

## Country: Finland

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No. Asylum seekers 2007	No. of persons granted protection	No. of Ngos'/ GOs'/ projects offering mental health services	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with persons with broken family links	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with survivors of torture	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with the elderly and frail
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**Access to health system:** The asylum seekers are provided temporary accommodation at a reception centre and it is free of charge. The health services are provided in their assigned reception centre or in the health centre or the municipality the centre is located in. All asylum seekers undergo a basic health examination by a nurse at the reception centre. They also have access to municipal healthcare if they require urgent medical treatment or essential dental care.

**Legal Access to mental health care:** Asylum seekers are entitled to the services offered by the municipalities and this includes also mental health care.

**Systematic assessment of mental health needs:** There is not a "systematic assessment" on mental health, but the reception centre nurse interviews the asylum seeker and can refer the person to the mental health specialists, if it seems to be needed.

**Main stakeholders in the asylum system:** Finnish Immigration Service, Municipalities, Centre for Torture Survivors in Finland, Finish Red Cross

**Country specific features:** What drew my attention? First asylum investigation done by the police. Also the decision is given to the applicant through the police.

**Difficulties:** Within public mental health services the competence and capacity to diagnose and treatment of migrants with mental health problems is scarce - partly due to the fact that migration is a quite new phenomenon in Finland.