

CASE FINLAND

National Strategies in Funding
Health Systems and Health
Services Research

Ilmo Keskimäki - THL

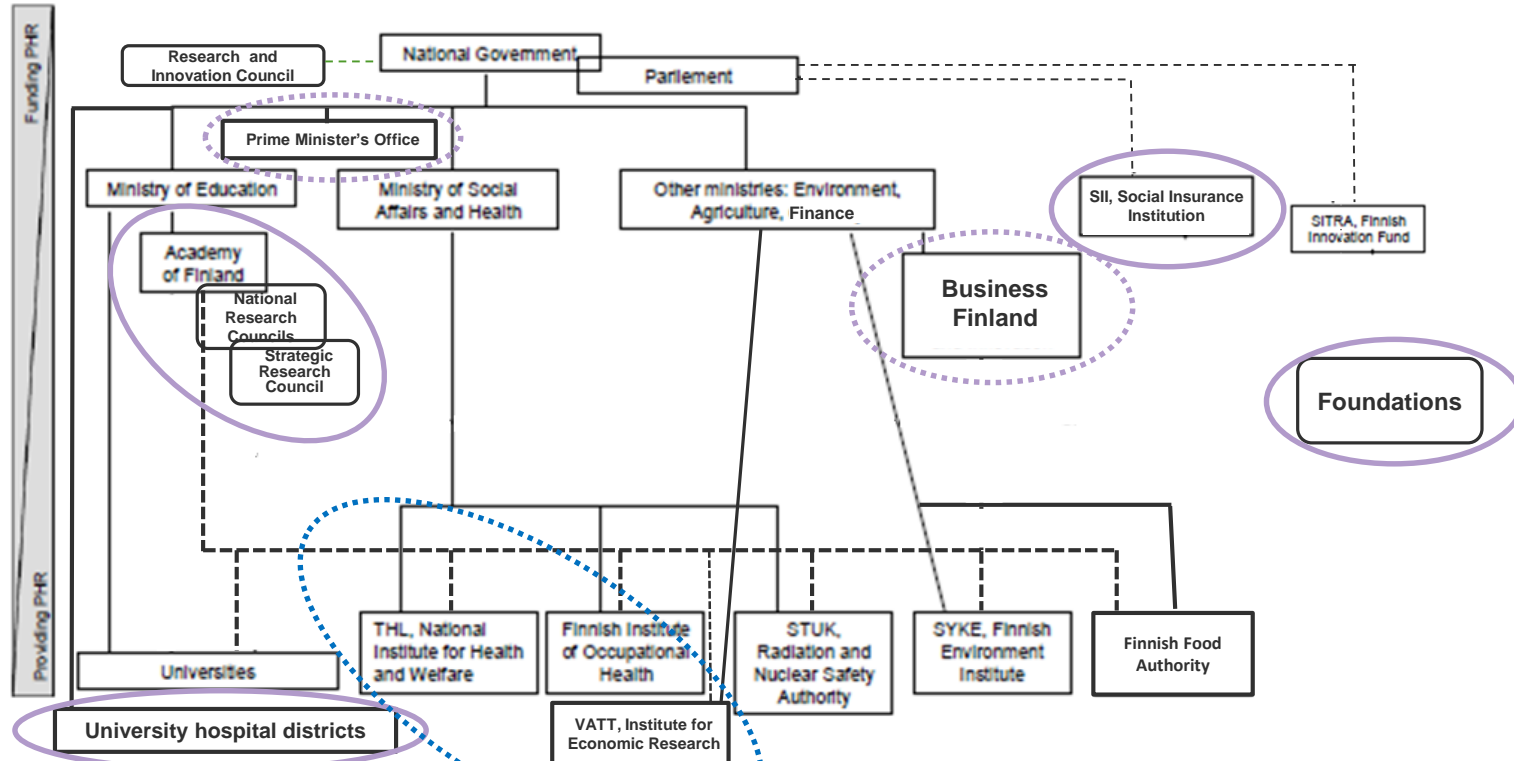
Vera Mikkilä - Academy of Finland



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE



FUNDING PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES RESEARCH IN FINLAND



PHR: Public Health research; ———→ Funding negotiated between government and agency/organization; Includes direct commissioning
 - - - - -> funding competitive process where rules are more or less explicit and known in advance



Adapted from Boccia, Keskimäki & Ricciardi 2014

FUNDING: ACADEMY OF FINLAND

- No separate strategy for HSSR
- Occasional targeted funding for relevant research programmes

NRC for Bioscience, Health and Environment

- Started 2019, formerly two separate councils
- About 600 k€ per year for HSSR in 2006-2017
- HSSR funding in other RCs (?)

Strategic Research Council

- New instrument, started 2015
- Goals: societal impact, concrete solutions, multidisciplinary approaches
- Annually 1-4 targeted programmes comprising 3-5 large consortia (3-8 M€), running time 3-6 years
- Themes decided by the Government
- In 2015-2018 ~17 M€ for projects which include HSSR
 - Specific allocation for HSSR?

GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR RESEARCH IN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

- University level health research in university hospitals and in other health care organisations
- State budget appropriation ~ 20 M€ per year
- University hospital districts manage funds for their catchment area
- 50% of the funds to be allocated to focus areas defined in the decree issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
- Currently ~2 M€ per year for HSSR related priorities
 - integration, performance, quality and effectiveness of services
 - changing of work practices and knowledge management in health care
- Funded research are often small-scale, e.g. PhD projects

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Social Insurance Institution (SII)

Focuses: R&D activities on

- Disease prevention
- Rehabilitation
- Health insurance
- ~2 M€ per year
- Small and medium size projects
 - 10 k€ - 300 k€

Foundations

Example:

Finnish Work Environment Fund (TSR)

- Funding from the Federation of Accident Insurance Institutions
- Supervised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and health
- R&D for promoting safe and productive working communities (health care included)
- Allocation for HSSR varies:
 - 200 k€– 600 k€ per year
- Small grants: maximum ~150 k€

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- NordForsk
 - Under the Nordic Council of Ministers, established in 2005
 - Facilitates Nordic cooperation on research and research infrastructure
 - Collaboration between public funding agencies in the Nordic Countries
 - Runs research programmes
 - Nordic Programme on Health and Welfare

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Lack of systematic training on HSSR at universities
- No overall strategy or coordination of funding for HSSR
- No specific/dedicated funding instruments for HSSR