

FINLAND

2023 Digital Public Administration factsheets

Annex 1. Selection of Topics: 2023

INTEROPERABILITY & INTEROPERABLE PUBLIC SERVICES



Cross-border interoperability

In June 2017 Finland and Estonia formed a jointly managed special-purpose organisation to manage the development of X-Road – the Nordic Institute for Interoperability Solutions (NIIS). The possibility of using the Finnish electronic prescription to buy medications in other European countries is being introduced step by step. In January 2019, Estonia became the first country where it was possible. The Finnish personal identity code is mandatory for dispensing the prescription and purchasing medication. In addition, the citizen must be given a permission to share prescription data with pharmacies in another European country. The consent can be issued for a single country or for all those countries that provide the service and can be withdrawn at any time.



Digital-ready policymaking

According to the Act on Information Management in Public Administration (906/2019), when planning essential administrative reforms with an effect on information management and information systems, the information management entity shall assess the changes they are subjected to and their impacts in relation to the information management responsibilities, information security requirements and measures, the requirements to the production and manner of disclosure of datasets, the requirements relating to case management and the information management of services and the publicity, secrecy and protection of documents and the right of access to information. Additionally, interoperability of the information pools and their exploitation potential shall be assessed. Finally, the ministry in charge of the mandate shall draw up the assessment of information management when the provisions have an impact on datasets and information systems.

INNOVATIVE USE OF TECHNOLOGIES BY THE PUBLIC SECTOR



Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In 2020, the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mika Lintilä, appointed a steering group to prepare an action plan for Finland to speed up the introduction of AI and to promote the fourth industrial revolution. At the time of its launch, the programme was named Artificial Intelligence 4.0. The objective of the Artificial Intelligence 4.0 Programme is to ensure that in 2030 the assets of the Finnish industry are sustainability, capacity for renewal, technological leadership and solutions that enable to increase the carbon handprint. To that end, the aim is to promote digital investments that increase productivity and sustainability, to diversify the manufacturing industry and service ecosystems through new value creation and partnerships, and to advance Finland's goals in actions aiming to strengthen Europe's open strategic autonomy. In its [final report](#) in December 2022 the steering group confirmed the vision 'to make Finland winner in the twin transition', which describes a simultaneous digital and green transition. Three areas for development were identified: A) Strengthening high-level research on key technologies as well as development activities and investments B) Increasing the adoption of digital capabilities and technologies that accelerate the dual transition in industrial SMEs C) Making Finland an international frontrunner in the twin transition. An action plan with 11 measures and with monitoring indicators were drafted. In addition, the steering group proposed the creation of a roundtable of all stakeholders, which would be responsible for advancing the action plan on a strategic level after the end of programme's term.



Data spaces and Smart Data Platforms

The purpose of the [Secondary Use of Health and Social Data Act \(552/2019\)](#) is to facilitate effective and safe processing of and access to personal social and health data for steering, supervision, research, statistics and development purposes in the health and social sector. The act facilitates the elimination of overlapping administrative burden related to the processing of permits, a smoother and faster processing thereof, an easier collation of data from different registers, an efficient use of social and health materials in research and development activities, and a clearer knowledge management by service providers. A data permit authority for the health and social services sector, [Findata](#), has been established under the Act. Moreover, in its [Government Resolution on Digital Logistics](#), the Finnish government outlined measures aimed at a more efficient, safer and climate-friendly transport. In particular, the measures aim to make more efficient use of information in transport chains and hubs. To that end, a key priority in the digitisation of logistics is to develop the existing national information environment as part of the EU-wide data space development in the transport sector. In this context, electronic consignment notes will guide logistics operators to move toward digital data exchange.