

ANNEX 1: ADDITIONAL SELECT ITEMS FROM THE 2018 BUDGET PROPOSAL

- A proposal is made with regard to the front service compensation payable to certain foreign frontline volunteers, that the front service compensation for voluntary frontline soldiers from Estonia be increased from EUR 590 to EUR 2,000, which will increase the need for appropriations for this purpose by EUR 50,000.
- EUR 3 million will be allocated to enhance cooperation between technology universities in South-West Finland to support structural change in the region.
- To improve the profitability of agriculture, the Government will halve the cuts in compensatory allowances for 2018. The reductions in cuts will be compensated by a EUR 10 million appropriation unrelated to the agricultural relief package. As a result of the relief, the compensatory allowance for 2018 will be reduced by EUR 5 per hectare relative to 2017. Additionally, EUR 3.5 million of the funds included in the relief package will be earmarked for the promotion of the export and sales of foodstuffs.
- To help farmers cope, an additional EUR 1 million will be allocated to the Väilitä viljelijästä (Farmer Care) project in the 2018 budget. Additionally, EUR 1 million will be allocated to cover the reduction in the payments for the agricultural relief service.
- An additional EUR 1.7 million will be allocated to the revival of migratory and endangered fish populations and restoration of watercourses.
- As students will in future be eligible for general housing allowance, the appropriations for financial aid for students will be reduced by EUR 193 million. An increase in student aid will be granted to parents responsible for children under 18, which will increase the need for appropriations by EUR 10 million.
- As foreseen in the General Government Fiscal Plan, housing costs will be tied to the cost-of-living index instead of the rent index. Floor area limits will no longer be applied in the housing allowance system; instead, the maximum amount of eligible housing costs will be frozen at the 2017 level. Additionally, the 'shared home standard' will be re-adopted in the housing allowance system. It is estimated that the reforms will reduce the total cost of housing allowances by EUR 28 million in 2018.
- Steps will be taken to develop the personnel structure in early childhood education and care. The objective is to raise the standard of quality and pedagogy in early childhood education and care, and to improve access to multiprofessional support by families. A total of EUR 5 million will be allocated for this purpose.
- An additional EUR 1 million will be allocated to secure the continued operations of social welfare centres of expertise. The funding will help ensure the further development of social services in the face of the reform of the service structure.
- To ensure the efficiency of the operations of the Nursing Research Foundation, National Institute for Health and Welfare will receive an appropriation of EUR 200,000.
- To boost exports promotion efforts, the Government will allocate an additional EUR 2 million to the FinnPartnership business partnership programme and the Beam joint development innovation programme. The programmes support the launch of business planning and development projects in developing countries in a way that promotes the export of Finnish expertise and consolidates the business environment in the partner countries. The export services offered by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be reinforced through precision sales and marketing efforts to be financed by an appropriation of EUR 1.5 million.
- To implement the Travel 4.0 key project, the Government proposes an additional appropriation of EUR 8 million. The additional funding is to be used for intensifying travel marketing efforts, improving the digital skills of tourism companies and expanding the range of all-season services.
- A total of EUR 2.3 million will be allocated to improve data security and reliability performance in society.
- An additional EUR 1 million will be granted towards the operating costs of the Finnish Meteorological Institute to expand its radar network and EUR 07.5 million to finance the construction of the Aerosols, Clouds and Trace Gases Research Infrastructure (ACTRIS).

- To support the diversity of news services, a total of EUR 2 million is reserved for state aid to public interest TV licence holders offering news and current affairs content in 2018.
- A proposal is made to allocate EUR 650,000 in additional funding to restoration projects that support the nature tourism and recreation services offered by Metsähallitus. A decision was made in the spring spending limits discussion to allocate EUR 3.97 million to the promotion of nature tourism in 2018 and 2019 as part of the Travel 4.0 key project.
- The Government has decided to facilitate generation changes and transfers of business by allocating EUR 400,000 to related project activities. The measures should target sellers, divestors, buyers, successors, experts, financiers and public sector actors. Successful generation changes and business transfers play a key role in securing jobs and tax revenues.
- As part of the centennial celebrations of Finland and Estonia, it is proposed that a capital contribution of EUR 6 million be made to the Finnish-Estonian Cultural Foundation. The foundation's mission is to promote cooperation and networking between Finnish and Estonian arts and culture, improve mutual language skills and advance economic activities directly related to cultural pursuits.
- It is proposed that EUR 0.6 million be allocated for the organisation of the memorial year of the Finnish civil war and the preparations for the centennial celebration of the Finnish flag.
- To improve access to mother and child shelters, an additional appropriation of EUR 4 million is proposed.
- Travel expenses reimbursement and travel brokerage services will be revamped as of 1 July 2018 due to the deregulation of taxi services. An additional appropriation of EUR 2 million is reserved for this purpose.
- The Government will allocate additional funding for specific development cooperation projects totalling EUR 7.5 million. This additional funding will be used for building sustainable societies in regions in Africa and the Middle East with high emigration rates while placing emphasis on the position of women and girls as well as sexual and reproductive health. Additionally, the Government is making active efforts to secure the establishment of a UN innovation campus in Finland and is prepared to support its operation financially. The mission of this new type of campus is to facilitate the adoption of technology innovations within the UN. The Finnish campus would focus on education, health, the circular economy and cleantech as well as peace and security.