



Improving linguistic equality in national infrastructures

Nina Hyvönen, Riitta Koikkalainen & Niko Partanen

Linguistic rights and equality are strategic objectives of the National Library of Finland. Those rights are guaranteed in the Finnish Constitution.

Today, the NLF provides digital services in Finnish, Swedish (also an official language), and English.

There are ten autochthonous Sámi languages spoken in Northern Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia. Three of them are used in Finland: North Sámi, Aanaar Sámi and Skolt Sámi.

The project will focus on **North Sámi**, the most common Sámi language in Finland and the one with the most native speaker resources available.

Our aim is to foster the use of North Sámi in education, culture, and research.



Network is vital for success

We collaborate with several Sámi organizations:

- Sámi Parliament of Finland
- Sámi Museum Siida
- The libraries in the Sámi area of Finland
- Giellagas Institute for Sámi Studies
- Language authority Sámi Giella-gáldu
- The Department of Sámi languages at the UiT – The Arctic University of Norway
- Unicode

Infrastructures involved: Finna, Finto, and Kotoistus

We shall support North Sámi in three popular core services of the NLF. After the building phase 2022–2024, we shall take care of ongoing maintenance with our network of partners.

All this is possible thanks to Alfred Kordelin Foundation's generous funding and support from Sámi community.



We translate Finna's user interfaces into North Sámi.

We offer continuous support for North Sámi in user interface translations.

We enrich descriptive data in the cultural heritage organisations.

We shall provide support for North Sámi in machine-readable ontologies.

We will translate General Finnish Ontology (YSO) into North Sámi.

We shall publish new North Sámi terms of YSO on Wikidata.

We shall update the translation in the future.

We improve Finnish–North Sámi Unicode CLDR locale.

We add supplementary information to Finnish–North Sámi Unicode CLDR locale.

We update the locale on regular bases.

We support ICT manufactures and service providers in offering services in users' native languages.