



YHTEISKUNTATIEETEELLINEN TIETOARKISTO  
FINLANDS SAMHÄLLSVETENSKAPLIGA DATAARKIV  
FINNISH SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ARCHIVE



# Multilingual Web Services Possibilities and Pitfalls

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# Content design

- No ad hoc decisions
- Goals
- Resources
- Target audience



# FSD multilingual web services

- Three languages, diverging goals
- Restricted services in Swedish
- English: 80% parallel, study descriptions of quantitative data
- Resources vs benefit



# Data archives: priorities for multilingual sites

- Goal: DATA
- Declaration of content provision
- Possible to search data in that language?
- Study descriptions in that language?
- If not, whom to contact?
- Links to main language pages: passive knowledge likely?



# Priorities for multilingual sites

- Next stage if found relevant dataset?
- Ordering information
- Information on data translations
- Contact information
- User testing – before launch

# Translation



- Another national language vs. foreign language
- Globalisation of content
- Translator aware of objectives
- Process writing
- Interface: using language packs

# Web design



- Do design
- Focus on goals
- Internet users are IMPATIENT! Why does Google rock?
- Web design templates
- Log files
- Simple to maintain
- URLs – do not use non-universal letters
- Possible to browse without extensive plug-ins

# Navigation



- Clarity of navigation – regardless of language
- Switching between languages: language links consistent and visible
- Common practices are the best
- Direct links between languages or link to homepage?






# Translation of study descriptions using templates and DDI

- Controlled vocabulary: topic classification (CESSDA), time method, collection mode, research instrument, data kind, analysis unit, nation
- Information that does not change: names of depositors, authors, data collectors; response rate, collection date, time period covered
- Already present in the template: copyright statements, disclaimers, name of the archive (as distributor, access place, production place etc.)

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.....<bibliCit>Finnish Local Government Barometer 2006 : Municipal Managers [computer file] : FSD2237, version 1.0 (2007-02-05) : Pehkonen, Juhani  
(Suomen Gallup) · Ristikartano, Lasse (Kunnallissalan kehittämissäätiö) · Pelkonen, Veli (Kunnallissalan kehittämissäätiö) · [author] : Tampere : Finnish  
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Translation is not the main  
issue!