

# OSH Authorities — Finland

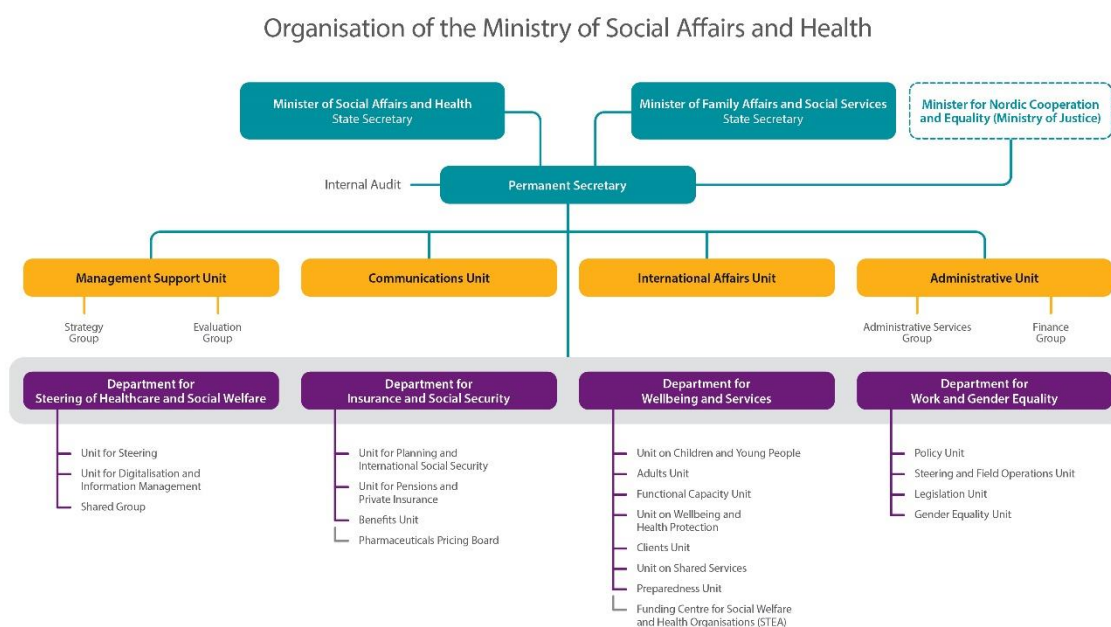
## Description scheme for country overviews

### FINLAND

Source: [https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH\\_system\\_at\\_national\\_level\\_-\\_Finland](https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Finland)

#### OSH infrastructure

#### Scheme:



<https://stm.fi/en/management-and-organisation>

▪ **OSH authorities and inspection services**

Name of authority	<b>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</b>
Link	<a href="http://stm.fi/en/frontpage">http://stm.fi/en/frontpage</a>
Short abstract	<p>In Finland, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is responsible for the preparation of occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation, the enforcement and development of OSH policies, statutory insurance, gender equality and the development of occupational health care. The ministry works closely with other ministries on any matters that may be related to OSH.</p> <p>The Department of Health is responsible for the development of occupational health service legislation, and it also formulates the national strategies for the occupational health services. The Department for Occupational Safety and Health is responsible for the development of national OSH policies, the coordination of research on OSH issues, and the efficient application of research information.</p>
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Name of authority	<b>Ministry of Employment and the Economy</b>
Link	<a href="http://tem.fi/en/frontpage">http://tem.fi/en/frontpage</a>
Short abstract	<p>One of the main tasks of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy is to smooth out any difficulties in the operation of the labour market and work organisation. It prepares essential labour legislation together with the labour market organisations.</p>
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Name of authority	<b>Department for Occupational Safety and Health</b>
Link	<a href="http://stm.fi/en/working-life">http://stm.fi/en/working-life</a>
Short abstract	<p>The Department for Occupational Safety and Health within the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is the highest government body for OSH administration, and it supervises independent labour inspectorates. Finland is divided into six independent OSH inspectorates (regional state administrative agencies). The responsibilities and rights of the OSH authorities are described in the Act on Occupational Safety and Health Enforcement and Cooperation on Occupational Safety and Health at Workplaces (44/2006). The Act on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (16/1993) defines the tasks to be undertaken by the OSH authorities.</p>
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Name of authority	<b>Regional state administrative agencies (<i>Aluehallintovirasto; Regionförvaltningsverket</i>)</b>
Link	<a href="http://www.avi.fi/fi/web/avi/tyosuojelu#.Wqos65POUdU">http://www.avi.fi/fi/web/avi/tyosuojelu#.Wqos65POUdU</a>
Short abstract	<p>The inspectorates provide instructions and advice on applying the regulations on OSH matters, working conditions, employment and equality, and ensure that there is adherence to these regulations and guidelines in the workplace.</p> <p>The OSH authorities need to monitor compliance with more than 100 items of legislation. The most important legislative acts are the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the decrees based upon it, the Occupational Health Care Act, the Employment Contracts Act, the Working Hours Act, the Annual Holidays Act and the Young Workers' Protection Act. The OSH authorities also investigate serious occupational accidents and serious cases of occupational diseases.</p>
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Name of authority	<b>Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (TUKES)</b> ( <i>Turvallisuus- ja kemikaalivirasto</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.tukes.fi/en/">http://www.tukes.fi/en/</a>
Short abstract	TUKES is a national licensing and supervisory authority established to endorse the safety and reliability of products, services and industrial activities in Finland.
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Name of authority	<b>Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK — Säteilyturvakeskus; Strålsäkerhetscentralen)</b>
Link	<a href="http://www.stuk.fi/web/en">http://www.stuk.fi/web/en</a>
Short abstract	STUK supervises radiation and nuclear safety in Finland. The purpose of STUK is to protect people, society, the environment and future generations from the detrimental effects of radiation.
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Name of authority	<b>Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority (FCCA)</b> ( <i>Kuluttajavirasto; Konsumentverket</i> )
Link	<a href="https://www.kkv.fi/en/">https://www.kkv.fi/en/</a>
Short abstract	The FCCA is tasked with ensuring good market performance. The Competition Division removes barriers to competition, ensuring that consumers are offered competitive alternatives. The Consumer Division also ensures that consumers have access to sufficient, accurate and truthful information in making choices, that the practices that companies use in marketing and their customer relations are appropriate, and that the contract terms applied by companies are reasonable.
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Name of authority	<b>The National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health (Valvira)</b> ( <i>Sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden lupa- ja valvontavirasto; Tillstånds- och tillsynsverket för social- och hälsovård</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.valvira.fi/web/en">http://www.valvira.fi/web/en</a>
Short abstract	Valvira is a national agency, operating under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, charged with the supervision of social care, health care, alcohol and environmental health. Valvira provides licensing for social care and healthcare providers and offers guidance to the regional state administrative agencies to achieve harmonised licensing, guidance and supervisory practices throughout Finland.
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Name of authority	<b>The Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi)</b> ( <i>Liikenteen turvallisuusvirasto; Trafiksäkerhetsverket</i> )
Link	<a href="https://www.trafi.fi/en">https://www.trafi.fi/en</a>
Short abstract	Trafi monitors the safety of the transport system, promotes environmentally friendly transport solutions and is responsible for transport system regulatory duties.
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#### ■ Compensation and insurance bodies

Name of body	<b>The Workers' Compensation Centre</b> ( <i>Tapaturmavakuutuskeskus — TVK; Olycksfallsförsäkringscentralen</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.tvk.fi/en/">http://www.tvk.fi/en/</a>

Short abstract	In Finland, occupational accident insurance is offered by 12 private accident insurance companies under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. The accident insurance system is financed through premiums paid by employers. The Workers' Compensation Centre (TVK — <i>Tapaturmavakuutuskeskus</i> ) coordinates statutory accident insurance. TVK is a liaison organisation for insurance companies. It combines statistics on occupational accidents and diseases together with their causes and consequences, and helps to prevent these in the future. An OSH committee, with representatives from the labour market organisations and the insurance sector, directs TVK's OSH activities and coordinates the insurance sector. In addition, TVK investigates fatal occupational injuries. These are examined by an investigation board, which has representatives from the central labour market organisations, insurance companies and the Centre for Occupational Safety ( <i>Työturvallisuuskeskus; Arbetarskyddscentralen</i> )
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Name of body	<b>The Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela)</b> ( <i>Kansaneläkelaitos; Folkpensionsanstalten</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.kela.fi/web/en">http://www.kela.fi/web/en</a>
Short abstract	According to the Health Insurance Act (1224/2004), employers are entitled to reimbursements from Kela, to compensate for 60 % of reasonable expenses for preventive services if the workplace has a procedure for management, follow-up and early support. The reimbursements that are provided for organising voluntary curative services is 50 % of reasonable expenses. Kela pays sickness allowance as compensation for loss of earnings caused by an illness after a 10-day waiting period.
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#### ▪ Research institutes

Name of institute	<b>The Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH)</b>
Link	<a href="https://www.ttl.fi/en/">https://www.ttl.fi/en/</a>
Short abstract	The FIOH is a public expert organisation in the field of OSH, and it is supervised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. The ministry coordinates the preparation of the agreement on the institute's performance targets. The institute is a research and advisory organisation that carries out a wide variety of hazard and risk assessment activities, and develops general risk assessment methods and practices. Its research focuses on transforming occupational health services, supporting work ability and careers in small and medium-sized enterprises, and growth and digitalisation. The activities of the institute include running an occupational medicine clinic, giving consultations on healthy workspaces, running work environment laboratories, offering occupational hygiene consultations and advising on solutions for safety (protective devices).
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Name of institute	<b>The Technical Research Centre of Finland (VTT)</b>
Link	<a href="http://www.vttresearch.com">http://www.vttresearch.com</a>
Short abstract	VTT is an independent expert organisation providing comprehensive technology and research services for both domestic and international clients, private companies and the public sector. Research and development for OSH are often carried out as part of investigations into other technological developments intended to achieve greater competitiveness, productivity and quality. VTT carries out activities in areas such as hazard identification and risk assessment. VTT operates under the Ministry of the Employment and the Economy.
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#### ■ Prevention institutes

Name of institute	n/a
Link	
Short abstract	In Finland, prevention and preventive actions are included in all activities for maintaining and improving safety and health at work. Therefore, there are no specific organisations that handle only preventive activities; all OSH stakeholders carry out preventive activities.
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▪ **Other OSH services**

Name of association	<b>Finnish Association of Occupational Health Physicians (STLY — Suomen Työterveyslääkäriyhdistys ry., Finlands Företagsläkarförening rf.)</b>
Link	<a href="https://www.stly.fi/stly/">https://www.stly.fi/stly/</a>
Short abstract	STLY aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote occupational health care in all sectors of employment;</li> <li>• improve members' professional skills and promote ethical practices;</li> <li>• promote members' work ability and well-being;</li> <li>• cooperate with all stakeholders endeavouring to enhance and support Finnish occupational health care;</li> <li>• support research on occupational health care.</li> </ul>
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Name of association	<b>The Finnish Association of Occupational Health Nurses (FAOHN) (Suomen työterveyshoitajaliitto ry.; Finlands Företagshälsovårdareförbund)</b>
Link	<a href="https://www.stthl.fi/in-english/">https://www.stthl.fi/in-english/</a>
Short abstract	The goal of the FAOHN is to serve as an advocate for the Occupational Health Nurses by actively monitoring and promoting their education, know-how, working conditions and status in the labour markets.

Name of association	<b>Association of Finnish Physiotherapists in Occupational Health (Työfysioterapeutit ry.; Finlands Företagsfysioterapeuter)</b>
Link	<a href="http://www.tyofysioterapeutit.fi/">http://www.tyofysioterapeutit.fi/</a>
Short abstract	The association aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support physiotherapists working in the occupational healthcare sector and to enhance their professional skills;</li> <li>• communicate issues related to professional expertise;</li> <li>• encourage collaboration between research centres and educational institutes;</li> <li>• instigate interprofessional collaboration with other well-being service providers;</li> <li>• follow and influence legislation and changes in society in relation to physiotherapists' work in occupational health.</li> </ul>
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Name of association	<b>Association of Finnish Safety Managers (Finnsafe) (Työsujelupäälliköt ry.)</b>
Link	<a href="https://www.finnsafe.net/fin/index.php/fi/">https://www.finnsafe.net/fin/index.php/fi/</a>
Short abstract	Finnsafe aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote workplace safety and well-being, and improve the working environment;</li> <li>• improve its members' knowledge of workplace safety, well-being and the working environment;</li> <li>• provide its members in Finland and abroad with relevant information on the subject;</li> <li>• create training and educational opportunities for its members;</li> <li>• act as a professional organisation and represent its members, for example by issuing statements on relevant issues.</li> </ul>
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Name of association	<b>Finnish Occupational Hygiene Society (FOHS)</b> ( <i>Suomen Työhygienian seura</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.sths.fi/">http://www.sths.fi/</a>
Short abstract	The FOHS improves the level of knowledge and professional skills of individuals working in the field of occupational hygiene.
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Name of association	<b>Finnish Ergophthalmological Society</b> ( <i>Suomen Työnäköseura ry.</i> )
Link	<a href="http://www.tyonako.fi">http://www.tyonako.fi</a>
Short abstract	The society aims to promote and act on research on ophthalmology at work, and to increase and disseminate knowledge on ergophthalmology, in cooperation with other stakeholders.
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#### ▪ Standardisation bodies

Name of body	<b>The Finnish Standards Association (SFS — Suomen Standardoimisliitto SFS ry)</b>
Link	<a href="https://www.sfs.fi/en">https://www.sfs.fi/en</a>
Short abstract	SFS is the central body for standardisation in Finland. Its membership includes the central government and professional, commercial and industrial organisations. It approves national SFS standards and coordinates national standardisation. Standardisation is carried out at international, regional, national and company levels. SFS also manages the Nordic and European environmental labelling systems for products and services. SFS promotes the use of standards in Finland by disseminating information on international, foreign and Finnish standards and drafts. It is the Finnish source for all international standards and drafts of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), for European standards and drafts of the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), and for publications of ISO member bodies. SFS also distributes other foreign standards and technical regulations.
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