

# The National Electronic Library - user questionnaire for research institutes 2007

Object of the research:

The purpose of this questionnaire is to chart the use of electronic resources in research institutes and other expert organisations. The results will be used to assist in making decisions about acquiring electronic resources.

In this questionnaire, electronic resources means any or all of the following electronic items:

- \* e-journals
  - \* electronic books
  - \* dictionaries
  - \* reference books
  - \* reference databases, etc
- which the organisation library/information service has acquired for your use and which you can access via your organisation network.

FinELib, the National Electronic Library, is in charge of the questionnaire. Answers will be treated in the strictest confidence. A summary of the results of the questionnaire will be published on the FinELib web-pages at

<http://www.kansalliskirjasto.fi/finelib>

Your organisation library/information service may also publish the results of the questionnaire on its own web-pages, for example.

**BY ANSWERING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, YOU CAN HELP TO IMPROVE YOUR OWN WORKING CONDITIONS!**

Filling in this form will take about 10 - 15 minutes.

Please answer before 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

NOTE! Cookies must be enabled to fill in the form. Click [here](#) for instructions (in Finnish only).

## 1. Background information

Please answer the following questions so we can deal with your response properly. The answers to the questionnaire are dealt with anonymously.

### 1.1 Gender

-- Choose one of the following --: Male; Female

## 1.2 Age

-- Choose one of the following --: under 18; 18-25; 26-35; 36-45; 46-55; 56-65; over 65

## 1.3 Which of the following groups do you fit into?

-- Choose one of the following --: Researcher, Research support staff; Other experts; Library/information service staff; Management; Other staff

## 1.4 What scientific discipline/field of instruction do you represent?

-- Choose one of the following --: Theology, the Humanities, Industrial design, Music, Theatre and dance, Pedagogics, Sport, Social sciences, Psychology, Health, Law, Commerce, Natural sciences, Agriculture and forestry, Engineering, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary medicine, Pharmacy, Visual arts, Not specified.

## 2. Use and availability of electronic resources

### 2.1 To what extent do you use electronic resources and printed materials in your own work?

-- Choose one of the following --: I use electronic resources exclusively, or almost exclusively; I mainly use electronic resources; I use electronic resources and printed materials equally; I mainly use printed materials.

### 2.2 Would you be prepared to give up printed material if you had access to electronic versions of the following?

Yes No Don't know

Printed journals

Printed books

Printed reference books

Printed dictionaries

Why?

### 2.3 How often do you use the following electronic resources provided by your library/information service?

-- Choose one of the following --: Daily; Several times a week; Once a week; A couple of times a month; Less often, Not at all.

Electronic journals

E-books

Reference books

Dictionaries

Reference databases

Factual databases (e.g. statistics)

### 2.4 Name the electronic resources you use most often in your work/studies:

### 2.5 Can you find what you consider to be key material from the electronic resources

available in your organisation?

-- Choose one of the following --: Very easily; Easily; To some extent; With difficulty; Not at all.

2.6 What type of material would you most like to be acquired for the use of your own organisation?

Choose the three most important of the following:

Finnish scientific journals

Finnish reference databases

Dictionaries, glossaries, reference books

Foreign scientific journals

Foreign reference databases

Factual databases

(e.g. numbers, statistics, catalogues)

Electronic university publications

(doctoral theses, dissertations, other publications)

Electronic books

Other, what?

2.7 Give the names of some examples of electronic resources you would like to be acquired for the use of your organisation:

2.8 How satisfied are you with the electronic resources you use?

-- Choose one of the following --: Very satisfied; Fairly satisfied; Don't know; Fairly dissatisfied; Very dissatisfied.

2.9 How great a proportion of the publications and information resources you need do you get from the electronic resources provided by your organisation?

-- Choose one of the following --. less than 20%; 20 - 40%; 40 - 60%; 60 - 80 %; more than 80%

2.10 How has the use of electronic resources affected your work/study?

Considerably	To some extent	Not at all	Don't know
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Made it easier to find the material I need in my work.

Made it easier to get hold of the material I need in my work.

Extended the range of the material I need in my work that is available.

Made it easier to keep up with developments in my own field.

Improved the quality of my work (results).

Inspired new thinking/ideas

Shifted (narrowed/broadened) the focus of my work

Reduced my working time.

Reduced the amount of browsing of resources in libraries.

What other impact has the use of electronic resources had on your work/studies?

2.11 I think the *main* problems with using electronic resources and using them for information retrieval are:

I am not sufficiently familiar with electronic resources.

I am not able to use the electronic resources properly.

The material I need is not in use or is not available.

I have some doubts about the permanence of the material (changes in service content, discontinuing of journals, transfers, etc.)

It is difficult to read from the screen.

Technical problems.

I cannot find the electronic resources I need.

The use of electronic resources does not present any particular problems.

Comments on problems:

2.12 In the main, where do you obtain information about the electronic resources provided by the library/information service? Choose the three most important of the following:

Library/information service bulletins

Library/information service training sessions

Library/information service web-pages

Personally from library/information service staff

From colleagues

From your immediate superior

Other, where?

2.13 What kind of training or advice do you need in connection with the use of electronic resources?

Resource-specific training

Discipline-specific training

Training/advice for a specific research project  
Individual or group training  
Information-retrieval training  
Information-saving training (e.g. Refworks, EndNote)  
I do not need any training.  
Other, what?

2.14 Are you satisfied with the electronic resources/electronic library interface in your own organisation?

-- Choose one of the following --: Yes; No; Don't know

Why?:

3. User experiences of last read scientific article

3.1 How many scholarly articles that you have obtained in electronic form have you read during the last month (4 weeks)?

Reading means proceeding from the title/headline and summary to the body of the text.  
Estimate the number:

NB! Questions 3.2-3.4 concern scientific articles from e-journals irrespective of when you read them. If you have not read any such articles, go directly to question 4.

3.2 Where did you use the last e-journal article you read?

-- Choose one of the following --: In my study/office; In the library/information service of my own organisation; At home; Other

If other, where?

3.3 How did you find the last e-journal article you read?

-- Choose one of the following --: By browsing in printed journals or lists of contents; By browsing electronic journals or lists of contents; By searching full-text databases of e-journals (e.g. EbscoHost, ScienceDirect); By searching reference databases (e.g. Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Sociological Abstracts); Using an Internet search engine (e.g. Google, Google Scholar); Sent to me as part of an alerting service; From e-print or pre-print e-journal archives; Cited in another publication; With the help of library/information service staff; Colleague told me..

If other, how?

3.4 a) For what purpose have you used or will you use the information obtained from the article **primarily**?

To keep up with developments in my own field.

For research and/or development work.

For some other private task (e.g. writing a funding application).

For teaching and counselling.

For study (e.g. for preparing a dissertation).  
For some other studies  
Other, what?

3.4 b) For what **other purpose** have you used or will you use the information obtained from the article?

To keep up with developments in my own field.  
For research and/or development work.  
For some other private task (e.g. writing a funding application).  
For teaching and counselling.  
For study (e.g. for preparing a dissertation).  
For some other studies  
Other, what?

#### 4. Using electronic resources for research

The next questions are intended only for those doing research, including post-graduate students, but not those studying for a Bachelor's or Master's degree.

If you are not doing research, go directly to question 5.

##### 4.1 What is your scientific discipline?

-- Choose one of the following --: Natural sciences (e.g. mathematics, data processing, physics, biology, geology), Engineering (including architecture), Medicine (e.g. nutrition, veterinary medicine), Agriculture and forestry, Social sciences (e.g. law, commerce, psychology, pedagogics, social studies, information sciences, statistics), the Humanities (e.g. art history, linguistics)

##### 4.2 What is your research field?

(e.g. educational sociology, history of ideas, geriatrics, information systems science)

##### 4.3 Have you completed your doctoral thesis

-- Choose one of the following --: Yes; No

##### 4.4 If you have completed your doctoral thesis, in what year did you do so?

-- Choose one of the following --: 2005 – 2007, 2001 – 2004, 1990 – 2000, before 1990

##### 4.5 If you work as a teacher, for how many years have you done so?

-- Choose one of the following --: 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-10 years, more than 10 years

##### 4.6 I am carrying out research

-- Choose one of the following --: Primarily on my own; In a loose research group; In a

close-knit research group.

4.7 To what extent are the following types of publication valued in your field?

Much To some extent Little Not at all

Scientific monographs

Peer-refereed articles in journals

Peer-refereed conference articles

Textbooks or handbooks

Technical manuals

Other

If other, what?

4.8 To what extent do you use publications from your own scientific discipline in your work (e.g. sociology, history)?

And to what extent do you use interdisciplinary publications?

-- Choose one of the following --: Mainly from my own scientific discipline; To some extent from other disciplines; From various disciplines

4.9 How many items have you published in the last two years in each of the following categories?

Refereed articles in foreign scientific journals:

Refereed articles in Finnish scientific journals:

Books abroad:

Books in Finland:

Articles in books edited abroad:

Articles in books edited in Finland:

Non-refereed articles in foreign scientific journals:

Non-refereed articles in Finnish scientific journals:

The next two questions concern your most recently published scientific article.

4.10 If your most recently published scientific article was a joint publication, how many writers were there in all?

-- Choose one of the following --: 2, 3, 4-5, 6 or more

4.11 How was the project financed? Chose one of the following:

Academy of Finland

Other funding (university, foundation, fund)

TEKES or cooperation with business (research contract)

As part of your job (without special funding)

Other

If other, what?

5. Feedback

5.1 Feedback/additional comments

**Thank you for your response and for helping to improve library services!**