

**Third report on measures to implement the Recommendation concerning the
Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace;
FINLAND 2014**

2. Facilitating access to networks and services

**2.3 The development of information strategies and models that facilitate
community access and support communication technologies among public service
institutions, incl. libraries**

In Finland, the guiding principle in public libraries is to offer free access to cultural and information sources for all irrespective of their place of residence and financial standing. In accordance with the Government Programme, libraries are being developed to meet the challenges of the information society. Computer and internet access is currently available in all public libraries in Finland. According to surveys, 20% of adults in Finland use public access computers at public libraries. 93% of library users in Finland were satisfied with the computers and the internet available in public libraries in 2013.

3. Development of public domain content

3.1.

**b) identifying and promoting repositories of information and knowledge in the
public domain and making them accessible to all**

The Finnish Government has expressed its strong commitment to support the opening of the public data repositories.

A Government Resolution of 3 March 2011¹ sets out the principles on improving the accessibility and promoting the reuse of public information resources in digital format. The Government Programme states that public sector information will be made accessible for citizens, research, education and commercial purposes.

The Finnish Government has launched a 3-year national Open Data Programme 2013-2015. The aim of the Programme is to speed up opening up of public sector data and make it available mainly free of charge, in machine-readable formats, and under a common open data licence.

¹ http://www.lvm.fi/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=1551281&name=DLFE-11992.pdf&title=Proposal

c) promoting and facilitating ICT literacy, as well as information and media literacy

The Government's Child and Youth Policy Programme (2012-2015) aims to ensure that all children and young people have opportunities to participate in the information society. In the field of youth work, this means that support for projects promoting media literacy as well as online youth work has continued, with focus on a learning-by-doing approach.

Public libraries promote ICT literacy in many forms (courses, informal learning, co-operation projects) and their activities related to all forms of literacy are accessible to all, and widely used.

Finland is currently revising the national core curricula for basic education. The new 2016 national core curriculum for basic education will have ICT as one of its key focus areas in the context of a broad mix of skills. ICT literacy plays an essential part in many subjects in the new core curriculum throughout comprehensive school. Another major reform that was recently introduced is that matriculation examinations take place electronically, meaning that ICT is used in the examinations themselves and in the whole process related to matriculation. This encourages upper secondary schools to use more ICT in their instruction.

Financial resources have been channelled through the National Board of Education and other organisations to using ICT in teaching. Moreover, the Ministry of Education and Culture allocated nearly EUR 3 million in 2014 in subsidies to the dissemination of pedagogical ICT skills for teachers who encourage and inspire their teacher colleagues to adopt the use of digital methods in teaching. The amount of applications received for these subsidies showed that teachers are well motivated to use ICT in teaching.

3.2. Open access solutions

A few examples:

Finna search engine provides access to the collections and services of archives, libraries and museums. Finna currently contains material from dozens of organisations. Finna is geared to all users of Finnish archives, libraries and museums. The expert organisations involved in Finna ensure that the content of the service is reliable. The search functions have been created to make it easy for users to find and use material. In the case of some material (e.g., a book that can be borrowed from a library), Finna offers metadata in text format, while the actual content can be found on the library shelf. In the case of works of art and other objects, Finna displays an image in conjunction with the search result. Finna can also be searched for digital content, such as articles, old books, newspapers, maps, images and recordings. Finna is part of the National Digital Library (NDL) project of the Ministry of Education and Culture." http://www.nationallibrary.fi/libraries/finna_search_service.html

Etsin is a research data finder provided by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland that serves various fields of research. Etsin gathers metadata about existing research data from various external sources and also provides a web interface to enter metadata directly into the service. Comprehensive description of data plays a very important role in the visibility of the data. Etsin encourages this by adapting a common set of discipline-independent metadata fields and by making it easy to enter new metadata. The service also promotes adding unified information about the availability, ownership and licensing of data. Increased visibility and findability of the data promotes data reuse and helps bring merit to researchers. It also makes the results of research more transparent to funders. <http://openscience.fi/etsin>

EduCloud, an educational cloud service consisting of digital educational resources and applications that are designed to support teaching and learning for both teachers and students, was launched on 22 October 2014. It is financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture. The management of the service will be handed over to EduCloud Alliance, a large consortium that provides educational resources. The service offers educational resources, pedagogical games, and applications and services that can be used in teaching.

The vision is to create an open channel for services and resources that support teaching and learning. They can be produced by enterprises, associations, teachers and students, for instance. Educational resources and services would be easy to access during teaching sessions through cloud technology and it would be possible to further develop them together. The resources are deployed using a dispersed network service on the internet. <https://portal.educloudalliance.org/>

This open data programme aims to facilitate access to and use of data repositories in public administration. Barriers to the use of data will be removed and incentives and conditions for enabling open access to data as well as content and service development. As part of the programme, a new data portal will be created to make it easier to find and access open public data and to facilitate the use of open data services in different environments. <https://www.avoindata.fi/en/about>

4. Reaffirming the equitable balance between the interests of right-holders and the public interest

4.1. Update of the national copyright legislation

The Finnish Copyright Act (404/1961) has been updated continuously since its adoption. The latest amendments in 2013 included the transposition of the European Union Term Directive (2011/77/EU) and the Orphan Works Directive (2012/28/EU). The Term Directive extended the term of protection for performers and sound recordings to 70 years. The Finnish Orphan Works Act (764/2013) sets out rules on the digitisation and online use of so-called orphan works by public libraries, museums and educational institutions, archives including film and music archives and public service broadcasting companies. Orphan works are works such as books,

newspaper and magazine articles and films that are still protected by copyright but whose authors or other right-holders are not known or cannot be located or contacted to obtain copyright permission. The provisions concerning the act on the use of works for disabled people will also be complemented to implement the Marrakech Treaty on access to printed works for visually impaired people. Finnish institutions have been well-informed of the limitations to copyright and they have been able to apply them.

Legislative amendments that are currently pending include provisions to allow for facilitated licensing of internet personal video recording services and more efficient blocking orders against illegal file-sharing and streaming sites.

The Finnish government has initiated a large undertaking for open access in science between 2014-2017. The aim is to make Finland the leading country for access to information and open science by 2017 and that open data is widely used by members of the society. The Ministry of Education and Culture has given its recommendations on open access in 2005.

4.2 Free and Open Source Software

The targets of the Open Science and Research Initiative established by the Ministry of Education and Culture are that Finland will become the leading country in openness of science and research by the year 2017 and the opportunities offered by open science will be widely utilized in our society. The Initiative will be carried out alongside the National Digital Library initiative and the Open Knowledge Finland programme of Ministry of Finance. The Open Science and Research Initiative is focused on three different areas that complement one another: scientific publications, research data and research methods (including software). This initiative promotes the use of free licensing solutions to enhance openness. Also research environments, skills, knowledge, support services and tools are included in the initiative. <http://openscience.fi> <http://www.kdk.fi/en>

5. Final comments

5.1. World Summit on the Information Society monitoring

A follow-up group for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) has been established in Finland. The group meets regularly under the auspices of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland to discuss and adopt positions on recent developments regarding WSIS. The members of the group consist of many stakeholders, like those from civil society, private sector, academia and Ministries, including the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The WSIS follow-up group also organizes annually the Finnish Internet Forum (FIF) <http://internetforum.fi> which is the Finnish equivalent of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF). The IGF was a key product of the WSIS process promoting multi-stakeholderism in the governance of the internet. Finland has been a key supporter

of the IGF providing the IGF with considerable funding since the beginning of its mandate. Finland also supports the extension of the mandate of the IGF by 10 years.

Furthermore, Finland supports WSIS monitoring more broadly on a global level by funding the WSIS+10 review report that is currently being drafted by the Commission for Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). The final review report will be presented to the CSTD Annual Session in May 2015 and will provide food for thought for the overall review by the UN General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.

Finland participates in various UNGIS (United Nations Information Society Group) related activities and has highlighted the importance of universal and open access to ICT, especially broadband internet, for global development. This is reflected in our development policy and cooperation through multilateral, regional and bilateral programmes and funding. Finland has supported the work of UNCTAD, UNCTAD/CSTD, UNECA and UNESCO.