



MINISTRY OF FINANCE
FINLAND

Co-creation and co-design for more efficient use of public information

Developing data tools and skills in the Finnish public sector

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Content

- Background: The project on opening up and using public data
 - Goals and results
 - Co-creation and co-design
- Tools and skills
- Online trainings and podcast



The background features several abstract, flowing teal lines that create a sense of movement and depth. These lines are thin and elegant, curving across the white space. One line starts from the left and curves downwards towards the bottom right. Another line starts from the bottom left and curves upwards towards the right. A third line starts from the bottom right and curves upwards towards the top right. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist aesthetic.

Background: The project on opening up and using public data

Project on opening up and using public data

- Set up and implemented by the Ministry of Finance between April 2020 – December 2022.
- Put into effect the aims given in the Government Programme of Prime Minister Marin's Government regarding the information policy and more effective use of public data throughout society.
- Aimed to draw up the strategic objectives for opening up and using of public data and to prepare and introduce measures to promote the opening up and use of public data.

Goals and results of the project

Strategic objectives

Goal: Draw up a proposal concerning the strategic objectives for opening up and using public sector data in order to concrete and implement the information policy.

Result: Strategic information policy objectives were adopted March 2022 as part of the [Government Resolution](#) on the opening up and use of public data.

Access to information

Goal: Support government entities and publicly owned companies to make public sector data available more systematically either as open data or for wider use than at present by creating operational framework.

Result: [The Operating model for data sharing](#) that provides practical guidelines, recommendations and best practices.

Quality of data

Goal: Define and implement the criteria of data quality. Work is managed by Statistics Finland as a sub-project and steered by Ministry of Finance.

Result: [The quality criteria for data](#) that helps organisations describe and develop the quality of data. A data quality cooperation network that is open to everyone has also been established to provide support in this work.

Technical and semantic interoperability of data

Goal: Accessible data is described by using semantic tools and available via APIs which are created according API principles.


Result: Public administration [API principles](#) promote the provision and use of data and functionalities, primarily through APIs. A cooperation network is also available to support API development work.

Co-creation and co-design

- Extensive and open collaboration was an essential part of the project's implementation. The project group, consisting of representatives of the main stakeholders, played a key role in preparing and implementing the measures.
- The outputs of the project were prepared in different kinds of sub-working groups with the main stakeholders.

Co-creation and co-design

- Various methods were used in the preparation, for example:
 - Lausuntopalvelu.fi – Online service that provides the opportunity for all public authorities to publish requests for an opinion. All organisations and citizens can give an opinion.
 - Otakantaa.fi – Online service that enhances the dialogue and participation between citizens, organisations and authorities. Service was used to gather views on the preliminary API principles.
 - Google Docs online document editor was used in co-writing purposes. For example the operating model for data sharing was prepared by using Google Docs with nine public sector organisations.
- Co-creation continues within the networks of data quality and APIs.

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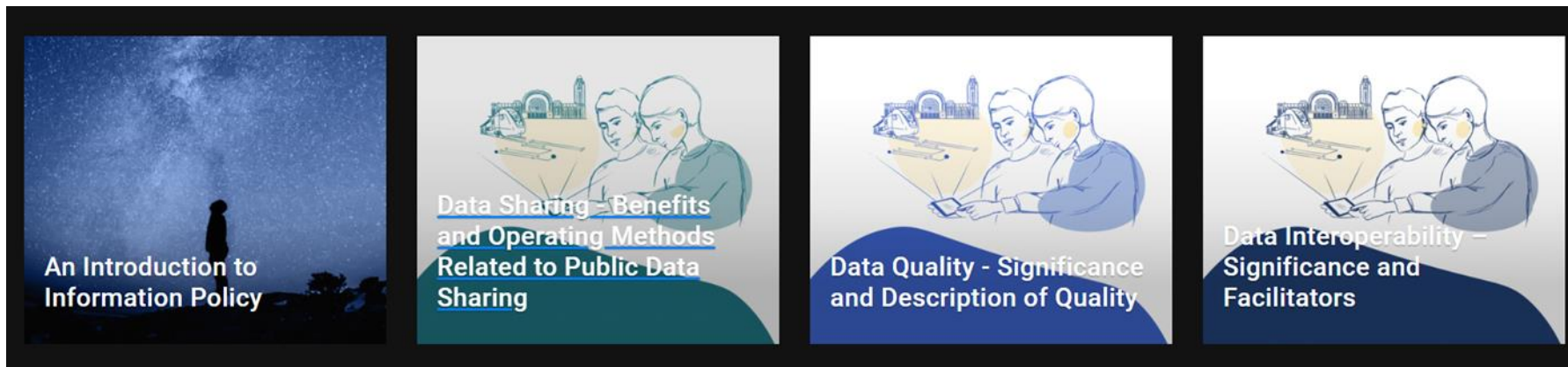
**The online trainings and the
podcast
(tools and skills)**

The online trainings

- Modern society is based on information and its effective utilization. Basically everyone at the public administration works with information and data in one way or another.
 - Online training package: [Dealing with Data – More Efficient Use of Information](#)
- Open online training courses provide public administration organizations and employees support for sharing information, assessing the quality of information and promoting the interoperability of information.
- The courses are available on Government's Digital Learning Environment (eOppiva)
 - eOppiva is a shared learning platform for central government. The trainings are intended for central government employees, but the platform also provides trainings open to everyone.

The online trainings

- The courses are available in Finnish, Swedish and English:
 - *An Introduction to Information Policy*
 - *Data Sharing – Benefits and Operating Methods Related to Public Data Sharing*
 - *Data Quality – Significance and Description of Quality*
 - *Data Interoperability – Significance and Facilitators*



The podcast

- Podcast series "Tiedon äärellä – tietopolitiikasta tekoihin" (*From Information Policy to Action*).
- 20 podcast discussions on the information policy from different perspectives with special guests.
- The aim has been to increase interest in information policy and its topical themes.
- Examples of topics:
 - *EU Data Initiatives*
 - *Data utilisation in research*
 - *Disinformation*
 - *Digital sovereignty*
 - *Information and open government*



Lessons learned

- Communication is everything!
- Without communication, there is no such thing!
- Communication is not a separate issue but part of the all activities.



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Thank you!

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