



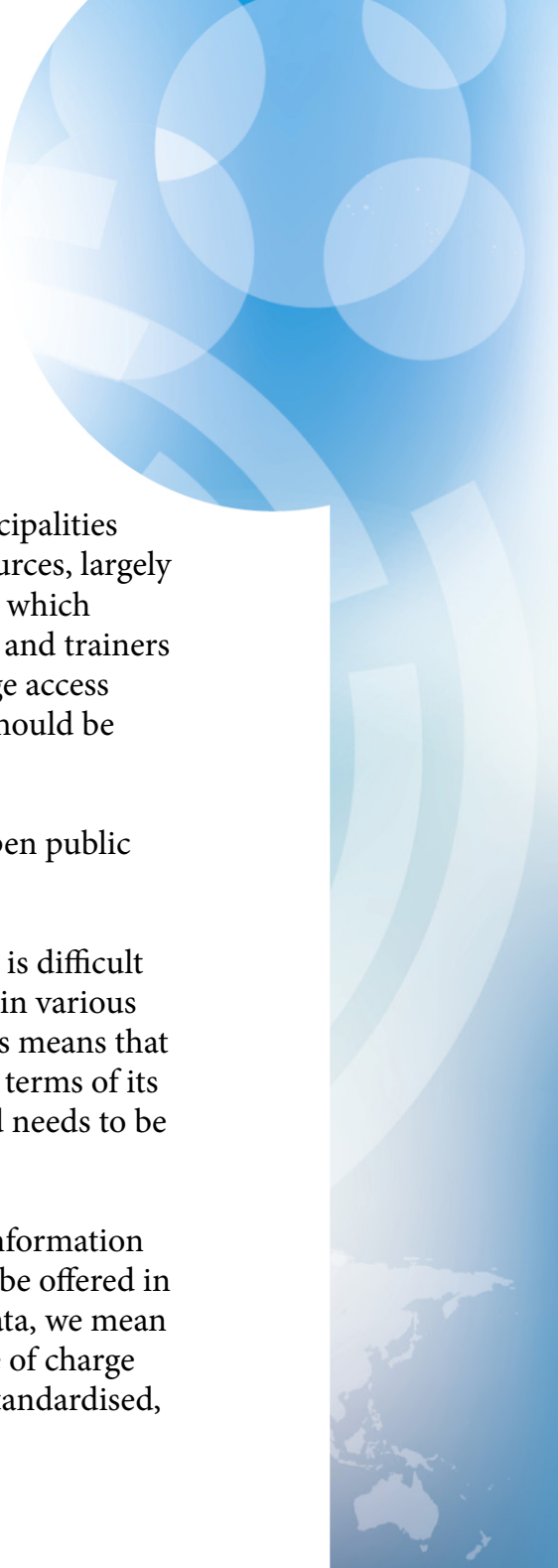
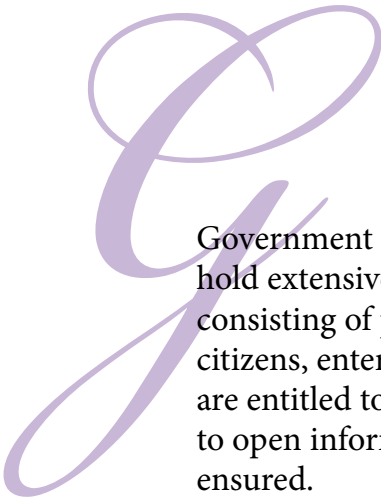
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Open Data Programme

Public information
resources more widely
accessible

Open Data
Programme





Government agencies and municipalities hold extensive information resources, largely consisting of public information which citizens, enterprises, researchers and trainers are entitled to use. Free-of-charge access to open information resources should be ensured.

Good governance is based on open public information resources.

However, in practice public data is difficult to use because it has been saved in various formats by a range of actors. This means that such data is not interoperable in terms of its content or technical aspects, and needs to be standardised.

To enable free access to public information resources, information needs to be offered in an open data format. By open data, we mean information that is available free of charge and which has been saved in a standardised, machine-readable format.



How have the National Land Survey of Finland and the Finnish Meteorological Institute drawn worldwide attention?

BY OPENING UP DATA.

Open access to public data in machine-readable format creates opportunities for

- new business and innovative services
- citizen participation and democracy
- more efficient administration
- education, training and research.

In the long-term, information resources will need to be opened as extensively as possible, to achieve significant economic and social benefits. Open data and information benefit the development of services and new business most when different types of data are combined.

The aim is to make all significant public-administration data available to citizens, enterprises and society as a whole in machine-readable format, free of charge and under clear terms of use.

Data protection, privacy protection and other legislative restrictions must be observed when opening up public information resources.

OPEN DATA PROGRAMME

Led by the Ministry of Finance, the Open Data Programme (17 May 2013 – 30 June 2015) is eliminating obstacles to the re-use of public data and is creating the preconditions for making data open within the public administration. Ministries, government agencies, municipalities, enterprises, NGO's, various organisations developing the sector and citizen bodies are collaborating in the implementation of the programme.

The National Data Portal pools public administration information resources in order to make them easier to find.

JulkICTLab, a platform for the development of open data based services, provides a framework for new service innovation.

The public administration's recommendation on licences for the use of open data will be ready in 2014. This will make the re-use of public administration open data easier and standardise the related practices.

In Finland, public sector data will be opened up stage by stage, in a systematic manner. The opening of the National Land Survey of Finland's topographic data and the gradual opening of the Finnish Meteorological Institute's weather, climate and sea data and climate models are of international importance.

Information resources, including statistical data, business information, transport and communication data, airport observations, information on food ingredients and cultural heritage data will continue to be made open. Government agencies and institutions will make public data open on a continuous basis – in cases where no additional funding is required to achieve this – for use in business, service innovation and civic activities.

OPEN DATA IS THE KEY TO SOCIETY'S DEVELOPMENT

Use of public sector data is a key measure in the Government Programme; the aim of this measure is to foster sustainable economic growth, employment and competitiveness.

Making public information resources available to citizens, enterprises, researchers and educators will promote democracy and aid the smooth functioning of civic society, while enhancing the public administration's productivity.

In its resolution issued on 3 March 2011, the Government approved the principles of open public sector data in Finland. Open Government Data and the joint use of data are included in the 2012 Public Sector ICT strategy.

Openness of data is also an EU objective. The leading principle is to make all public sector data available for re-use for commercial and non-commercial purposes. Any exceptions must be based on legislative grounds.





Programme goals for 2014:

- Implementation of a national data portal
- Public administration recommendation (JHS): licence for use of open data
- Impact analysis and monitoring model for making information resources open to the public
- Implementation of the EU Directive on the re-use of public sector information (PSI Directive)
- Systematic, gradual opening of information resources in accordance with the related needs, policies and central government decisions on spending limits
- Pilot projects include the opening up of state financial data
- Measures for enhancing democracy in collaboration with the open government project (international Open Government Partnership initiative)
- Development of open data cooperation between various actors

Further information:

www.vm.fi/opendata



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