

Title: ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL (and CDNL) 2011-2012

Name of country: Finland

Name of library or equivalent national-level organisation: National Library of Finland

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The National Library of Finland, Country Report (2011-) 2012

1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.

National library is responsible for the development of the Public interface of the National Digital Library, NDL. National Digital Library is a project which aims to ensure that electronic materials of Finnish culture and science are managed with high standard, are easily accessed and will be securely preserved for a long period of time.

Participating archives, libraries and museums work together in saving our national heritage in a digital format and in making it available for all.

Public interface - aimed to be launched in 2012 - gives access to the digital information and services of libraries, archives and museums. The public interface will serve everyone searching for information or experiences. Web service makes it easy to gain access to materials such as pictures, documents, newspapers, research documentations, video and audio recordings.

Related to the Public interface the library also coordinated the development of a national metadata repository or as it was called earlier, the national union catalogue..

The state level information architecture has made steady progress under the leadership of the Ministry of Finance The national library has been closely involved with this work in general, and creation of the metadata architecture in particular.

The plan for the metadata architecture will be completed in the end of 2012. It is likely that the plan will contain three metadata related services which are closely linked to the national library: ontologies, identifiers and authorities, Ontology services refer to publicly available ontologies and thesauri (such as Finnish General Upper Level Ontology, YSO) and the applications which enable maintenance and use of these vocabularies.

These tools have been developed in the FinnONTO project, but since the project will be completed in September 2012, the intention is to pass the responsibility of the ontology service to the national library in the near future. Negotiations about the transfer were started in 2011 and while they have not been completed yet, there is an agreement that these vocabularies are cornerstone of the Finnish semantic web.

Identifier service refers to the use of persistent (actionable) identifiers in the public sector. The plan is to use URNs; the national library can provide both identifiers from the URN:NBN namespace and a resolver service, based on software developed in the library. Persistent links from e.g. references to digital documents are seen as a key aspect of linked data.

The national library is developing ASTERI, an Aleph-based national authority database for libraries. ASTERI will be a valuable asset for libraries, but it will also enhance exchange of data between the Finnish libraries and partners both at home (archives, museums) and abroad (VIAF, ISNI). In the national level, the specifics of authority data exchange will be outlined in the metadata architecture. Preliminary discussions with other partners such as copyright societies and publishers indicate that there is a strong interest to strengthen the national co-operation in this area even across the traditional organizational boundaries.

In the wake of the state level information architecture, the National Digital Library initiative has also started revision of its architecture, including the standards portfolio. An earlier version of the NDL portfolio was used in the development of the state level standards portfolio, which is part of the information architecture.

The importance of standards is increasing, since they are the glue connecting the applications in libraries, archives and museums together. The national library has intensified its standards work by forming an internal standards working group. Since January 2012 the national library is also chairing ISO TC 46/SC 4, the ISO committee responsible of the library protocols and metadata standards.

The IFLA 2012 meeting will be held in Finland. The National Library has participated actively in the preparations and also organises one of the pre-conferences.

The National Library is a member of the graduate school network Memornet, which aims to strengthen research of memory functions in the society. Researchers, universities and memory institutions collaborate in the network.

2. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

The Library was founded in 1640. The National Library of Finland is also the oldest and largest research library in Finland, serving scholars and readers nationwide. Among its internationally important collections are: The Slavonic and East European collections, The Monrepos Manor Library and The A.E.Nordenskiöld Collection.

The National Library of Finland is a service centre for libraries since 2006. The library is an active player in all the national projects mentioned above. The Key Project has been the National Digital Library Project and Library's responsibility of its interface.

The Library's Board has made repeated proposals to the University and the Ministry of Education and Culture concerning a marked increase in the Library's basic appropriations and especially in the financing for the expenses from facilities. The Board has considered it to be particularly important to ensure sufficient funding for basic duties, such as the maintenance of collections. It has frequently pointed out that the rental fees for the National Library's facilities continue to be raised without a corresponding share being added to funding. As the expenses from facilities continue to rise, the Library is forced to save and cut back on many basic matters.

In June 2011 the library successfully completed the one-year Stimulus Project. During the project, over 2,6 million pages were digitised and 67 people were hired. The project was funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Facts of 2011:

Size of major collections (in millions of units): 7 + Size of Web archive (million units) 718,5

Collections: about 112 kilometres of shelving

Number of staff (man-year): 212 (with stimulus 72)

Premises: 27 000 m²

Total operating budget: 28,8 milj. €

Local and interlibrary loans: 500 900

Visits: 166 000

Customers' satisfaction: 8.7 (4-10)

Article downloads: 21,6 million (other libraries use of National Library's centralized services)

Digitised pages in a year: 1,9 (millions of pages)

Total amount of digitised pages: 5,9 million

Use of the Library's digitized pages in a year: 7,6 million

3. New developments in creating and building collections.

The National Library's collections are defined to be a notable national research infrastructure in a survey commissioned by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Research infrastructure refers, among other things, to an extensive public material collection or archive that is available to high-quality research. The uniqueness of the National Library's collections in the Finnish society, as well as the Library's long-term cooperation with researchers and the academic community are important to Finnish research. The importance of the Library's printed collections is likely to increase if the number of libraries decreases nationwide and if their collections are reduced.

Library received legal deposit copies of 384 meters of shelving. 40 % of legal deposit copies were books, maps and sheet music, 31 % newspapers and periodicals and 20 % ephemera-material. 224 million files (9,6 TB) were harvested and preserved to the Finnish web archive. Web-archiving is established practice in library's legal deposit duties. Next step in electronic legal deposit archiving is to create sustainable way to archive digital-born book and music archives, for instance web bookstores and web music services.

New acquisitions were made according the library's collection policy. Largest acquisition areas were History, Antiques, Literature Studies, Philosophy and Russian and East-European Studies. The amount of the electronic material was larger than in previous years. New electronic material was licensed for research use in areas of Medieval Studies, Russian Studies and Literature Studies, some examples to be mentioned.

Digitisation

The Library has digitized its medieval manuscript fragments, about 9300 leaves. The collection is

largest medieval parchment collection in Scandinavia and contains the earliest literature used in Finland in 1200th to 1600th centuries. The digitization of the collection was made in cooperation with the research group from Helsinki University and with financial support of the Sanoma Foundation. The whole collection was conserved in library's conservation center in Mikkeli, too.

The entire digital collection is available for free at <http://fragmenta.kansalliskirjasto.fi/>. The end product of the digitization process is a METS container, consisting of a fragment (one to about 100 leaves) and its descriptive and administrative metadata. The former is based on Dublin Core, the latter uses e.g. PREMIS and MIX. The requirements the National Digital Library initiative has developed for digital preservation were met, which means that once the shared digital preservation system is established (current estimate is that this will happen in 2016) it should be easy to ingest the digitized manuscripts into that system.

The library has had an active role in the development of the NDL administrative metadata requirements. Our contribution was largely based on the practical experiences gained from METS usage since 2008. Our METS work has been also internationally acknowledged: the library is now represented in the METS Editorial Board.

In order to enhance quality and productivity, docWORKS is used in all digitization processes. The way the application is used varies; for instance, approximately 30 % of digitized journals are structured to the article level. Both enhanced production processes for existing materials, and brand new processed for novel material types are being developed in close co-operation with CCS.

The library continued its large digitization project of Finnish Journals in years 1810 – 1944. About 70 % of those journals are digitally available, in titles this means about 2 000 journal titles. Most of the journals are only in local use in six Finnish legal deposit libraries for copyright reasons, though. Negotiations are going on with the national copyright organization to find solutions for licensing copyright material, for instance newspapers and journals, both groups in high demand. Digitized newspapers and ephemera are available at <http://digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi/index.html>. Alas, due to copyright some newspapers and journals are only available in the premises of the library.

Other digitized collections, such as dissertations from the Royal Academy of Turku, are available at <https://www.doria.fi/handle/10024/4194>. As of this writing about half of the collection (1778 volumes) have been digitized; the rest will follow during the next two years on behalf of the second part of the project.

4. New developments in providing access to collections.

The library has a major responsibility for the National Digital Library –project, a project owned and financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The aim of the project is to develop a common interface for all Finnish libraries, archives and museums. The National library will have an own web-service for research community based on the national technical solution. The web service will be opened in autumn 2012.

The RDA-project to localize the international RDA-description standard to Finnish environment is continuing. The standard should be in use in 2014. The RDA-project is progressing in national and international cooperation.

The library published Description Policy and its international presentation will be in IFLA congress

2012. The Description Policy will be completed by the cataloguing action plan which aims to improve the digital access of the collection of the library.

5. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions

The Ministry of Education launched the Finnish Digital Library programme (NDL). The Finnish Digital Library initiative is part of the Finnish Information Society strategy for 2007-2015. The aim of the initiative is to develop an efficient service for access to digital resources in libraries, archives and museums as well as to the web services of these organisations, and to develop specifications and recommendations for a national digital long-term preservation system. The Ministry of Education and Culture coordinate the activities of the national digital long-term preservation system until 2015. The NDL report of the first project phase 2008-2011 “[The National Digital Library– collaborating and interoperating](#)” has been published: <http://www.minedu.fi/export/sites/default/OPM/Julkaisut/2011/liitteet/OKM26.pdf?lang=en>

The project’s enterprise architecture describes how the various elements—organisational units, people, processes, information and information systems—relate to each other and function as a whole. Enterprise architecture is subdivided into four areas: business architecture, data architecture, application architecture and technical architecture. Business architecture describes the project’s services, stakeholders and processes. Data architecture describes the key glossaries being used, the central information resources and the relationship between information categories and systems. Application architecture describes the content of the information system portfolio. Technical architecture describes the technology portfolio, reference architectures and interfaces.

The standard portfolio appended to the document contains key information from the EA perspective; here the standards used in the project are defined and the grounds given for incorporating them as part of the enterprise architecture.

The document: <http://www.kdk.fi/en/enterprisearchitecture>

The public interface was supposed to be based on the off-the-shelf software of the Ex Libris Group, selected through competitive negotiations. However, the software procurement contract between the National Library and Ex Libris was cancelled in January 2012 after piloting had revealed that the software did not meet the requirements set for the public interface.

A new software solution has been adopted in the National Digital Library (NDL) project: the public interface will be based on the VuFind open-source software. Although the National Library has overall responsibility for interface development, the use of open-source code will support national and international collaboration in developing the service. The web service will be launched in 2012.

Electronic legal deposit and web archiving

Act on the legal deposit and preservation of cultural materials (1433/2007) obligates the National Library of Finland to archive online material available to the public in information networks. Since 2006, when the Copyright Act (404/1961) gave to Library permission to make digital copies of publication available in data networks, the main focus has been in web archiving. In 2011–2012, the Library examines the legal deposit of online materials. At the moment, there are more than 500 million files in Finnish Web Archive.

Digital materials obtained by legal deposit may be used in the premises of eight institutions. All these have dedicated workstations available to the customers. The National Audiovisual Archive has opened its radio and television archive and it may also be used at these workstations. At these

workstations, digitized materials still under copyright may also be accessed.

The National Library has launched a project that examines the possibility to receive the digital surrogates of printed newspapers from the publishers. The aim is to use these surrogates in the microfilming process instead of printed newspapers and improve the accessibility of the archived newspapers.