

## **Feedback on Qualitative Mapping**

### **Integration of policies on FNS: The present situation, ambitions and gaps in FINLAND\***

*\*This summary represents my personal assessment and is very limited, Minna Huttunen 4.01.2018*

#### **The present situation**

In the qualitative mapping document FI presented a list of 10 national FNS related policies. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM) has the lead in 7 out of 10 policies listed. Nordic nutrition recommendations and national dietary guidelines are done in close collaboration with a range of actors. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (STM) is in charge of the Government resolution on development guidelines for health enhancing physical activity and nutrition. In short: MMM has the lead in food policy and STM has the lead in nutrition policy.

The main national research financiers are Tekes and Finnish Academy. Tekes is under The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment and focuses on innovation funding. The Finnish Academy is under the Ministry of Education and Culture (OKM). OKM is responsible for the planning and implementation science policy and preparing statutes, national Budget proposals and Government decisions that apply to these. The Ministry steers the activities of the science agencies and research institutes as well as supports the operating capacity of research organisations.

#### **Aim and ambitions**

Government report on food policy was adopted in 2017. The report contains the vision for 2030 and it sets out the policy objectives and key priorities of the activities. Vision of the Finnish food policy: "The best food in the world. In 2030, Finnish consumers eat tasty, healthy and safe Finnish food that has been produced sustainably and ethically. Consumers have the ability and possibility to make informed choices. A transparent, highly skilled, flexible, internationally competitive and profitable food system that responds to demand. The growth and advancement of the sector are supported by well-coordinated, high-level research, development, innovation and teaching. There is a high level of marketing and communication skills in the sector. Finland is a significant exporter of high quality and safe foodstuffs and food sector skills." The report has 85 action points. All actors of the society are needed in order to reach the objective.

#### **5 Gaps give room for improvement**

The government, the parliament and all the actors in the food system must be committed to the objectives of the common food policy in order to succeed. Main policy areas affecting the successful implementation of FNS policy are (not in order): agricultural policy and price policy, national health policy (incl. health care worker education on nutrition), social policy, employment policy (food influences employer productivity, food sector is a big employer), educational policy (how is FNS included) and general market policy (incl. advertising). Important to note, that all the stakeholders have responsibilities. 1) The importance of sustainable food system for the society (and beyond) lacks awareness. 2) Working in silos and 3) having differing drivers hinders FNS outcome achievements. 4) Sustainable and resource efficient food system demands conscious approach in research financing.

Room for improvement is in 5) finding the common nominees for the different players - the common nominees could be a starting point for holistic approach.

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