



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
FINLAND

Developing Research Information Hub in Finland, a View from the ministry

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Content

- Aims of the research information hub
- The development phase in a nutshell
- Lessons learned and future plans

Population

5.5 million

Size

**338,440
km²**

Languages

88% speak
Finnish

5.2% speak
Swedish

0.04% speak
Sámi

ARCTIC CIRCLE

Education

87% hold at least an upper
secondary education degree

42% hold a higher
education degree

Life expectancy

MEN

78 years

WOMEN

84 years

13 Universities

BA
MA

Doctoral training
Scientific research

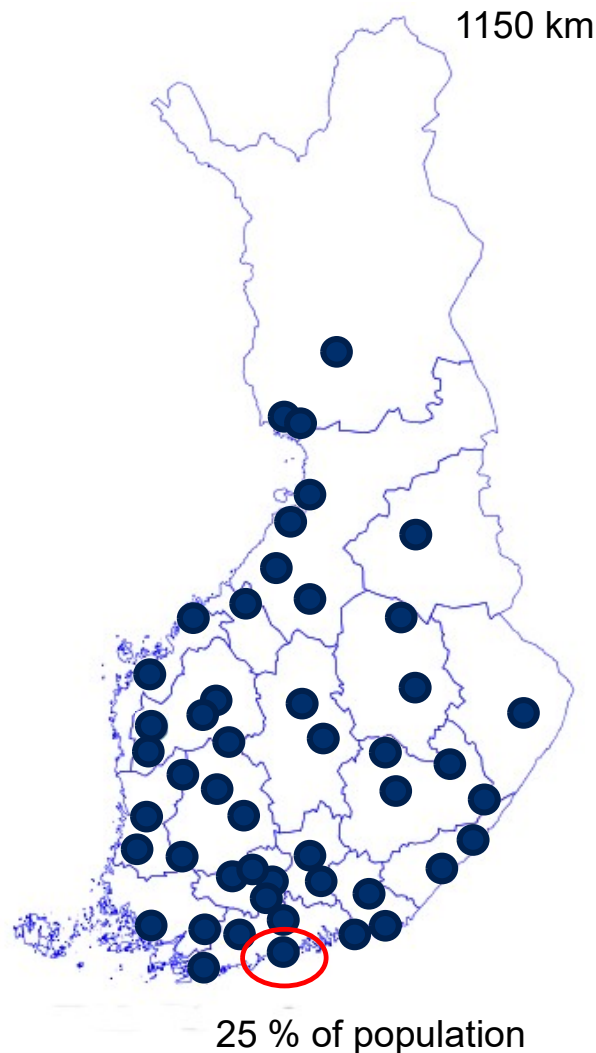
158 000 students

22 Universities of Applied Sciences

BA
MA
RTI

155 000 students

12 public
research
institutes



Universities, in 2021

1,840 Doctoral degrees / year
18,500 Masters degrees /year

Research Information Hub



Some basic facts about research information hub

- Financed by Ministry Education and Culture
- Implementation by CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd
 - CSC is a non-profit state enterprise with special tasks. Owned by the Finnish state (70% shareholding) and higher education institutions (30% shareholding).
- The Research.fi service, launched in 2020, is the most visible part of the Research Information Hub
- Research information hub is fed by data from organisations own systems (higher education institutions, public research institutions, funders, external systems)



Aims of the Finnish Research Information Hub



Provide landscape of Finnish research ecosystem and basis for science policy

- R&D analytics
- Visualizations
- Business Intelligence (BI)
- Landscape



Ability to search for Finnish research and researchers

- Research.fi portal
- Semantic search
- Linked data



Support the reuse of research information in other services and systems

- APIs
- Shared data models
- Vocabularies
- Reference data



Merit researchers and make their research output and activities more visible

- Researcher's Profiles
- Traditional research outputs
- Other research activities

Search for information on research in Finland

Search target ▼

For example, publication, field of science, keyword

SEARCH

Search help ▼

Publications 814 268

Funding calls 518

Granted funding 15 489

People 883

Research data 5 718

Infrastructures 207

Organizations 85

Projects

Science and research in Finland



Researcher's Profile Tool

Create a public profile to Research.fi service or log in to your existing profile

Latest science and research news

Kulta, hopea ja kupari kierrätysmateriaaleista aiempaa kestävämmillä menetelmillä



15.05.2024
Helsingin yliopisto

SHKS:n Vuoden 2024 Tutkija -palkinto Anndra Parviaiselle



Open funding calls

Blood Service Research Fund

Hakuaika päättyy **15.5.2024**
Suomen Punainen Risti Veripalvelu

Apurahahaku taloustieteen 1. ja 2. vuoden jatko-opiskelijoille

GIVE FEEDBACK!

A short history



The setup in 2010s

- The Finnish funding model for universities is highly indicator based. Performance in research was measured among other things by publications
 - Requirement for data on publications
- Good experiences with a data hub that takes data from higher education institutions study registers (study credits etc)
 - Use as indicators in funding model
 - Use as a tool in student selection
 - Use as a service to transfer data on students (for example to verify a student aid, student discount in collective traffic, etc)

Towards research information hub

- Starting from 2015 publication data collection was changed to enable data transfers straight from the research organisations CRIS-systems
- After that different data elements were added (funding decisions and funding calls, research data, research infrastructures, activities and other researcher merit data)
- At the same time service elements, data linkages and enrichments have been added

Act on the Finnish Research Information Hub

- The Research In The Act on the Finnish Research Information Hub came into force in the beginning of 2022
- For information providers, the Act is enabling, not binding
- The Act gives a legal basis for:
 - Integration of new source systems with light process
 - Data enrichment from external sources
 - Reuse of public information on outputs to research actors (= research performing, funding or supporting organizations through APIs)
 - Transfer of information on affiliated researchers from research organizations to the Research Information Hub

Lessons learned and future plans



Lessons learned

- The ministry is probably only actor that has possibility to build a national system
 - It helps at the start if there is some concrete use case (in the case of Finland the needs for funding model)
- The principle of building the research information hub on top of institutions own CRIS systems makes developing slower
 - Though there might be some advantages from a reputational perspective if research information hub is not seen as a data collection tool the ministry
- National system has cost benefits
 - There is a problem of making them visible as advantages spread to numerous organizations
- The culture of collaboration and networks that facilitate cooperation are themselves a big advantage

Future plans

- The research information hub is not ready but it is already part of the Finnish research infrastructure
- A need for “a killer app” to convince the researcher community of the benefits
- Integration to global ecosystem of research metadata services
- The research information hub can contribute to the creation and support of a research infrastructure independent of commercial operators



Thank you for your attention