Government at a Glance 2021

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OECD Government at a Glance - series

- Bi-annual publication since 2009
- Internationally comparative indicators on government’s input, processes, output and results
- Further outreach and towards global coverage with regional editions: LAC since 2014; SEA 2019; Western Balkans 2020
The Government at a Glance framework

Institutions
Structure of government

Annex: Political and Administrative Context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Processes</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How much and what kind of resources does government use?</td>
<td>What does the government do, and how does it do it?</td>
<td>What are the goods and services which the government produces?</td>
<td>What is the resulting impact on citizens?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COVID-19, an extreme test to governments’ resilience

Government expenditures in 22 OECD-EU countries 7% of GDP higher in 2020

More than 60% of central government workforce worked remotely during Covid-19

Source: Government at a Glance 2021
In the face of the crisis, government took unprecedented action

Finland also increased spending

- Second highest level of public expenditure in the OECD in 2019
- Social protection is the largest beneficiary
- However, proportionally less expenditure on healthcare than OECD average
Strengthening diversity in public life:
Finland is a leader on gender equality, but could improve diversity

- Fifth highest level of employment in government in the OECD
- Second on gender equality in the civil service
- More could be done to improve diversity
Step up regulatory and communication efforts to tackle misinformation

Less than **50% of Centers of Government** and less than **25% of Health Ministries** have guidelines for tackling disinformation

Availability of guiding documents for governments’ responses to disinformation, 2019

Source: Government at a Glance 2021
Building effective avenues for citizen participation in policy making

Governments must seek to build **effective and inclusive** routes for citizens and stakeholders to be consulted and involved in policy making.

Source: Government at a Glance 2021
Ensuring that governments are fit to face global and complex challenges

- Public governance practices could systematically address **long term goals**
- Finland not among the 40% of countries with green budgeting practices in 2020
- Infrastructure strategies partially include social objectives in Finland

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**Green budgeting tools (2021)**

| Ex ante or ex post environmental assessment | NO GREEN BUDGETING | 12 YES 2 NO |
| Ex ante or ex post green budget tagging    | NO GREEN BUDGETING | 7 YES 7 NO  |


**Objectives included in infrastructure and public procurement strategies (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment</th>
<th>Human rights</th>
<th>Gender</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 YES 5 NO</td>
<td>13 YES 13 NO</td>
<td>8 YES 18 NO</td>
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<td>YES</td>
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<td>19 YES 5 NO</td>
<td>5 YES 19 NO</td>
<td>7 YES 17 NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Government at a Glance 2021
Finland is starting from high levels of trust (although decreasing) and satisfaction with services

- Satisfaction with public services above OECD averages in 2020…
- … and trust in public institutions was comparatively high although with signs of decrease in the pre-COVID
Safeguarding trust and transparency and reinforcing democracy: a priority for governments

After a “rallying around the flag” effect at the onset of the pandemic, high confidence about the future and high reliance on government preparedness

Trust in government during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020

Average value in a scale 1-10

Preparedness of the authorities for dealing with COVID-19 and confidence about the future, May 2020 and January 2021

Source: Government at a Glance 2021 based on Eurofound Quality of Life and Society survey

Source: OECD calculations based on the PMO/Statistics Finland Pulse Survey.
Percentage of Finns considering having a say in what government does is low

- Only 35% of Finns are confident of their own ability to participate in politics
- Percentage of the population considering having a say is 40% (below OECD average)

Source: Government at a Glance 2021
Preserving trust at different levels requires different actions

There is a trust pay-off associated with increase of public institutions’ competence and values,

The drivers of self-reported trust in public institutions in Finland, 2020

Change in self-reported trust associated with a one standard deviation increase in aggregate policy dimensions or other determinants

Source: OECD (2021) The Determinants of trust in public institutions in Finland
• Resilient governments are needed to respond to crises at speed and scale while safeguarding **trust and transparency** and **reinforcing democracy**

• More better and timely **evidence on public governance** is needed:
  • OECD 2021 Regulatory Policy Outlook (*launched October 6th*)
  • OECD Trust survey 2022 (*forthcoming*)
  • OECD Revisiting serving citizens framework (G@G 2023)
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