



National Exploration Program – Status Report

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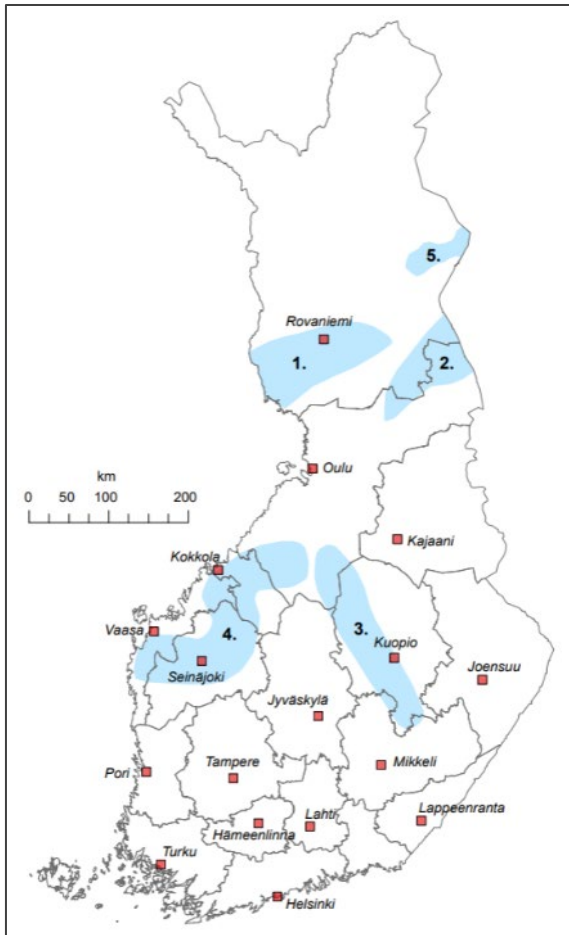
National exploration programs - CRMA Article 19

- *By 24 May 2025, each Member State shall draw up a national programme for general exploration targeted at critical raw materials and carrier minerals of critical raw materials. They shall include, as appropriate, the following measures:*
- Mineral mapping at a suitable scale
- Geochemical campaigns, including to establish the chemical compositions of soils, sediments or rocks
- Geoscientific surveys, such as geophysical surveys
- Processing of the data gathered through general exploration, including through the development of predictive maps
- Reprocessing of existing geoscientific survey data to check for unidentified mineral occurrences containing critical raw materials and carrier minerals of critical raw materials

National Exploration Program of Finland 2025-2030

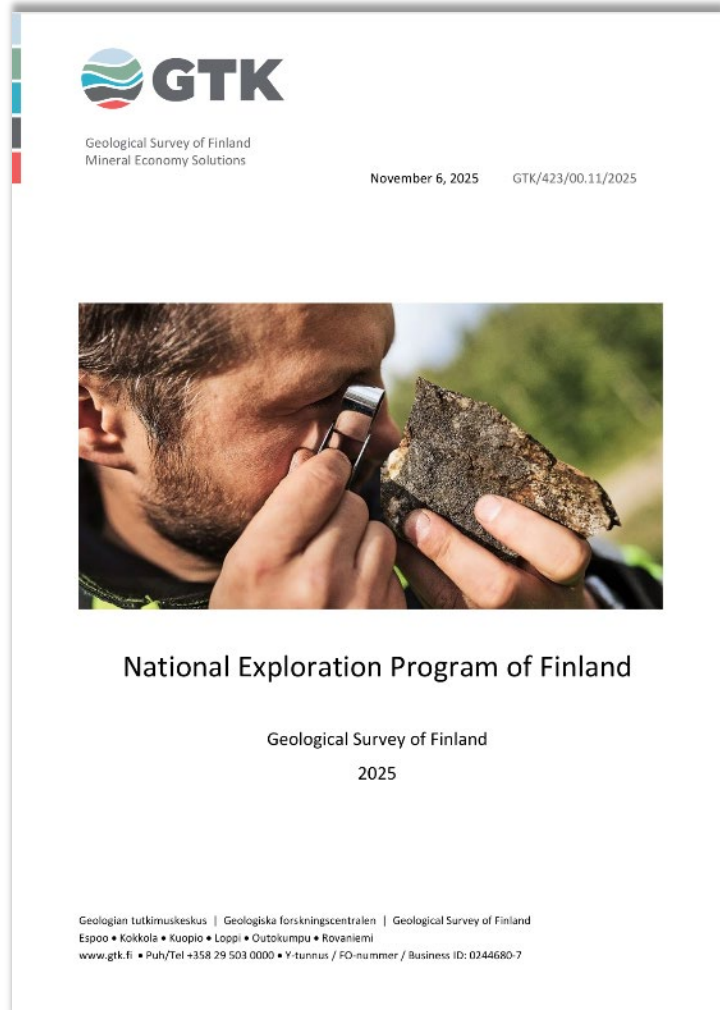
- Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment authorized GTK to generate NEP. GTK delivered the proposal for NEP to the ministry in May 2025 and it was accepted and delivered to EU commission in 12.9.2025.
- **Main principles of program planning and implementation:**
 - Development of need-based research projects to support the exploration of the most sought-after raw materials
 - Research on CRM potential of Finland's polymetallic ore deposits
 - Focusing research on less-studied areas to identify new CRM potential regions
 - Maintaining the high quality and reliability of Finland's geoscientific research, data, and expertise
- *Targeting exploration is not included in NEP (considered as a task for the private sector)*

NEP 2025-2030 research areas & current status



Area	Known CRM potential	Status and funding
1. Peräpohja Schist Belt	Polymetallic deposits: Au-Cu, Au-Co, IOCG, Ni-Cu-PGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional data collection (e.g., 2D seismic, gravity across the belt), 3D modelling and deposit fingerprinting complete Results published in 2026 EU (REPower-CEST) funding
2. Kuusamo Schist Belt	Polymetallic Au-Co-Cu deposits, REE occurrences, Ni-Cu-PGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional data collection partly completed (e.g., gravity, 2D seismic, AMT) Regional interpretation published in 2028-2029 Combination of governmental and EU (Horizon) funding
3. Raaheladoga Zone	One of Finland's most significant base metal deposit zones, hosting previously exploited Cu-Zn deposits. In addition, Ni-Co deposits and Sc-REE occurrences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GTK stratigraphic drilling to commence in 2026 for Cu-Zn critical environment → reinterpretation of the host environment Results in 2026-2028 Governmental funding
4. Ostrobothnia Schist Belt	Li, Ni-Cu, REE, Sb-Au-W-Bi, Cu-Au	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work starting in 2027 Funding framework development in progress
5. Tuntsa Zone	Soil geochemistry indication of Li to be examined. In addition, Au-Cu and W occurrences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work starting in 2027-2028 Funding framework development in progress (likely governmental funding?)

Public versions of NEP available at Hakku:



- https://tupa.gtk.fi/raportti/arkisto/76_2025.pdf
(fin)
- https://tupa.gtk.fi/raportti/arkisto/77_2025.pdf
(eng)

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