



RISE CRIMINAL SANCTIONS AGENCY

Probation, electronic monitoring and digitalisation in Finland

Senior Specialist Pia Andersson

Criminal Sanctions Agency (Prison and Probation Service in Finland)

Central Administration

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The Probation Service in Finland

- 152 years of Probation Service in Finland
- Social work based client work
 - with theory paradigm of desistance, Risk-Need and Responsivity and Good Lives Model
- The core values of probation are still in the centre of all probation work
- Profession, Criminal Justice Social Work
- The work and the legislation according to the Rec CoE
- Evidence-based practises
- Innovative and client-oriented work culture



The Probation Service in Finland Organisation and staff

- 14 probation offices
 - 14 directors
 - 250 persons of which 220 are probation officers (year 2021)
 - One Electronic Monitoring Control Centre 24/7
 - 33 patrol group officers
- Before year 2010 probation officers were social workers (Masters degree) and social instructors
 - Now PO's shall have at least a Bachelor degree in social work or social science or another relevant subject



Guidelines of CoE: Prison and Probation Service staff education and training (2019)

Community Sanctions and Measures in Finland

Court decision, based on a pre-sentence report

- **Youth punishment** 4-12 months
 - for 15-17 years old
- **Conditional imprisonment sentence with supervision** 1 year 3 months
 - two types; for 15-20 years old and for 21 years old and over
- **Community Service** max. 8 months -> 14-240 hours
- **Monitoring sentence (with EM, RF)** max. 6 months

Community Sanctions and Measures in Finland

Court decision

- **Combination sentence with a supervision term of 1 year (with EM, GPS)**
1 year
- Alternatives to remand custody:
 - **Intensified travel ban (with EM, GPS)**
 - **House arrest (with EM, GPS)**

Community Sanctions and Measures in Finland

Administrative decision


- **Conditional release with supervision** max. 3 years
- **Supervised probationary liberty (with EM, GPS)** max. 6 months
- **Unconditional sentence -> Outside placement and rehabilitation (with EM, GPS)** length varies

Use of EM

During a prison term, all GPS

- **24/7 in 7 open prisons or prison departments**, DG's decision
- For **work or study permit outside the prison** area during daytime, decision by prison managers
- **Prison leaves**, decision by prison managers

Oversectional proposal: **Intensified restraining order with EM, GPS**

- Perpetrator and the victim
 - Domestic violence cases
 - Decision by judges
- 
- A decorative horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide, composed of four colored segments: orange, green, blue, and grey.

Clients in the Probation Offices

Case loads are increasing

3400 clients in average every day (in execution)

+ 200 outside placements in rehabilitation (year 2021)

+ Assessments, pre-sentence reports and sentence plans 7150 /year

-> 420/Probation Officer/year

+ Assessment and sentence plans for persons going to prison 4300/year

-> 215/ Probation Officer/year

- Clients aged 15 years ->
- 89 % male
- 11 % female
- All kind of crimes

Probation work



“The uniting glue”

National Recommendations of

- qualitative working processes
- 9 principals for the client work
- child and family work
- management and coaching

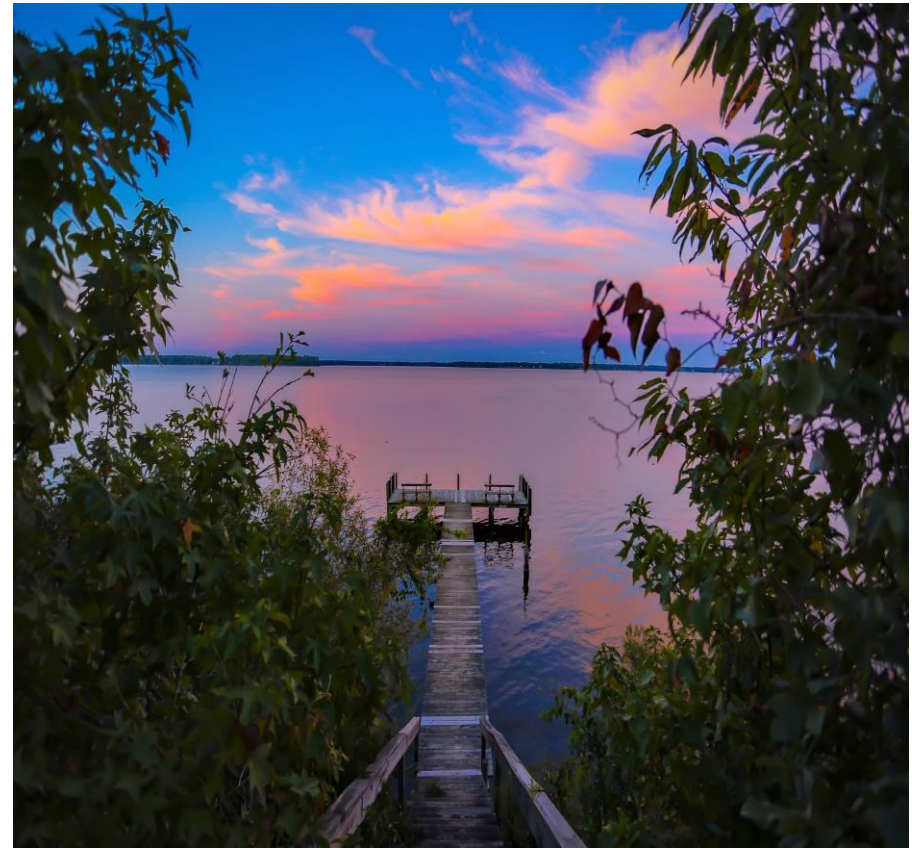
- Case management
- Assessment and sentence plans
- Interventions
- Supervision skills (Jersey checklist)
- Working alliance
- Treatment and rehabilitation
- Cognitive Behavioural Treatment - and Motivational programmes
- Service providing
- Vocational training, education and work opportunities

Digitalisation in probation

- **Probation App**
 - in the end of 2022 (delayed due to economical reasons)
- **Hybrid supervision**
 - a combination of remote and face to face meetings, use of Skype and phone calls, later also the Probation App
- **Electronic monitoring**
- **AI for segmenting in the assessment phase**
- **Dialogue training** on a digital platform (staff training)
- **Digital education platforms** for staff and clients
- **Digital treatment and rehabilitation programmes** during the execution of sanctions
 - Substance misuse, money gambling, violent behaviour, neuropsychiatric symptoms, mental health, alcohol short treatment

Recent focal points of the development work

- From traditional model to project work model
 - ➔ Service design
- Multiagency approach with juveniles
- Rehabilitation of client's with violent behaviour and money gambling
- Work with female clients
- Alcohol and drug misuse treatment and rehabilitation, also structured programmes
- Different kind of structured rehabilitation modules for community service clients
- The co-operation with NGOs



Next focal points in the development work

- Digital feedback platform for clients, their families and all co-partners
- Mental health treatment and rehabilitation programmes and modules for probation clients
- Research based development projects
- The co-work in the criminal justice chain
- The co-work with municipal authorities during the execution of a sentence (normality principle)



To enhance the use of
community sanctions instead
of short unconditional
sentences



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THANK YOU

pia.andersson@om.fi

Phone: +358 50 576 2358