the recovery from the COVID- 19 pandemic.**

**FINLAND**

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# 1 Measures implemented to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

1.a.

<b>Name of the measure in English</b>	Launching a new intermediate labour market operator offering employment and services for persons with partial work ability (P3C1R5)
<b>Name of the measure in the national language(s)</b>	Uuden osatyökykyisille työtä ja palveluja tarjoavan välityömarkkinatoimijan käynnistäminen (P3C1R5)
<b>Reference document for the measure</b> <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Finnish Government, Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan, Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 193-195. <a href="http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5">http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5</a>
<b>Social rights covered by the measure</b> <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i>	Integration of persons with disabilities (article 26)
<b>Population group(s) covered by the measure</b> <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to</i>	The main population group covered by the measure are <b>persons with disabilities</b> . More specifically the measure targets the most disadvantaged persons with partial work ability. According to the Government Bill No. 198/2021 on the establishment of the intermediate labour market operator Työkanava Ltd ( <i>Työkanava Oy/Jobbkanalen Ab</i> ), persons undergoing mental health rehabilitation and people with developmental disabilities are facing particular challenges in finding employment. Further, the most disadvantaged jobseekers registered at employment and economic development offices

<p><b>measures that apply to discrete population groups</b></p>	<p>(<i>TE-toimisto/arbets- och näringsbyrå</i>) are people who have an illness or disability and who are aged over 55 and have a low level of education.<sup>1</sup> The intermediate labour market is a generic term that captures programmes and policies, which enhances the employability of those most removed from the labour market.</p>
<p><b>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</b></p>	<p>The objective of the measure is to create a new, systematic, target-oriented and business-driven intermediate labour market operator with the task of helping persons with partial work ability to adapt into and find a placement on the labour market.<sup>2</sup> The state-owned company to be established will offer the most disadvantaged persons with partial work ability subsidised, custom-made employment and support needed for entering the open labour market. In line with article 26 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, the measure facilitates the occupational integration and participation of persons with disabilities in the society and enhances equal opportunities. It also promotes the implementation of article 27 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by improving the employment prospects of the target group.<sup>3</sup></p>
<p><b>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</b></p>	<p>Persons fulfilling the requirements established in the act to be adopted will be employed by the new labour market operator Työkanava Ltd. According to the Government Bill No. 198/2021, employment in Työkanava Ltd presupposes that the person is a jobseeker at an employment office and his or her possibilities to get a suitable job is drastically reduced due to illness or disability. Further, the person has to be interested in getting a job, while existing support services have not managed to safeguard employment. The unlikelihood of employment prospects can also be established without prior usage of the available support services. It is estimated that there are 20,000-30,000 persons in Finland who fall into this category.<sup>4</sup></p>

<sup>1</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021 ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), 21 October 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Finland, Finnish Government, [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 193.

<sup>3</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021, ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), 21 October 2021, p. 39.

<sup>4</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021, ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), 21 October 2021, p. 14, 103.

	<p>Only a designated employment and economic development office, which collects proposals from other offices, will be entitled to direct persons to Työkanava Ltd. This is to safeguard that the labour policy and social policy goals of the initiative are prioritized in the selection process over economic ones. Työkanava Ltd will offer employment contracts in line with general employment legislation and collective agreements. The rationale of the company is to sell services or provide staffing, firstly, to customer enterprises and, secondly, to public authorities. Further, to support this, Työkanava Ltd will develop the work ability and skills of its employees.<sup>5</sup> The long-term goal is that the external organisations will eventually employ Työkanava's employees directly.</p>
<p><b>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</b></p>	<p>As stated, the main goal of the initiative is to integrate the most disadvantaged persons with partial work ability in the labour market. To achieve this the state will establish a company Työkanava Ltd with the task of employing persons belonging to the target group and offering them necessary services. These services are primarily linked to the development of the work ability and skills of the employees. Työkanava will not offer or coordinate other services, that is, general employment services as well as social and health care services. These will continue to be the responsibility of the relevant public authorities. In other words, the initiative is not, according to the Government Bill No. 198/2021, delegating public administrative tasks to the new company.<sup>6</sup> Thus, the model to be introduced does not offer a fully integrated public/private service concept.</p>
<p><b>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</b></p>	<p>Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet)  Työkanava Ltd (<i>Työkanava Oy/Jobbkanalen Ab</i>)  Employment and economic development offices (<i>TE-toimisto/arbets- och näringsbyrå</i>)</p>

<sup>5</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021, ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), 21 October 2021.

p. 53.

<sup>6</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021, ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), 21 October 2021.

p. 96-97.

<b>Duration of the measure</b>	2022-2023
<b>Budget allocated to implement the measure</b>	€ 20 million from RRP and € 10 million annually from the state budget.
<b>Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out</b>	This measure has in the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) one milestone and one target. The milestone is the entry into force of the act providing for the new, state-owned intermediate labour market operator. The target is that the new company Työkanava Ltd has started its operations and has hired at least 400 persons with partial work ability in employment relationships by the end of 2023. <sup>7</sup>

## 1.b.

<b>Name of the measure in English</b>	Enhancing multiprofessional services for young people (P3C1R4)
<b>Name of the measure in the national language(s)</b>	Nuorten monialaisen palvelun vahvistaminen (P3C1R4)
<b>Reference document for the measure</b> <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Finnish Government, Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan, Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 186-192. <a href="http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5">http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5</a>

<sup>7</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 433-434.

<p><b>Social rights covered by the measure</b></p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i></p>	<p>right to social security and social assistance (Article 34)</p>
<p><b>Population group(s) covered by the measure</b></p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i></p>	<p>The measure focuses on disadvantaged <b>young people</b> below the age of 30.</p>
<p><b>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</b></p>	<p>One-stop guidance points called <i>Ohjaamo (Navigatorn)</i> have been in operation in Finland since 2015. They are run by a consortium of public and private actors (see below). The national goals of the service are to streamline and facilitate young people's transition into work, education or other activities, to promote youth inclusion, empowerment and life control and to bring service providers together in a multidisciplinary service package. Further, the service fulfils the objectives and activities of the EU Youth Guarantee.<sup>8</sup> There are around 70 Ohjaamo guidance points throughout the country.<sup>9</sup></p>

<sup>8</sup> Valtakari, M., Arnkil, R., Eskelinen, J., Mayer, M., Nyman, J., Sillanpää, K., Spanger, T., Ålander, T., Yli-Koski, M. (2020), [Ohjaamot – monialaista yhteistyötä, vaikuttavuutta ja uutta toimintakulttuuria](#), Publication series of the Government's analysis, assessment and research 2020:13, Helsinki.

<sup>9</sup> Information obtained from the webpage of [Ohjaamo](#) on 27 October 2021.

	<p>The RRP-funded measure concerns the development of the Ohjaamo guidance points. The aim is to enhance their multiprofessional service capabilities in responding to the diverse needs of young people, in particular, in the field of social welfare and health care (incl. mental health) as well as education and training.<sup>10</sup> Studies show a need for more such services.<sup>11</sup> In other words, the multiprofessionalism of the Ohjaamo guidance points refers to the provision and integration of different kinds of services for young people.<sup>12</sup></p> <p>The measure protects the entitlements to social services and enhances equality by reducing social risks of exclusion and marginalisation of young people.</p>
<p><b>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</b></p>	<p>The funding will be used to employ additional experts in the fields of social welfare, health care and education. More specifically the professionals may include student counsellors, social advisors, public health nurses or social workers.<sup>13</sup> To enhance sustainability the measure is based on an incentive-model whereby the local authorities are required to match each new RRP recruitment with an own recruitment, which can be drawn from existing employees that are transferred to work in an Ohjaamo guidance point. The RRP funding allows recruitments totalling 53 person-years. With the local authorities' matched contribution of 1 person-year, the total increase of staff working in the Ohjaamo guidance points will be about 106. This is expected to enhance the possibilities to provide better services to young people. The call for funding applications opened on 1 September 2021.<sup>14</sup></p>

<sup>10</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 186-187.

<sup>11</sup> Valtakari, M., Arnkil, R., Eskelinen, J., Mayer, M., Nyman, J., Sillanpää, K., Spanger, T., Ålander, T., Yli-Koski, M. (2020), [Ohjaamot – monialaista yhteistyötä, vaikuttavuutta ja uutta toimintakulttuuria](#), Publication series of the Government's analysis, assessment and research 2020:13, Helsinki.

<sup>12</sup> Finland, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (*työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet*), [‘Ohjaamoille tukea kannustinmallista nuorten matalan kynnyksen palveluiden kehittämiseen’](#), press release, 1 September 2021.

<sup>13</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 189.

<sup>14</sup> Finland, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (*työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet*), [‘Ohjaamoille tukea kannustinmallista nuorten matalan kynnyksen palveluiden kehittämiseen’](#), press release, 1 September 2021.



<b>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</b>	The Ohjaamo guidance points are one-stop, low-threshold service providers composed of a consortium of actors. According to the RRP, 50% of the Ohjaamo personnel come from municipalities, 25% from employment and economic development offices ( <i>TE-toimisto/arbets- och näringsbyrå</i> ) and the rest from the Social Insurance Institution of Finland ( <i>Kansaneläkelaitos/Folkpensionsanstalten</i> ) and NGOs. <sup>15</sup> The measure further strengthens the integrated service provision by increasing the expertise in mental health care and education.
<b>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</b>	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment ( <i>työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet</i> ) Municipalities ( <i>kunnat/kommuner</i> )
<b>Duration of the measure</b>	2021-2024
<b>Budget allocated to implement the measure</b>	€ 13 million
<b>Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out</b>	<p>This measure has one target in the RRP, that is, an increased percentage of Ohjaamo guidance points provide integrated social welfare and health care services or expertise in education and training. Against the baseline of 33 %, the target is that 60 % of the guidance points provide the services described by the end of 2024.<sup>16</sup></p> <p>The municipalities receiving RRP funding for developing the Ohjaamo guidance points are further required to report in the end of the project to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment on the impact of the activities, including their sustainability and need for further development. The municipalities are also obligated to report the number of clients per employee.<sup>17</sup></p>

<sup>15</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 188.

<sup>16</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 433.

<sup>17</sup> Finland, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (*työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet*), '[EU:n elpymisrahastolla toteutettava kustannusmalli Ohjaamoiden monialaisuuden vahvistamiseen 2021-2024](#)', Application guide, VN/21454/2021, 1 September 2021.

## 1.c.

<b>Name of the measure in English</b>	Promoting compliance with the care guarantee (including in mental health services) and reducing the treatment, rehabilitation and service deficit in health and social services caused by the coronavirus pandemic (P4C1I1)
<b>Name of the measure in the national language(s)</b>	Edistetään hoitotakuun toteutumista (mukaan lukien mielenterveyspalvelut) sekä puretaan koronavirustilanteen aiheuttamaa sosiaali- ja terveydenhuollon hoito-, kuntoutus- ja palveluvelka. (P4C1I1)
<b>Reference document for the measure</b> <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Finnish Government, Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan, Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 297-303. <a href="http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5">http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5</a>
<b>Social rights covered by the measure</b> <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to one discrete right</i>	right of access to preventive health care and to benefit from medical treatment (Article 35)

<p><b>Population group(s) covered by the measure</b></p> <p><i>Delete as appropriate</i></p> <p><i>Multiple answers possible, but preference should be given to measures that apply to discrete population groups</i></p>	<p>The measure targets the <b>whole population</b> with special emphasis on the <b>most disadvantaged or vulnerable</b>.<sup>18</sup> According to the RRP, these include children, adolescents, the elderly, mental health rehabilitees, intoxicant abuse rehabilitees and the disabled.<sup>19</sup></p>
<p><b>Summary description of how the measure applies to the population group(s)</b></p>	<p>The long waiting time to non-urgent health care is a recognized problem in Finland.<sup>20</sup> During the pandemic the waiting time to basic and specialist health care increased even further leading to a surge in the cases that could not be treated within the legally prescribed care guarantee, which for basic care is 3 months and specialist care 6 months.<sup>21</sup> Further, as to social services, the service deficit has grown following the closure of many services during the pandemic, which often has hit those already disadvantaged.<sup>22</sup> To reduce the care deficit in social and health care, the measure aims at developing permanent changes to the present operating practices. This is expected to improve the access to social services and health care. In addition, by specifically addressing operating models suitable for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups the measure also enhances equality between different population groups.</p>

<sup>18</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 299.

<sup>19</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 302.

<sup>20</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 297.

<sup>21</sup> Finland, [Health Care Act \(terveydenhuoltolaki/hälso- och sjukvårdslag\)](#), Act No. 1326/2010, sections 51 and 52.

<sup>22</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 298.

<p><b>Summary description of how the measure will impact (positively or negatively) social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</b></p>	<p>To implement the measure promoting the care guarantee, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health will open a call for 22 regional projects to be carried out by local authorities, joint municipal authorities and wellbeing services counties (see below). On 16 December 2021, the Government adopted a decree specifying the requirements for the government grants to be channeled to the social and health care sector, including grants for promoting the care guarantee.<sup>23</sup> In line with the RRP, the key targets of the measure are the reduction of the care deficit and the introduction of new and increasingly client-oriented operating models streamlining availability of and access to treatment and services. Also, the capability of the services to respond to the needs of the disadvantaged and vulnerable should be improved.<sup>24</sup></p> <p>Further, the RRP notes that regional differences should be taken into account when devising the operating models. As examples of effective best practices, the RRP mentions segmenting clients based on their care needs and designing services for the different client groups identified, multiprofessional teamwork, shared client plans, remote and online services, walk-in or open access concepts, outreach work methods for clients outside the service system, and provision of transportation services for disadvantaged and vulnerable people.<sup>25</sup></p> <p>The Government has on 9 September 2021 decided to establish a seven-day cap on waiting time for access to primary health care. To give effect to this, a revision of the health care act is planned to enter into force during the present government term.<sup>26</sup> The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health launched on 17 November 2021 a consultation on the draft government proposal.<sup>27</sup> The revised act is scheduled to enter into force on 1 April 2023. According to the draft, the act will cover primary health care, student health care and prison health care.</p>
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<sup>23</sup> Finland, Government Decree No. 1126/2021 ([valtioneuvoston asetus elpymis- ja palautumissuunnitelman mukaisista sosiaali- ja terveysalan valtionavustuksista vuosina 2021-2025/statsrådets förordning om statsunderstöd inom social- och hälsovården enligt planen för återhämtning och resiliens åren 2021-2025](#)), 16 December 2021.

<sup>24</sup> Finland, Finnish Government ([valtioneuvosto/statsrådet](#)) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 300.

<sup>25</sup> Finland, Finnish Government ([valtioneuvosto/statsrådet](#)) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 300-301.

<sup>26</sup> Finland, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health ([sosiaali- ja terveysministeriö/social- och hälsovårdsministeriet](#)), '[Government decisions in autumn 2021 budget session: Progress made in seven-day cap on waiting time for access to care](#)', press release, 9 September 2021.

<sup>27</sup> Finland, consultation service ([lausuntopalvelu.fi/utlåtande.fi](#)), '[Lausuntopyyntö hallituksen esityksestä perusterveydenhuollon hoitotakuun tiukentamisesta](#)', 17 November 2021.

<p><b>Summary description of the extent to which the measure foresees the provision of enabling social services</b></p>	<p>The overall focus of the measure is on enhancing individuals' access to health care and social services. In addition, the measure addresses the special circumstances of persons in disadvantaged and vulnerable positions, which hamper their access to social and health care even further. Consequently, the new operating models to be developed to tackle these problems provide enabling services for accessing health care and social services.</p> <p>Further, as the implementation of the measure coincides with the big overhaul of the social and health care system in Finland, the measure has potential to strengthen public service integration. From 1 January 2023, the responsibility for organising social and health care services will rest with 21 wellbeing services counties (<i>hyvinvointialue/välfärdsområde</i>) and the City of Helsinki.<sup>28</sup></p>
<p><b>Entity or organisation responsible to implement the measure</b></p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (<i>sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden ministeriö/social- och hälsovårdsministeriet</i>)</p> <p>Local authorities (i.e. municipalities) and joint municipal authorities (<i>kunnat ja kuntayhtymät/kommuner och samkommuner</i>). After 2023, when the social and health care reform has been realized, the implementing organisations will be the 21 wellbeing services counties (<i>hyvinvointialue/ välfärdsområde</i>) and the City of Helsinki.</p>
<p><b>Duration of the measure</b></p>	<p>2021-2025</p>
<p><b>Budget allocated to implement the measure</b></p>	<p>€ 230 million</p>

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<sup>28</sup> Finland, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (*sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden ministeriö/social- och hälsovårdsministeriet*), '[Implementation of health and social services reform now under way](#)', press release, 26 August 2021.

<p><b>Summary description of how any foreseen impact assessment of the measure will be carried out</b></p>	<p>As a target for this measure, the RRP uses the achievement of the new 7-day care guarantee in non-urgent care appointments. By the end of 2025 80 % of the social and health centers can comply with this target compared to 58 % today (baseline).<sup>29</sup></p> <p>Further, the RRP provides that the authorities applying for funding have to describe in detail their targets for reducing waiting times and their plans for improving access to treatment and for reducing the treatment, service and rehabilitation deficits. Further, the applicants have to provide information on how the target attainment will be monitored at regular intervals.<sup>30</sup></p>
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## 2 Tools or mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of national schemes to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery from the pandemic

2.a.

<p><b>Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in English</b></p>	<p>General internal monitoring of the implementation of the RRP in Finland. No specific name has been given to this monitoring mechanism.</p>
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<sup>29</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 451.

<sup>30</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 301.

<b>Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in the national language(s)</b>	See above
<b>Reference document for the monitoring tool or mechanism</b> <i>Include an url, where available</i>	Finnish Government, Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan, Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69. <a href="http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5">http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-694-5</a>
<b>Organisation(s) involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</b> <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible</i>	All granting authorities are involved in the monitoring of the RRP. These include government ministries, the Government of Åland and other state authorities. <sup>31</sup> The relevant ministries are:  Ministry of Finance (valtiovarainministeriö/finansministeriet) - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö/arbets- och näringsministeriet) - Ministry of the Environment (ympäristöministeriö/miljöministeriet) - Ministry of Transport and Communications (liikenne- ja viestintäministeriö/kommunikationsministeriet) - Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (maa- ja metsätalousministeriö/jord- och skogsbruksministeriet) - Ministry for Foreign Affairs (ulkoministeriö/utrikesministeriet) - Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden ministeriö/social- och hälsovårdsministeriet) Ministry of Education and Culture (opetus- ja kulttuuriministeriö/undervisnings- och kulturministeriet)  Other state authorities include:

<sup>31</sup> Finland, Ministry of Finance (valtiovarainministeriö/finansministeriet), [Lausuntopyyntö hallituksen esityksestä EU:n elpymis- ja palautumistukivälineen kansalliseksi toimeenpanolaiksi](https://www.lausuntopalvelu.fi), lausuntopalvelu.fi, p. 17.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (elinkeino-, liikenne- ja ympäristökeskukset/närings-, trafik- och miljöcentraler, ELY) Customer Service Centers for ELY and TE Centers (<i>KEHA-keskus</i>)</li> <li>- Employment and Economic Development Offices (<i>TE-toimisto/arbets- och näringsbyrå</i>)</li> <li>- Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland (asumisen rahoitus ja kehittämiskeskus/finansierings- och utvecklingscentralen för boende)</li> <li>- Finnish National Agency for Education (<i>opetushallitus/utbildningsstyrelsen</i>) Service Centre for Continuous Learning and Employment (jatkuvan oppimisen ja työllisyyden palvelukeskus/servicecentret för kontinuerligt lärande och sysselsättning)</li> <li>- Energy Authority (energiavirasto/energimyndigheten)</li> <li>- National Land Survey of Finland (<i>maanmittauslaitos/lantmäteriverket</i>)</li> <li>- Finnish Transport and Communication Agency (liikenne- ja viestintävirasto/transport- och kommunikationsverket)</li> <li>- Academy of Finland (Suomen Akatemia/Finlands Akademi)</li> <li>- Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency (<i>väylävirasto/trafikledsverket</i>) Business Finland</li> </ul>
<p><b>Summary description of how these organisation(s) are involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</b></p>	<p>The implementation of the RRP in Finland will be governed by regular national legislation, including the State Budget Act<sup>32</sup> and the State Budget Decree.<sup>33</sup> This means that the EU funds will be subject to the same internal controls as national funds. According to the Finnish RRP, supplementary legislation concerning the national organisation of the programme will be prepared.<sup>34</sup> The draft government bill on the follow-up, supervision and audit of the EU's recovery and resilience plan is open for consultations between 21 December 2021 and 1 February 2022.<sup>35</sup> As outlined in the RRP, the Ministry of Finance will be in charge of all central functions related to the RRP, including coordination, management, control and audit. According to the draft government bill, the State Treasury (<i>valtiokonttori/statskontoret</i>), which is an agency</p>

<sup>32</sup> Finland, [State Budget Act \(\*laki valtion talousarviosta/lag om statsbudgeten\*\)](#), Act No. 423/1988.

<sup>33</sup> Finland, [State Budget Decree \(\*asetus valtion talousarviosta/förordning om statsbudgeten\*\)](#), Decree No. 1243/1992.

<sup>34</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtionneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 330.

<sup>35</sup> Finland, Ministry of Finance (*valtiovarainministeriö/finansministeriet*), [Lausuntopyyntö hallituksen esityksestä EU:n elpymis- ja palautumistukivälineen kansalliseksi toimeenpanolaisiksi](#), lausuntopalvelu.fi.



	<p>operating under the Ministry of Finance, will be responsible for the RRP's information system and for supervising the implementation of the RRP, the usage of funds, and the correction by relevant authorities of possible mistakes in the management of the funds. The auditing will be carried out by the Government Financial Controller's Function, which is a separate unit within the Ministry of Finance. It operates detached from the other duties related to the management and supervision of the RRP. At political level, the implementation of the programme will be controlled and monitored by a ministerial working group under the leadership of the Minister of Finance.<sup>36</sup></p> <p>The implementation and supervision of the various measures will be carried out by the ministries and other granting authorities in their respective administrative branch. The Act on Discretionary Government Transfers<sup>37</sup> or other relevant legislation will govern the transfer of RRP funds to the entities that carry out the measures. The ministries and other granting authorities will be responsible for the duties related to the application, granting, disbursement, monitoring, control, recovery and other follow-up measures.<sup>38</sup></p>
<p><b>Summary description of the functioning of the tool or mechanism used to monitor the effectiveness of schemes adopted to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</b></p>	<p>In line with article 18 (i) of the Regulation (EU) 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility,<sup>39</sup> the various measures listed in the Finnish RRP are coupled with quantitative targets and qualitative milestones, including associated indicators.</p> <p>To facilitate the administration, supervision and reporting of the RRP implementation, a standardised IT system (data platform) will be developed based on existing systems. The Finnish RRP provides that key functionalities of the IT system should include project monitoring, funding, case management, supervisory and audit information, and a reporting tool.</p>

<sup>36</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 330.

<sup>37</sup> Finland, [Act on Discretionary Government Transfers](#) (*valtioneuvostuslaki/statsunderstödslag*), Act No. 688/2001.

<sup>38</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 330-338.

<sup>39</sup> EU, [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility](#), 12 February 2021.

<p><b>Summary description of the obligations, standards and benchmarks against which the effectiveness will be evaluated</b></p>	<p>The indicators measuring the targets and milestones of the various measures will be the main standards against which the effectiveness of the activities will be monitored. At programme level these indicators are partly aligned with the European Pillar of Social Rights and its social scoreboard of indicators. For example, under the component area 'employment and labour market' (Pillar 3), the Finnish RRP states that 'the measures will support the implementation of the updated European Pillar of Social Rights by promoting equal opportunities, providing active support for employment, promoting the social engagement of the disabled and improving youth employment'.<sup>40</sup> (see 1.a. and 1.b. above)</p> <p>Further, the RRP makes reference to the Youth Guarantee by stating that 'social exclusion among young people will be combated and the service system improved by adding to multidiscipline services under the Youth Guarantee'.<sup>41</sup> (see 1.b. above)</p> <p>There is no reference in the RRP to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. However, in other documentation where measures are described more in detail, reference has been made to the Convention. This is the case with the measure establishing a new intermediate labour market operator for persons with partial work ability (see 1.a. above).<sup>42</sup></p>
<p><b>Summary description of what the tool or mechanism foresees when non-compliance with obligations and standards is identified, with a particular</b></p>	<p>Appendix 1 of the RRP includes a list of legislative acts applicable to each funded action.<sup>43</sup> With respect to the measures described in this report, the Act on Discretionary Government Transfers governs the measures 1.b. and 1.c., whereas the new act on Työkanava Ltd to be adopted governs the measure 1. a. The Act on Discretionary Government Transfers contains provisions on the interruption, repayment, and claw</p>

<sup>40</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 365.

<sup>41</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 159.

<sup>42</sup> Finland, Government Bill No. 198/2021 ([hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi Työkanava Oy –nimisen osakeyhtiöstä ja siihen liittyviksi laeiksi/regeringens proposition till riksdagen med förslag till lag om Jobbkanalen Ab och till lagar som har samband med den](#)), p. 39.

<sup>43</sup> Finland, Finnish Government (*valtioneuvosto/statsrådet*) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 381-404.

<b>emphasis on enforcement and remedial action</b>	back of Government transfers (sections 19, 20, 21) whenever the necessary legal grounds, provided for in the act, are fulfilled. <sup>44</sup>
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2.b.

<b>Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in English</b>	National Audit Office of Finland
<b>Name of the monitoring tool or mechanism in the national language(s)</b>	Finnish: Valtiontalouden tarkastusvirasto Swedish: Statens revisionsverk
<b>Reference document for the monitoring tool or mechanism</b> <i>Include an url, where available</i>	<a href="https://www.vtv.fi/en/">https://www.vtv.fi/en/</a>
<b>Organisation(s) involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</b> <i>Delete as appropriate</i> <i>Multiple answers possible</i>	- National authority/authorities: National Audit Office of Finland ( <i>Valtiontalouden tarkastusvirasto/Statens revisionsverk</i> )

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<sup>44</sup> Finland, [Act on the Discretionary Government Transfers](#) (*valtiovastuvelvollisuuslaki/statsunderstödslag*), Act No. 688/2001, sections 19-21.

<p><b>Summary description of how these organisation(s) are involved in the monitoring tool or mechanism</b></p>	<p>In accordance with section 90 of the Constitution of Finland, the National Audit Office audits state finances and compliance with the state budget.<sup>45</sup> Detailed provisions on the status and duties of the Office are laid down in the Act on the National Audit Office.<sup>46</sup> The Office operates as an independent agency in affiliation with Parliament. It audits both the legality and productivity of government finances and compliance with the budget.<sup>47</sup></p> <p>The National Audit Office has on 17 June 2021 updated its audit plan for the years 2021-2025. The audit plan covers four impact areas, that is, Sustainable general government finances; Sustainable governance and public administration; A safe, healthy and affluent society; and Information governance. Funding from the Recovery and Reconciliation Facility is covered by the audit plan.<sup>48</sup></p>
<p><b>Summary description of the functioning of the tool or mechanism used to monitor the effectiveness of schemes adopted to foster social rights and equal treatment in the recovery</b></p>	<p>Section 90 of the Constitution of Finland provides that the National Audit Office has the right to receive information for the performance of its duties from public authorities and other entities that are subject to its control.<sup>49</sup> The National Audit Office's audit report is submitted to the object of the audit and to the responsible ministry. According to section 5 of the Act on the National Audit Office, the recipients of the audit report are obligated to inform the Office of the measures adopted as a response to the notifications in the audit report. Further, the RRP provides that each responsible authority is required to implement any observations and recommendations made in connection with audits conducted by the National Audit Office.<sup>50</sup></p> <p>In addition, the National Audit Office submits annually to Parliament a report of its activities (section 6). The report is considered by the Audit Committee of Parliament</p>

<sup>45</sup> Finland, [The Constitution of Finland \(Suomen perustuslaki/Finlands grundlag\)](#), Act No. 731/1999, section 90.

<sup>46</sup> Finland, Act on the National Audit Office ([laki valtionalouden tarkastusvirastosta/lag om statens revisionsverk](#)), Act No. 676/2000.

<sup>47</sup> Finland, Act on the National Audit Office ([laki valtionalouden tarkastusvirastosta/lag om statens revisionsverk](#)), Act No. 676/2000, section 1.

<sup>48</sup> Finland, National Audit Office ([valtionalouden tarkastusvirasto/statens revisionsverk](#)), 'Audit plan of the National Audit Office 2021-2025', Registry no. 260/02/2020, 17 June 2021.

<sup>49</sup> Finland, [The Constitution of Finland \(Suomen perustuslaki/Finlands grundlag\)](#), Act No. 731/1999, section 90; and Act on the National Audit Office ([laki valtionalouden tarkastusvirastosta/lag om statens revisionsverk](#)), Act No. 676/2000, section 4.

<sup>50</sup> Finland, Finnish Government ([valtioneuvosto/statsrådet](#)) (2021), [Sustainable Growth Programme for Finland. Recovery and Resilience Plan](#), Publications of the Finnish Government 2021:69, p. 336.

	<i>(tarkastusvaliokunta/revisionsutskottet)</i> , which prepares a report ( <i>mietintö/betänkande</i> ) for consideration in the plenary.
<b>Summary description of the obligations, standards and benchmarks against which the effectiveness will be evaluated</b>	N/A
<b>Summary description of what the tool or mechanism foresees when non-compliance with obligations and standards is identified, with a particular emphasis on enforcement and remedial action</b>	<p>Outside the regular auditing activities described above, non-compliance with obligations and standards can be identified through complaints submitted by the general public. According to the webpage of the National Audit Office, anyone may file a complaint about any action that is in violation of the state budget or is otherwise unlawful from the perspective of central government finances.<sup>51</sup> Further, state authorities are obligated without delay to inform the National Audit Office about malpractice in the use of state funds within their respective institution.<sup>52</sup></p> <p>Section 17 of the Act on the National Audit Office regulates the need to file a police report. State authorities shall file a police report in case of crimes within their activities, which are directed against funds or property that they manage or are responsible for. In case the state authority has failed to comply with this, the National Audit Office shall file a police report for crimes that they observe in their auditing activities.</p>

<sup>51</sup> Finland, National Audit Office (*valtionalouden tarkastusvirasto/statens revisionsverk*), [Complaints and reports on abuse](#), webpage.

<sup>52</sup> Finland, Act on the National Audit Office ([laki valtionalouden tarkastusvirastosta/lag om statens revisionsverk](#)), Act No. 676/2000, section 16.