



META-NORD

**Baltic and Nordic Branch of the European Open Linguistic
Infrastructure
Project no. 270899**

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- revised edition -**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The META-NORD project is targeted to create a sustainable mechanism for cooperation and resource sharing as a part of the European open linguistic infrastructure. This will be achieved through cooperation with existing national and European projects and working with national and international stakeholders to launch uptake projects and funding. The continuation of the created infrastructure will be ensured by high visibility and the intrinsic usefulness of the project results on a national scale as well as active integration in META-NET activities.

After the two year pilot phase the META-NORD infrastructure will be established on a sustainable long-time basis, that is, by the end of the project, the META-NORD consortium will provide a complete and viable service with sustainable model for long-time running and further elaboration.

The project partners have been engaged in discussions with other infrastructure initiatives and projects which have similar aims. It is expected that cooperation with CLARIN-ERIC will ensure sustainability of the infrastructure, in some of the participating countries at least. In other cases, national centres have been or will be established to maintain the resources compiled within META-NORD and continue to collect resources. Even though many aspects of this still need to be settled, the consortium feels confident that a satisfactory solution will be found and the sustainability of the META-NORD infrastructure secured.

This is a revised and substantially extended edition of the initial document submitted on 31/07/2011. It reflects requirements requested by the Project Officer after the first year review. A full-fledged strategy will be developed in the course of the next six months and presented in Deliverable D5.3.2, due in M24.

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term/definition
CLARIN	Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure
DigHumLab	Digitalt Humaniora Laboratorium
EFNIL	European Federation of National Institutions for Language
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
HPC	High-performance Computing
INESS	Infrastructure for Syntactic and Semantic Exploration
LFG	Lexical-Functional Grammar
LSP	Language for Special Purposes
LT	Language Technology
LTI	Language Technology Infrastructure
META CC	META Coordination Council
NB	Nasjonalbiblioteket – National Library of Norway
NEALT	Northern European Association for Language Technology
SIG-INFRA	Special Interest Group for Language Technology Infrastructure

Introduction

This deliverable reports on the plan to ensure the sustainability of Open Resource Infrastructure, established within META-NET family of projects (T4ME, META-NORD, META-NET4U, CESAR projects).

The first section elaborates a sustainability plan that is agreed by the META-NET family of projects and would be supported by the players involved in the projects and others from within the HLT community. We identify the various services offered via META-SHARE infrastructure and which are important/required by the Language Technology community. We then express the intent of various players with respect to the investment they plan to bring in to ensure that the infrastructure is durable. Sustainability is foreseen here not as a self-sustainability of the platform but seen rather as based on partners investment for a transition period of 2 to 5 years.

The second section details specific additional actions and plans of the META-NORD partners to ensure sustainability and viability of our work, such as exploring the clearinghouse model and creation of national language resource centres. We particularly elaborate specific actions for sustainability of horizontal priority areas of META-NORD in treebanking, wordnets and terminology resources.

The third section describes our proposals for cooperation with the open data community, collaboration with the Language Councils, involvement of national stakeholders through national workshops and dissemination channels.

Cooperation plans with NEALT and CLARIN are discussed in the fourth section.

As current report describes an on-going work, it will be further elaborated in the coming months and will lead to the Deliverable D5.3.2, due in M24.

1. Sustainability of the META-SHARE infrastructure

META-SHARE infrastructure relies on the operation of interlinked META-SHARE nodes that are distributed and autonomously maintained by the participating institutions.

1.1. META-SHARE Functionalities and Services to offer and sustain

End-user and system management functionality of the infrastructure should be provided by the META-SHARE software platform. The following is a partial list of functionality provided by the platform or to be implemented till the end of 2013:

- Functionality for unregistered users
 - Search, browse, access to samples
 - Access to online information
 - Registration
 - etc.
- Functionality for registered users
 - Authentication
 - Access to online information, help desks,
 - Transactions (access to LRs, licensing, download of LRs)
 - Management of user profiles
 - Notifications and alerts on demand
 - Comments and feedback on resources

- etc.
- Back-office functionality
 - Management of the hardware and software infrastructure
 - Management of the infrastructure content (resources, licenses, metadata)
 - Management of operations and transactions (download supervision, transaction, invoicing, billing, royalties, etc.)
 - Update of meta-data schema, editor and converters
 - Management of user profiles (new rights, new categories, etc.)
 - etc.

Although the back-office functions will be supported by the META-SHARE software platform they depend on personnel trained and available to perform these functions.

Besides this functionality, there are several other human-based services what should be provided to ensure successful exploitation of the platform:

- General Help desk
- Legal Help desk
- Metadata support and conversion
- Management of bulk or non-standard downloads/uploads of LR
- etc.

Requirements for human, financial and technical resources to ensure this functionality and services will be elaborated in the following months.

For technical sustainability of the META-SHARE software platform at least the following activities have to be ensured:

- Implementation of critical bug fixes and change requests
- Keeping the system documentation up to date

For each server in the distributed network of core nodes the following minimal technical support activities have to be ensured:

- keeping server up to date with respect to security-related software updates
- installing bug fix releases of the META-SHARE platform
- monitoring service availability and performance, including synchronization between nodes

Requirements for human, financial and technical resources to ensure this functionality and services will be elaborated in the following months.

1.2. Commitments of the META-NORD partners

As META-SHARE is a distributed platform its sustainability depends on the willingness and ability of participating institutions to run META-SHARE nodes and to provide related services.

By signing non-binding letters of intent, most of the META-NORD partner institutions have already committed to sustain META-SHARE:

- Host and make available META-SHARE repository to its language resources through the META-SHARE network.
- Continue to host the repository of LRs and serve as a META-SHARE node for a period of 24 months.
- Continue to provide technical and/or user support services, software-based and/or human services provided for a period of 24 months.

Respective letters have been signed by Tilde, University of Helsinki and CSC (FIN-CLARIN), University of Gothenburg (the Swedish Language Bank), University of Tartu and Institute of Lithuanian Language (see Appendix).

With an exception of University of Tartu, these institutions have also committed to start or continue to participate in the META-SHARE software development.

Tilde has made an additional commitment to host, maintain, and provide user and technical support for the EuroTermBank platform - a dedicated META-SHARE node for storing and sharing multilingual terminology resources

National Library of Norway which is running the META-SHARE node for Norway, is currently considering signing the letter.

As regards Denmark, University of Copenhagen has decided to set up the META-SHARE node and is considering signing the letter of intent.

University of Iceland is exploring possibilities to form a national consortium, consisting of HI, the Árni Magnússon Institute, Reykjavik University, the National and University Library, and perhaps a few others to maintain Iceland national repository of language resources.

1.3. Commitments of other META-NET partners

We have been informed that partners of other MET-NET family projects have also signed similar letters of intent:

- Nyelvtudományi Intézet, Magyar Tudományos Akadémia - Hungary
 - INSTITUTE FOR BULGARIAN LANGUAGE PROF LYUBOMIR ANDREYCHIN - Bulgaria
 - UNIWERSYTET LODZKI - Poland
 - Instytut Podstaw Informatyki Polskiej Akademii Nauk - Poland
 - UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES – Croatia
 - Faculty of Mathematics, University of Belgrade - Serbia
 - JAZYKOVEDNY USTAV LUDOVITA STURA SLOVENSKEJ AKADEMIE VIED – Slovakia
- and others.

1.4. Commitments of ELRA

Important contribution to the sustainability of META-SHARE is made by European Language Resource Association (ELRA).

ELRA has decided to move from the current LR exchange and distribution mechanisms to the ones being developed within META-SHARE. ELRA will build its entire infrastructure on top of the platform that it will deploy with other partners as META-SHARE repository v3.

By doing this:

- ELRA will ensure that the current META-SHARE platform is fully exploited by the consortium. It is important that the users feel that a strong team is behind the infrastructure.
- ELRA strongly commits to sustain the current user support related to the use of META-SHARE (e.g. covering platform use: complaints and problem handling wrt to LRs download upload, licensing and other IPR support, etc.). This would continue, preferably as a joint-venture with the other consortium members.

- ELRA will ensure that the current META-SHARE platform is fully exploited for ELRA mission over the next decade and that the over thousand resources it distributes (with cleared IPR) are fully available for download, licensing, commercial/noncommercial use, from this new channel before end of 2012. This can be done in the current networked framework which ELRA will support but can also operate it with a smaller number of partners.
- ELRA will adopt the full range of licenses before end of 2012. With the support of the set-up legal team, it will continue its role on the legal assistance and help desk and of enhancing users' knowledge on IPR issues, looking forward to a unique set of licenses.
- ELRA will provide technical support (through one of the development team members and IT professional) regarding software download, installation, configuration, and exploitation. It is certain that other members of the consortium will join.
- ELRA will ensure that services to set up local and non-local repositories are supplied as one of its new services, in particular free of charge for academics.
- This definite commitment will help META-SHARE to grow after the end of the EC project and will ensure that for some organizations like ELRA it becomes the business platform for daily activities.
- In addition to the business aspects operated by ELDA, the ELRA Board will consider committing the financial and corresponding human resources for 2013-2014 to support the operation of such platform, in particular when it comes to non-lucrative scenarios.

2. Specific Sustainability Activities by the META-NORD

The cornerstone of the long-time viability of the META-NORD service will be the involvement of the following main national and/or regional actors:

- producers, i.e. “competence centres”, typically public research centres, language institutes and academies, as well as private content owners like media companies and publishing houses;
- aggregators, i.e. “data centres” (repositories), usually supported by national and/or regional authorities;
- sponsors, i.e. public authorities, research agencies, language councils, companies with language resource needs.

2.1. *The clearinghouse model*

One possible business model that will be evaluated for the META-NORD infrastructure is the clearinghouse concept currently being developed by CSC in Finland which aims at cooperating on a long-time storage of resources with other similar service centres in other European countries using a cost-sharing principle. CSC is government-owned and serves the research community with funding from the Finnish Ministry of Education whereas commercial organisations can buy computing resources. The Language Bank of Finland will be physically located at CSC. The model for the Language Bank of Finland is a clearinghouse model in the sense that it will procure resources from resource providers by negotiating viable licenses for them and by offering them to the language technology community. The resources are offered to researchers for free and many will also be available to the industry.

Finland will join CLARIN-ERIC later this year, which means that CSC will maintain the service for at least five more years in cooperation with other CLARIN data centres in Europe. The University of Bergen has established a cooperation with The Language Resource Collection – Språkbanken in Norway for the purpose of establishing a clearinghouse for long term storage and distribution of language resources. They already have a simple clearinghouse service in operation and will extend this service in the context of the CLARINO project. This is the best opportunity for securing long term viability and interoperability of the resources and metadata in Norway.

2.2. National centres

The principles for how to include new actors and countries in this business model will be further elaborated in the META-NORD project in cooperation with the best practices of other META-SHARE centres. Other business models will also be explored and it is possible that different types of service centres may arrive at different business models letting the content providers choose different service providers for different types of end-users.

To ensure sustainability and continuation of META-NORD activities, possibilities to create national META-CENTRES by the project partner institutions have been discussed, and in some countries implemented. These centres could form sustainable backbone network for the European open linguistic infrastructure.

META-SHARE nodes have been established by four project partners – UGOT, UHEL, Tilde and UT. The Language Resource Collection – Språkbanken in Norway is also planning to create a META-SHARE node. Many of the project partners have already created national centres or are in the process of creating them. In Finland, for instance, key national stakeholders in language technology had already been collaborating in FIN-CLARIN before META-NORD was launched. In Iceland, researchers working on language technology cooperate in the Icelandic Centre for Language Technology, which also has close ties to industry and the Icelandic Language Council. The Árni Magnússon Institute in Iceland has established www.malfong.is, a national centre for language resources which will continue to be maintained regardless of the future of META-SHARE.

In Norway, the National Library of Norway (Nasjonalbiblioteket; NB) has recently established The Language Technology Resource Collection for Norwegian – Språkbanken. This implies that a unit at NB will be a natural centre for archiving and distributing language resources for Norwegian. Their mandate includes the aim to provide the language industries with basic resources and tools to develop better services and products for communication and access to information. The Norwegian META-NORD team has established cooperation with NB in the areas of meta-data for future cataloguing and archiving of information.

UCPH is the National Centre for language technology in Denmark. UCPH plans to distribute the Danish language resources and tools which will be upgraded in META-NORD in task 3.1, i.e. the Danish computational lexicon (STO) and the LSP corpus, through the Danish research infrastructure, CLARIN. CLARIN will become a part of the larger Danish infrastructure for Humanities (DigHumLab) and constitute part of the Danish membership contribution to the CLARIN European Research Infrastructure Consortium (CLARIN-ERIC). The plan is to make the resources searchable and downloadable from the version of the Danish CLARIN platform which is operational now.

In Sweden, the META-NORD partner is Språkbanken (the Swedish Language Bank). This has functioned as a national language resource centre since 1975, and Språkbanken will continue to produce and distribute Swedish language resources for the foreseeable future, regardless of the status of META-SHARE or the participation of Sweden in the CLARIN ERIC.

The META-SHARE format will be guaranteed to be one of the supported metadata formats, as will the CMDI/ISOCat format (see section 5). Språkbanken has a close collaboration with the Swedish National Data Service (SND), the national data archive for the humanities, social sciences, and social medicine, funded by the Swedish Research Council. The collaboration pertains in particular to practical questions of metadata formats, metadata harvesting, and distributed data sharing.

In Estonia, UT is one of the founding members of the Center of Estonian Language Resources. As a member of CLARIN-ERIC, Estonian government has guaranteed long-term support for this research infrastructure, which will also continue to archive and distribute the language resources in META-SHARE format.

2.3. Sustainability of the main types of resources

This section describes the consortium's plans and visions for the sustainability of the main types of resources that will be developed within META-NORD.

2.3.1. Sustainability of treebank resources

After the end of the two year META-NORD project, treebank resources to be provided during the project Task 3.4 will be further maintained and disseminated through the INESS project, a nationally funded Norwegian project (financed by the Research Council of Norway) which will run until 2015 and to which UIB has declared the intention of long-time maintenance and support after 2015. The INESS project will host treebanks (including LFG treebanks, dependency treebanks and parallel treebanks) for any language on its HPC cluster where they will be searchable and downloadable.

2.3.2. Sustainability of terminology resources

Sustainability of the META-NORD work on terminology resources will be ensured by the tight collaboration with the EuroTermBank (<http://www.eurotermbank.com>) that is maintained and supported by the EuroTermBank Consortium and Tilde company. More than 100 terminology resources and several external databases have been consolidated and federated at the EuroTermBank database that has the necessary data access and sharing mechanisms to interlink with META-SHARE. For the users and providers of terminological data, either of the two methods will be offered – interlinking with existing live databases or storing users' terminological data at EuroTermBank (on user account basis) while sharing it with the community. The facility of periodically updating the data will be provided for static terminological data. By interlinking a one-stop access to users' terminology at EuroTermBank, the conformity with the standards and all the necessary interfaces will be provided including re-use scenarios for various LT industries.

2.3.3. Sustainability of wordnet resources

After the end of the two year META-NORD project, UCPH offers to maintain and disseminate the interlinked wordnet resources to be provided during the project Task 3.5 through the Danish research infrastructure, CLARIN. The monolingual wordnets which have been made available to META-NORD will be hosted nationally, and so the Danish wordnet, DanNet, will be hosted by the CLARIN platform, for instance. UCPH is developing a common browser for the META-NORD wordnets which will be maintained after the project has ended.

The Finnish wordnet, FinnWordNet, will be available through UHEL and the Language Bank of Finland and UHEL will provide a search interface in addition to the downloadable resource. UHEL will also provide occasional updates of the data and the interface after the end

of the META-NORD project. The data will also be available for download from the Language Bank of Finland where it will have long-time backup and preservation.

The Swedish wordnet will be available for download (and browsing) at Språkbanken (UGOT), where it will be preserved, curated and further developed. Språkbanken could also host a copy of the linked wordnet.

Further to the wordnets which were available at the start of META-NORD, the National Library of Norway (Nasjonalbiblioteket; NB) has commissioned a wordnet for Norwegian, and the results, which will be made publicly available, are expected before the end of the META-NORD project.

3. National cooperation and dissemination

This section describes the META-NORD partners' plans for national cooperation with the open data communities and the Language Councils, and their main plans for reaching out to members of their third parties networks and other stakeholders.

3.1. Open data communities

One way of increasing the visibility of the published resources and tools outside the META-SHARE network could be to establish connections to the open data community. Some of the project partners have already done that. Thus, participants from HI have had discussions with representatives from the Icelandic Society for Digital Freedom (<http://www.fsfi.is/>). Participants from UHEL are on the finn-oa@helsinki.fi email list maintained by FinnOA, a group of Finnish professionals interested in promoting open access to scientific information. Thus UHEL follows the news on open access actively and has the possibility to inform others on open access related issues.

Other project partners will assess the benefits of approaching similar communities in their respective countries to discuss the possibilities for cooperation.

3.2. Language Councils

All the participating countries have official Language Councils which in many cases are influential organisations with a long tradition. To increase visibility and awareness, it is important to establish close ties with these organisations. This can in part be done through personal contacts since some of the META-NORD participants are members of the Language Councils in their respective countries. The Scandinavian Language Councils have a special Working Group for Language Technology (ASTIN) which the consortium will establish connections with.

A concrete example of the cooperation with the Language Councils is that the annual meeting of the Scandinavian Language Councils in 2013, which will be held in Iceland, will have Nordic Language Technology and Nordic LT cooperation as a special theme. The initiative for this came from the Icelandic Language Council through its cooperation with META-NORD in Iceland.

The Swedish META-NORD partner, Språkbanken (UGOT) has worked closely together with the Swedish Language Council for a number of years, a case in point being the upcoming jointly organized national META-NORD workshop to be held in November 2012. The language council has a dedicated advisory group on language technology, where UGOT is represented. The language council's expert on language technology questions (Rickard Domeij) is currently the chairperson of the NEALT special interest group on language technology infrastructure (NEALT SIG-INFRA; see section 5). The language council has been a partner in

recent funding proposals (coordinated by UGOT) for a Swedish language technology infrastructure.

3.3. *Language whitepapers*

All the Language whitepapers will be published in the course of the next few weeks. The project partners will distribute copies of the papers to key stakeholders in language technology in their respective countries – representatives of government, funding agencies, industry, research communities, and user groups.

The partners will use the publication of the papers as an opportunity to draw attention to the importance of language technology for the future of our languages and the relatively poor situation of language technology in most of the META-NORD countries. In Iceland, for instance, some of the main findings of the Icelandic whitepaper have already been presented to the mass media and received considerable attention.

3.4. *META-NORD national workshops*

Iceland has already held the national META-NORD workshop, in cooperation with the Icelandic Language Council and the Icelandic Centre for Language Technology. Speakers and participants at the workshop came from the government (including the Minister of Education, Science and Culture), EFNIL, the Icelandic Language Council, funding agencies, the research community, industry, and the disabled community. The workshop was a huge success and received good media coverage (as documented in Deliverable D5.2.1).

The other participating countries will hold their META-NORD national workshops in the fall. The partners will make great efforts to attract participants from all relevant stakeholders, and try to use the workshops as an important means to strengthen and enlarge their third parties networks.

In Denmark, for instance, there are plans to let the national META-NORD Workshop, to be held in October, function as the initiation of a language technology network among industry, researchers and funding agencies. The Swedish national workshop will be arranged in late November 2012 in cooperation with the Swedish Language Council. This will be an opportunity to approach stakeholders in industry, the public sector, funding agencies and academia for the purpose of forming a national network for language technology.

In Estonia, the national META-NORD Workshop will be organized in the beginning of October, coordinated with the conference for National Programme for Language Technology – the main funding programme for creating language resources, which gathers both the researchers and companies participating in the programme, as well as representatives of the industries and society taking an interest in the results of that programme.

In Latvia, the national workshop is planned in September. It is planned in cooperation with the Government Ministerial Working Group on the Language Shore initiative and Latvian Information and Communication Technology Association (LIKTA). Interest of Microsoft Corporation to become a co-organizer of the conference is an indication of its potential impact on raising awareness in the broader industry sector.

The Norwegian national workshop is planned for October 15 and 16 in Oslo. It will be targeted at an audience primarily consisting of industries (mostly SMEs) which are developers and providers of language technology and of industries and public bodies which are actual or potential users of language technology; secondary targets are decision making bodies such as government bodies, national and regional agencies, R&D funding organisations, language councils and thematically related projects and initiatives. The aim of the workshop is to raise

awareness, to promote matchmaking between stakeholders, and to stimulate cooperation and complementary initiatives in relevant areas. In order to reach a maximally large and relevant audience, the event is planned in cooperation with the sectorial stakeholder company Infosector, the National Library of Norway and the Language Council of Norway. The format and program of the event is currently under development. Contacts have been established with LT Innovate and the European Multimodal Forum for potential contributions to the program.

3.5. META-NORD Newsletter

Starting this summer, the project partners will publish a monthly (or bi-monthly) newsletter for their third parties network and other stakeholders. This newsletter will have the role of raising awareness of language technology projects and resources and enhance the visibility of the work being done and the resources being collected by the consortium. It will also publish information on relevant events such as conferences and workshops on language technology and resources. LKI will be responsible for the publication of the newsletter.

4. Cooperation with other infrastructure initiatives

Most of the participating partners have joined the NEALT special interest group on resource infrastructures, SIG-INFRA, founded in 2007. The purpose of SIG-INFRA is to strengthen the cooperation regarding language technology infrastructure (LTI) between the countries and regions associated to NEALT, to coordinate activities related to LTI in the associated countries and to promote the development and use of joint LTI in the associated countries.

META-NORD will also align itself with the activities of the CLARIN-ERIC, in order to avoid duplication of work and promote long-time viability of the META-NORD results. Denmark and Estonia are founding member of CLARIN-ERIC, and Finland will join CLARIN-ERIC later this year. The membership of Norway and Sweden awaits a political decision; however, there is a funded Norwegian CLARIN project and there is a start of a cooperation between CLARIN and META-SHARE in Norway. The Swedish Research Council has indicated that there will be a suitable call for proposals in early 2013, and a national consortium coordinated by UGOT is set to submit a proposal for Swedish CLARIN-ERIC membership.

The possibility to transform the META-SHARE metadata into CMDI/ISOCat format has been discussed, so that CLARIN-ERIC could ensure that the metadata, the resources and tools collected and published by META-NORD will continue to be available after the end of the project period.

Conclusion

Even though the long-term viability and sustainability strategies are not yet fully developed the most important thing is that everyone agrees that there is a need to create a sustainable mechanism for cooperation and resource sharing as part of the European open linguistic infrastructure. Commitment letters signed by META-NORD partners clearly shows that these plans are already well on the way.

In addition to joint META-NET sustainability activities, business models will be evaluated for the META-NORD infrastructure, such as the clearinghouse concept which aims at cooperation on a long-time storage of resources with other similar service centres in other European countries, using a cost-sharing principles. Inclusion of new actors and countries in the business model will be further elaborated in the META-NORD project in cooperation with the best practices of other META-SHARE centres. In order to ensure sustainability and con-

tinuation of META-NORD activities the possibilities will be discussed to create national META-CENTRES by the project partner institutions. Some such centres have already been established.

Several plans already exist for the sustainability of the main types of resources that will be developed within META-NORD. Treebank resources will be maintained and disseminated through the INESS project and further maintained and supported by UIB. Terminology resources will be ensured by the collaboration with the EuroTermBank, that is maintained and supported by the EuroTermBank Consortium and the Tilde company. The interlinked word-net resources will be maintained and disseminated by UCPH through the Danish research infrastructure, CLARIN.

In the coming months, the META-NORD partners will take several measures to increase awareness and visibility of their work, and of language technology and language resources in general. This includes contacting the open data communities in the META-NORD countries, establishing firm connections with the respective Language Councils, using the Language whitepapers and the META-NORD national workshops to strengthen and enlarge the partners' networks of third parties, and establishing a (bi-)monthly newsletter which will be distributed to members of the third parties networks and other stakeholders. Some of this has already been started, as described above.

The participating partners have joined SIG-INFRA, the NEALT special interest group in order to strengthen cooperation and coordinate activities related to LTI and to promote the development and use of joint LTI in the associated countries.

As evidenced by several concrete examples reported on above, the META-NORD partners are working on a long-time viability and sustainability strategy that will be presented towards the end of the project period (Deliverable D5.3.2, M24).



Språkbanken
Department of Swedish

GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

Letter of intent

Språkbanken (the Swedish Language Bank), University of Gothenburg, Sweden, represented by Lars Borin hereby expresses its non legally binding intent that Språkbanken is willing and able to participate in the maintenance and evolution of the META-SHARE infrastructure.

We confirm that Språkbanken will

- Set up a META-SHARE repository to host and make available its language resources through the META-SHARE network
- Continue to host the repository of LRs and serve as a META-SHARE node for a period of not less than 24 months
- Continue to provide technical and/or user support services, software-based and/or human services provided for a period of not less than 24 months
- Start or continue to participate in the META-SHARE software development team

Gothenburg, 18th June 2012

Lars Borin
Director of Språkbanken,
Professor of natural language processing

Letter of Intent

The Tilde SIA, represented by Chairman of the Board Andrejs Vasiljevs hereby expresses its non-legally binding intent that Tilde SIA is willing and able to participate in the maintenance and evolution of the META-SHARE infrastructure.

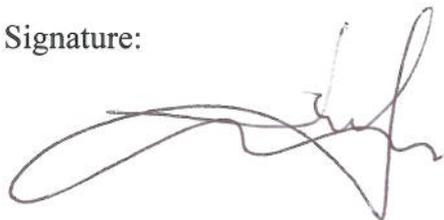
We confirm that Tilde SIA will,

- Host and make available META-SHARE repository to its language resources through the META-SHARE network
- Continue to host the repository of LRs and serve as a META-SHARE node for a period of 24 months
- Continue to provide technical and/or user support services, software-based and/or human services provided for a period of 24 months
- Continue to participate in the META-SHARE software development team
- Host, maintain, provide user and technical support for the EuroTermBank platform - a dedicated META-SHARE node for storing and sharing multilingual terminology resources.

Date: June 29, 2012

Name: Dr. Andrejs Vasiljevs

Signature:



Letter of Intent

FIN-CLARIN, represented by its coordinator Krister Lindén hereby expresses its legally non-binding intent that the University of Helsinki and CSC is willing and able to participate in the maintenance and evolution of the META-SHARE infrastructure.

We confirm that FIN-CLARIN will,

- Continue its cooperation with META-SHARE and make available its language resources through the META-SHARE network
- Continue to host a repository of LRs and serve as a META-SHARE node for a period of 24 months
- Continue to provide technical and user support services, software-based and human services for a period of 24 months
- Continue to participate in the META-SHARE development

Date: July 1, 2012

Name: Dr. Krister Lindén,
Research Director
University of Helsinki

Signature :

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KL', is written over a light blue horizontal line.



Letter of Intent

19 June 2013

The University of Tartu, represented by Vice Rector for Research Dr. Kristjan Haller, hereby expresses its non legally binding intent that Center of Estonian Language Resources is willing and able to participate in the maintenance and evolution of the META-SHARE infrastructure.

We confirm that Center of Estonian Language Resources will:

Set up a META-SHARE repository to host and make available its language resources through the META-SHARE network;

Continue to host the repository of Language Resources and serve as a META-SHARE node for a period of 24 months since 31 January 2013;

Continue to provide technical and/or user support services, software-based and/or human services provided for a period of 24 months since 31 January 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Kristjan Haller
Vice Rector for Research
University of Tartu