



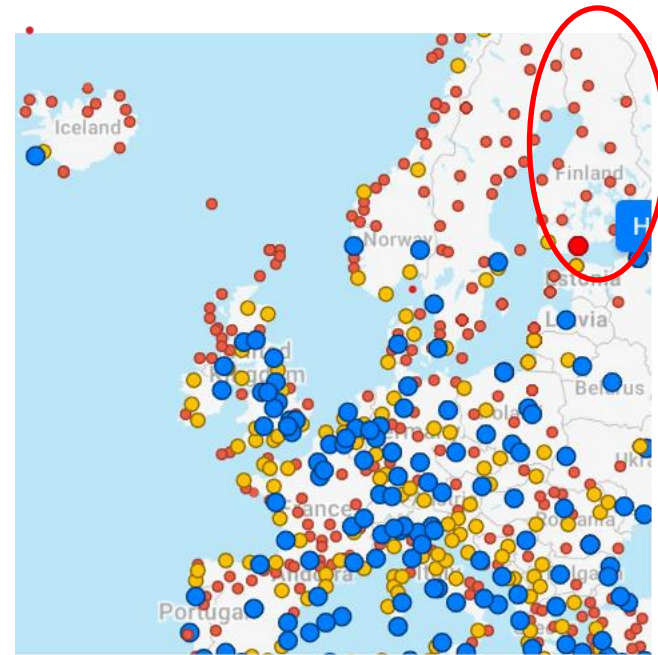
FINNISH
GOVERNMENT

Case study: Finland's Covid-19 scenarios

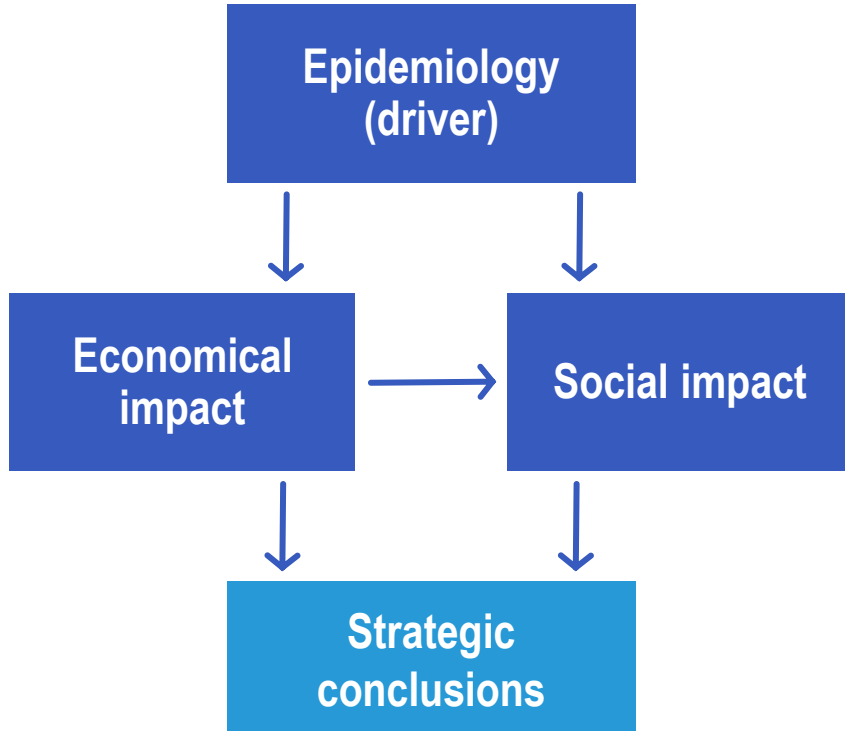
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Context factors for the situation in Finland

- Low rates of incidence, compared to other European countries
 - Geographical advantage: time
 - High trust society and trust in government: effectiveness of control measures
 - Political leadership trusts expert advice: ability to act, not just react
 - High readiness for remote and digital work: comparatively low impact of control measures



Framework for both scenario studies



Our mission

Prime minister: "Too many details. We need a report that helps us with strategy."

Joint work with several ministries, led by PMO

Short term scenarios (12/2020–6/2021)

Mid term scenarios (7/2021-12/2023 & glimpse to 2026)

Main conclusions

Short term scenarios

- Rate of hospitalization seems to explain economic effects (i.e. restrictions' benefits outweigh their costs)
 - **Controlling the epidemic decisively is a sound economic strategy**
 - **It is also beneficial regarding social and health services and stress of population**

Mid term scenarios

- Economic damage of the pandemic is estimated to be limited in severity and length
- Negative social effects can deepen and linger. Especially, if the epidemic gets out of hand.
- The epidemic seems to strengthen strategic challenges already in place for 2020s
 - **Easing out of the control measures need to be done carefully and not rushed**

Effects of the scenario studies

- Helps the government stay the course
- Gave Prime minister some leverage when working with other coalition parties (we have a 5 party coalition)
- For communication to public: we will survive the crisis as a nation, but some stamina is still needed for Spring
- A succesful joint operation combining several ministries' perspectives

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