

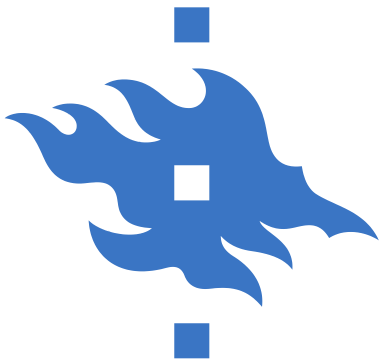
The Bank of Finnish Terminology in Arts and Sciences (BFT)

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project coordinator
University of Helsinki
17.10.2011 Oslo**



BFT – Project Background

- The Future of The Finnish Language (Action plan for the Finnish language policy, 2009)
(text available in Swedish in <http://scripta.kotus.fi/www/verkkojulkaisut/julk12/>).
- Terminological work now dispersed in different organizations and institutions should be systematically covered in **an extensive inventory**.



BFT – Project Background

- Application for funding **an extensive terminological database** was admitted in the Academy of Finland in September 2010.
- Terminological database was defined as research infrastructure and was supported by the University of Helsinki.
- Funding for BFT was granted in December 2010. The project started in January 2011.



BFT – Institutions Involved

Academy of Finland

- The main body of public financing of research in Finland.
- The funding granted for BFT is around 1.3 million € (with 70 % from the Academy and the rest from the University of Helsinki).

University of Helsinki

- BFT is situated in the Department of the Finnish, Fenno-Ugrian and Scandinavian Studies of the University of Helsinki.



BFT – Institutions Involved

FFLS - Federation of Finnish Learned Societies

- Umbrella organization and collaborative body of scientific and scholarly societies in Finland
- Project *Tieteen termitalkoot* (Vitenskaps termdugnad) from September 2010.

RILF - Research Institute of Languages in Finland

- The institute for study and language planning of the national languages and other domestic languages.

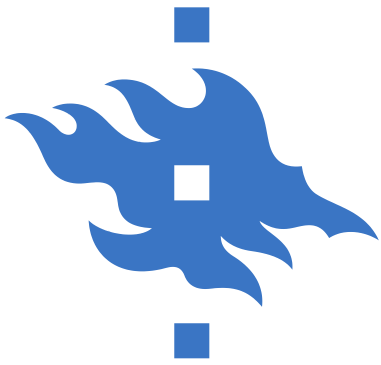
The Finnish Terminology Centre TSK

- The national centre for terminology work



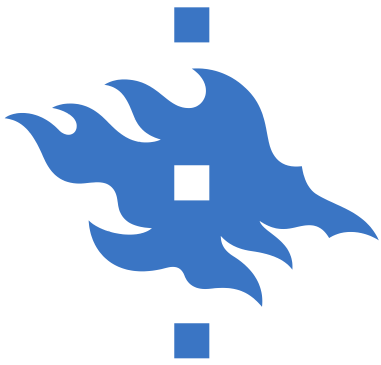
BFT – Project Outline

- Extensive terminological database (termbank) accessible via address www.tieteentermipankki.fi
- Wiki-based collaborative environment for developing and maintaining the contents of the database



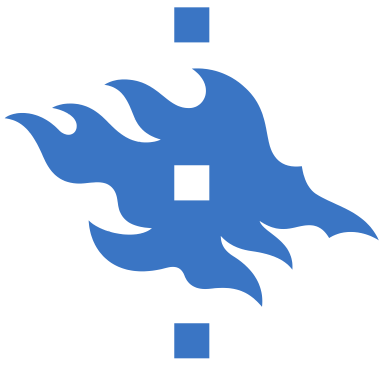
BFT – Project Outline

- BFT is based on the idea of voluntary and collective participation of the research community.
- Motivated experts from each field of research will be organized in to working groups and given responsibility of the terminology of their field.
- Terminological collaboration will happen in a virtual wiki-based environment.



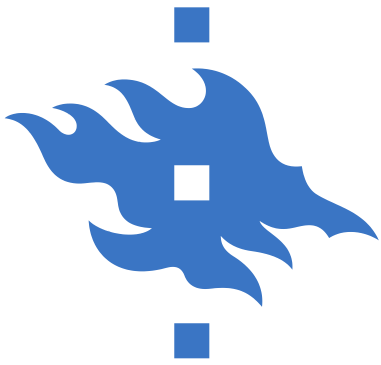
BFT – Project Outline

- Through mobilizing members of the research community we hope to achieve:
 - I) better understanding of conceptual knowledge of each field
 - II) terminological work which better responds to the specific needs of each field
 - III) terminological work which is constantly updated
 - IV) rising the terminological and linguistic awareness of the research community as a whole



BFT – Project Outline

- Collaborative model also enables transparent discussion about the terminology used in three levels:
 - I) Discussion within the field
 - II) Discussion between different fields
 - III) Discussion between research community and wider audience.



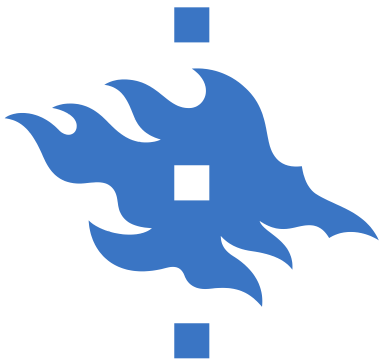
BFT – Project Outline

- In order to develop and test different forms of cooperation, three pilot projects have been launched:

I) Botany

II) Jurisprudence

III) Linguistics



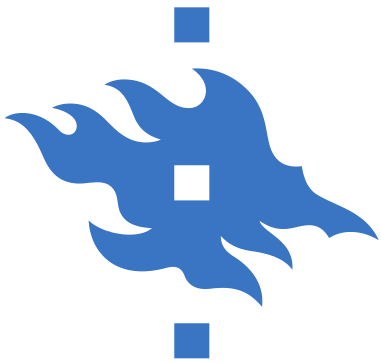
BFT – Pilot Project I: Botany

- Existing terminology in botany is extensive, but mainly published in various books and so not easily accessible.
- In addition, areas of recent scientific interest are uncovered by current Finnish terminology.
- The immediate task is the compiling the existing terminology and harmonizing it.
- The main responsibility of the project is first assumed by the BFT Staff, but will be later on transferred more and more to the expert group.



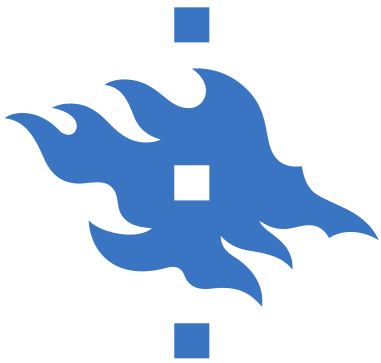
BFT – Pilot Project II: Jurisprudence

- In the pilot project for jurisprudence, more responsibility of the terminology is given to the society (Finnish Lawyer's Association).
- The society organizes its resources and active members into working groups, who take care of one area of the terminology.
- BFT Staff offers background support, terminological guidelines and counselling and the collaborative environment developed.



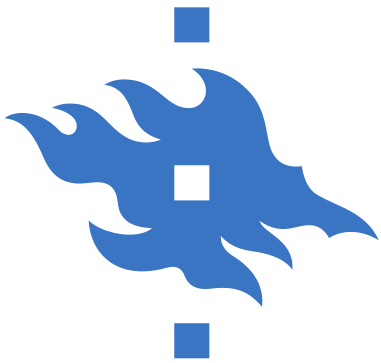
BFT – Pilot Project III: Linguistics

- The field of linguistics in Finland has divided in several smaller societies, each concentrating on specific language or linguistic method or theoretical framework.
- Still there are major subfields of linguistics not covered by any particular society.
- In the pilot project for linguistics, the main challenge is to organize a network of expert groups when there is no one single learned society to lean for.



BFT – Pilot Project Overview

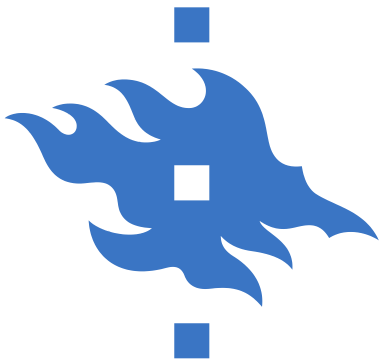
- Cooperation with the experts
 - Botany: editing and evaluation of the material provided by the BFT staff.
 - Jurisprudence: material is produced within the expert groups.
 - Linguistics: material is produced by the expert groups, but with active BFT participation.
- > Terminology will be published at a rather early stage
- > Control and evaluation of the content is delegated to the expert groups.
 - Staff provides linguistic and terminological counselling and the collaborative platform



BFT - Schedule

When the project expires in 2015 we have:

- I) Completed the three pilot projects
- II) Completed the collaborative platform and workflow for the use of voluntary expert groups in other fields
- III) Secured continuing financing for the terminological database and its development
- IV) Established BFT as the main source for terminology in arts and sciences in Finland
- V) Attracted a number of voluntary expert groups from varying fields.



BFT – Contact Info

BFT URL (currently under construction):

www.tieteentermipankki.fi

BFT blog (currently under construction):

blogs.helsinki.fi/tieteentermipankki

More info:

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Project coordinator