

SME-related policy measures adopted, implemented or announced in 2021

FINLAND

Title of the measure (national language)	Title of the measure (English translation)	Implementing body	Adopted / implemented / announced as part of the 'National Recovery and Resilience Plan' (Yes / No)	Status (Adopted or implemented or announced)	Date of adoption/ implementatio n or announcement (DD/MM/YYYY)	General description (objectives / key features / budget - if applicable, and weblink to online source)
ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
Energiaintensiivisen teollisuuden sähköistämistuki	(Electrification support aimed at the energy- intensive industry)	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	No	Announced	29/04/2021	The government announced on April 29 th , 2021 that it will introduce support for the greening of the energy use of energy-intensive companies, which will provide more effective incentives for carbon-neutral production, the electrification of energy-intensive companies and take account of cost competitiveness. The framework will provide €87 million for support next year, increasing to €122 million in 2025. The grant covers up to 25% of the investment and the total amount

						of national support is €150 million per year. (Hallituksen linjaukset puoliväli- ja kehysriihessä 29.4.2021, p.6).
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY						
Yhteiskunnallisten yritysten osaamiskeskus	Centre of Expertise for Social Enterprises	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment	No	Implemented	07/10/2021	The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment has allocated €3 million in discretionary government grants to a new Centre of Expertise for Social Enterprises in accordance with the Government policy outlined in its mid-term policy review. The centre of expertise provides guidance and advice to Finnish entrepreneurs and organisations that are involved in or starting up social business, regardless of the type of company or sector. At the same time, it creates network-based expert services to strengthen the operating conditions for social business and to increase the employment of people with partial work ability. https://tem.fi/en/-/centre-of-expertise-for-social-enterprises-starts-operations
DIGITALISATION (e.g. Digital Innovation Hubs, training, vouchers, grants or loans for digitalisation and to invest in new digital equipment, etc.)						
Yritysten digitalous – RTE-ohjelma	(Corporate digital economy - RTE programme)	National Board of Patents and Registration, Tax Administration and State Treasury	Yes	Announced	202-2024	The RTE programme aims to help create common solutions and structures to facilitate the exchange of digital financial data between organisations in a structured machine-readable format (such as e-invoices, e-receipts, procurement documents and financial statements), in line with the vision of a 'real-time economy'.

ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN						
REGULATORY OBSTACLES						
ACCESS TO FINANCE (including guarantee schemes, public funding programmes, support for alternative financing and equity financing, favourable legal, tax and regulatory frameworks for investments, fiscal incentives)						
Rahoituksen neuvontapalvelu pk-yrityksille	Financial advisory service	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	No	Announced	29/04/2021	A financial advisory service will be set up, especially for SMEs, which will be able to advise on the right channels for obtaining possible financing. The service was announced in the government mid-term policy review of 29.4.2021. https://www.valtiokonttori.fi/en/service/business-cost-support/ ; https://vnk.fi/documents/10616/56906592/Hallituksen+linjaukset+puoliv%C3%A4liriihess%C3%A4+29.4.2021.pdf/fe9617f8-a257-90ea-2ade-9d9afe5284da?t=1620136120152)
Yritysten kustannustuki, neljäs kierros	Business cost support, 4th application round	State Treasury	No	Implemented	01/03/2021	The grant was intended for companies whose turnover has fallen significantly as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and whose wages and other costs for the support period (1 March 2021 to 31 May 2021) are difficult to adjust. Most of the applicants were SMEs. The minimum amount of support is €2,000. The maximum amount of aid is €1 million. In the government supplementary budget €200m was channeled for the support.

						(https://www.valtiokonttori.fi/en/service/business-cost-support/#general-information-on-support)
Yritysten kustannustuki, viides kierros	Business cost support, 5th application round	State Treasury	No	Announced	21/12/2021	The 5 th round of the cost support is a new form of a grant that will be targeted specifically at enterprises in the tourism, restaurant and event sectors. Enterprises in other sectors that have been subject to a public law pandemic restriction or that have a significant customer base would also be eligible. A total of €100m has been budgeted for the 5 th round. (https://valtioneuvosto.fi/hanke?tunnus=TEM085:00/2021_Laki_määräaikaisesta_kustannustuesta_annetun_lain_muuttamisesta_8.12.2021)
LATE PAYMENTS (<i>measures aimed at addressing late payments</i>)						
ACCESS TO MARKETS (<i>e.g. market-specific support and business training activities, export credit insurance, missions – covering both the Single market and third countries</i>)						
START-UP ENVIRONMENT						
SCALE-UP ENVIRONMENT						
Kasvun kiihdyttämisohjelma pienille yrityksille	Growth Accelerator Program for Small Business	Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment	Yes	Announced	2022–2023	Strengthen the existing Growth Acceleration Program aimed at developing the growth internationalization capabilities of small companies nationwide to respond to the changes in the business environment caused by the corona and the ability of companies to respond to rising business opportunities. (https://vnk.fi/documents/10616/56906592/Halli)

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NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS						
Kansainvälisen kasvun kärkihjelmat	Key industries for international growth	Business Finland	Yes	Announced	2021-2024	Programmes to promote international growth of businesses including SMEs in the following fields: low-carbon, circular economy and digital renewal; health and wellbeing skills and technology; programme for growth and exports of water expertise. (https://vnk.fi/documents/10616/56906592/Hallituksen+linjaukset+puoliv%C3%A4liriihess%C3%A4+29.4.2021.pdf/fe9617f8-a257-90ea-2ade-9d9afe5284da?t=1620136120152)
OTHER RELEVANT TOPICS (e.g. second chance for honest bankrupt entrepreneurs, bankruptcy prevention, entrepreneurship education, public procurement)						
Yksinyrittäjien rekrytointitukikokeilu	Experiment with recruitment support for sole proprietors	Southwest Finland Employment and Economic Development Office and Development and Administration Center for ELY Centers and Employment and Economic Development Offices (KEHA Center)	No	Announced	01/03/2022-31/12/2023	The experiment studies the effects of recruitment support on the hiring of the company's first external employee. The aim is to find out whether financial support for wage costs lowers the recruitment threshold. The aim is to create new employer companies and thus promote business growth and employment. (https://tem.fi/yksinyrittajien-rekrytointitukikokeilu)