

**35th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES
(CDNL), QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 13 AUGUST 2008**

TEMPLATE FOR COUNTRY REPORT

(Country reports will be made available on the CDNL website <http://www.cdnl.info>)

Name of Country: Finland

Name of Library: The National Library of Finland

Name of Chief Executive: Kai Ekholm

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2008

Starting Autumn 2006 the national library has been officially the service center for the national library network. Following the political decision, resources have been allocated on strategic planning on how to develop the library's (national) services.

The National library's IT strategy for 2008-2012 was published in April 2008. The strategy produced an outline of future IT system architecture for the national library's services and recommends, among other things, establishment of a public user interface and long term preservation system. "Public" means here not only libraries, but all memory organisations. The Ministry of Education established in June 2008 the National Digital Library –project, which aims at building these systems, which will exist alongside the current production systems – a prerequisite for all memory being able to cooperate in the same IT initiative. All key memory organisations are participating in the project, which has high visibility and support from the Ministry. The National Library is responsible of the creation of the user interface, whereas the National Archive is overseeing the long term preservation –related work.

During 2007-2008 library has also received substantial funding for digitisation. There are two main initiatives with a total budget of almost 3 € allocated over three year period. In addition, there are several smaller projects supported by private donors. The funding will be spent on, among other things, digitisation of Finnish newspapers 1890-1900 and on initiating mass digitisation of books. Automatic scanner which will be used in this process was installed in May 2008. Library has also completed building studios for digitisation of sound, and practical work is about to start in autumn 2008 following a test and design phase.

Finnish IT Center for Science (CSC) and the Finnish library network completed the project of modernizing and consolidating the libraries' shared server environment in October 2007. Universities' and polytechnics' 50+ Voyager databases, the National MetaLib portal and some other applications have been transferred to a new Sun Enterprise M9000-32 server. It replaced five old servers, which were also hosted by CSC. The entire process was very successful both from technical and financial point of view. There were no delays or unplanned service breaks, and the planned breaks were relatively short. Estimated annual savings are approximately 400.000 € The new server environment is more flexible and easier to manage than the old one, and at least 50 % more powerful.

The library's local and national services are constantly changing. This will have a major impact on staff as well. A new personnel plan has been written in order to make the planning easier and more efficient. There is also a new communications plan, to support both internal and external communication.

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Please send your country report to the CDNL Secretariat at the address below by Monday 30 June 2008. Reports may be submitted in the body of an email or as an attachment to an email.

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