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#### Improving access to information - defining the core electronic resources for research and welfare

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## Improving access to information - defining the core electronic resources for research and welfare

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## Background



- National Library is a service centre for the library network since 1.8.2006
- The library network in Finland is well organised
- Universities, polytechnics and public libraries are under the Ministry of Education
- There are major structural changes taking place in the network of universities and polytechnics, research institutes as well as public libraries

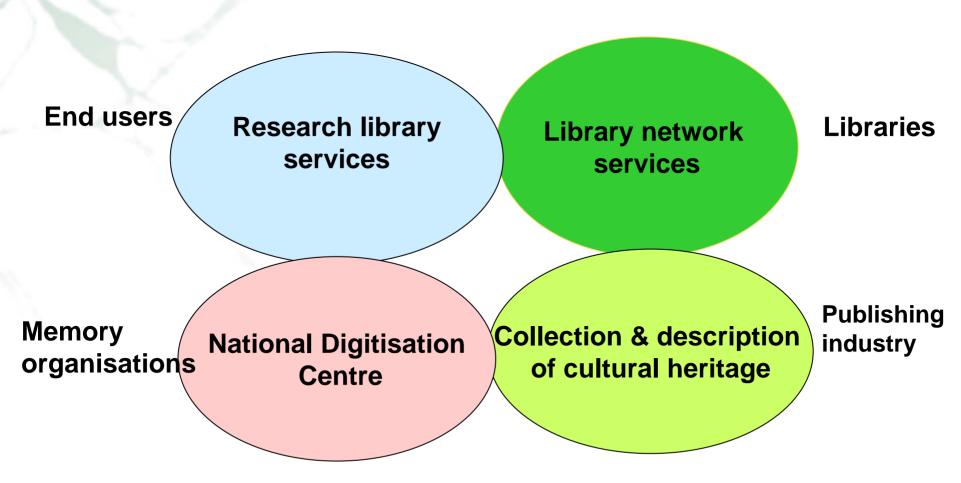
### National Library of Finland



- Change of the name of the organisation 1.8.2006
- Legal changes
  - University law and act
- New steering mechanism
  - Ministry of Education
  - National Library & libraries network
- New budgetary system

- Enlarged clientele
  - Universities
  - Polytechnics
  - Special libraries
  - Public libraries
- Central funding for universities, polytechnics and public libraries
- Defined services for the libraries

### National library organisation 2007



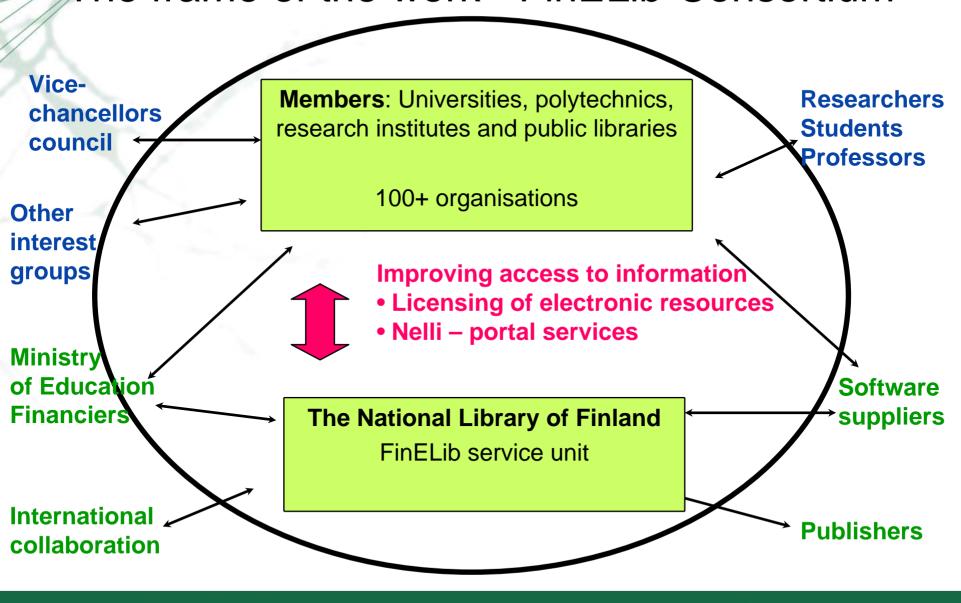
## The Library Network

- The network consists of 4 library sectors
  - Universities, polytechnics, special libraries and public libraries
- Each sector has organised its own activities
  - Council + working committee structure
  - Each sector has a chair person and a secretary
- 3 library consortia in the country
  - FinELib national licensing and national portal
  - Linnea library system
  - AMKIT polytechnic libraries consortia

### Structural changes

- University consortia are being created
- Mergers of polytechnics are taking place
- Municipalities are merging affecting the operations of public libraries
- Structural change will have an impact on the funding of universities and polytechnics
- National and international infrastructure policies will become forces of change in the development of scientific libraries

### The frame of the work - FinELib-Consortium



### Key figures of FinELib 2007

Turnover	EUR 15,12 million
Licences	60 license agreements
Content	273 databases 18 600 e-journals
	273 000 e-books
Usage	6,2 million Downloads 42 million Searches
Consortium	110 organisation

### Core e-resources for research and wellbeing – the process

- Working group of library directors formed
  - 2 representatives/library sector
    - Universities, polytechnics, special libraries, public libraries
  - FinELib staff; chair + 2 specialists
  - Model example of cooperation
- Available data analysed
  - Usage + user feedback
  - Total cost
  - Size of consortium
  - Feedback from e-resources working groups

### Core e-resources for research and wellbeing – the process

- Defining the vision
  - E-resources to support the competitiveness of Finnish research
  - E-resources to support wellbeing, studying, economic life
  - Tool to reallocate central funding to support strategically access to information
- Defining the price tag
- Presenting the idea for stakeholders
- Preparing marketing/ lobbying materials

## E-resources to support the competitiveness of Finnish research



#### CONTENT

- Scientific e-journals
- Reference databases
- Aggregator databases
- E-books
- Reference management tools
- 10 resources

#### **CRITERIA**

- Much used
- High quality
- Multidisciplinary
- Resources to support research in strategic research areas

# Why should the government invest in scientific e-resources?



- To develop the national innovation system
- To develop the infrastructure for research
  - Content being one important part of it
- To guarantee access to information in the structurally changing environment (merges, new partnerships etc.)
- To support internationalisation of research

## E-resources to support wellbeing, studying, economic life



### CONTENT

- Reference databases
- Reference works
- Dictionaries
- 7+ resources

#### **CRITERIA**

- National resources in Finnish and Swedish
- Resources describing the Finnish society
- Resources covering health issues, law, statistics

## Why should the government invest in e-resources for citizens?

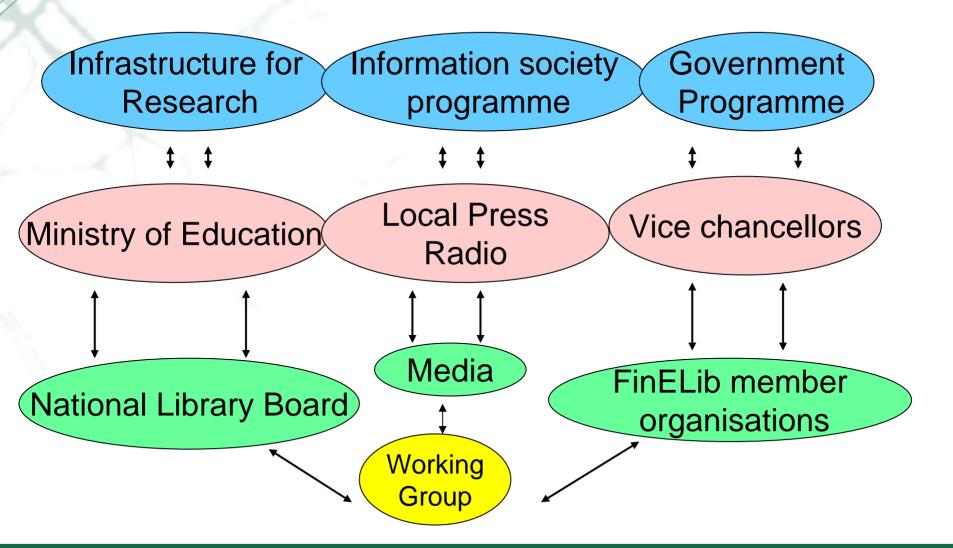


- To guarantee equal access to information all over Finland
- To safeguard citizens´ access to reliable information resources
- To support studying and learning

### Proposed: EUR 5-10 million

- 5 million
  - 50%-50% central / own funding for resources to support research
  - Current resources; current consortium
  - 100% funding for resources to support well-being
- 10 million
  - Same share between central/ own funding
  - National licenses
  - More resources for a larger user group
  - New content
  - New technologies to make access easier

## EUR 5-10 million to support access to information!



### Status summer 2007

- The idea has been introduced into
  - Government programme
  - Infrastructure for research programme
  - Information society programme
- Stakeholders have been very interested in the concept
- We are waiting for the reactions and the funding!

