



Ministry of Culture and Equality

Strategy

# A space for democracy and self-cultivation



# A space for democracy and self-cultivation

Expanded national strategy for libraries – through 2025



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# Foreword

In this document, the Ministry of Culture and Equality presents an expansion of the national library strategy: *A space for democracy and self-cultivation*.

Libraries are pillars of Norwegian society. They are foundational to the dissemination of literature, as centres of information and knowledge, and as a free and inclusive service for the entire population, regardless of income, social status or geography. Libraries shall be independent meeting places and arenas for conversation and debate. In this way, they are important institutions for underpinning freedom of expression and a civil climate for public discourse. Libraries are in a unique position to nurture reading enjoyment and a love of reading in children, young people and adults all across the country.

In Norway, there is broad political consensus on the significance of libraries. The Ministry of Culture and Equality's decision to expand the existing library strategy is rooted in our desire to strengthen and provide even clearer direction for the work of developing the libraries, give the general public access to literature, and further stimulate increased reading and an increased thirst for knowledge.

The measures in the expanded library strategy are targeted mainly at two areas. Firstly, we wish to strengthen the work of stimulating interest in reading and dissemination in our libraries. This must also be seen in connection with the government's upcoming strategy for reading enjoyment.

Secondly, we wish to strengthen our work in the area of digital infrastructure. In order to disseminate their analogue and digital content to the public, libraries require functional services. Each resident must have access to an analogue library as well as a digital library. For these reasons, we are strengthening the effort to develop a national digital infrastructure for purchasing as well as disseminating digital content. The aim is for those borrowing from a public library to have access to a large and diverse pool of digital content, and that this shall be disseminated to them through a simple, user-friendly system.

Additionally, the government wishes to strengthen efforts to give the general public access to digital books. When the Book Act was being debated in the Storting, it was decided to investigate the possibility of setting requirements for public libraries concerning digital loans of digital works. This will be followed up by the government. The National Library is currently in negotiations concerning a possible extension of access to Norwegian literature through the Bookshelf agreement. These are the main measures taken to ensure that everyone in Norway has access to their cultural heritage as well as modern literature in all formats.

Libraries, literature and reading enjoyment are all interconnected, and the government has high ambitions in this area. Along with, for instance the Book Act, the strengthening of literary policy efforts and the work on the new strategy for reading enjoyment, the expanded library strategy will contribute to a national boost which will, in turn, strengthen our democracy.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lubna Jaffery".

Lubna Jaffery

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND EQUALITY

PHOTO: THE STORTING





# 1 Background

## 1.1 National strategy for libraries 2020–2023

*National strategy for libraries 2020–2023 – A space for democracy and self-cultivation*<sup>1</sup> was presented jointly by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education in 2019, and continued by the Støre administration in 2021. The purpose of the strategy is to further develop libraries as relevant and important knowledge institutions that will contribute to public enlightenment and self-cultivation in the population. The strategy's main measure is active dissemination, and one of the aims is to reach out to those who do not use libraries. The strategy describes 25 measures that are to be implemented during the strategy period. The measures are directed at public libraries, county libraries, schools, universities and university colleges. While the bulk of the measures shall be carried out by or in partnership with the National Library, certain measures shall be followed up on by the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training. An overview of the status for the follow-up of the measures is attached.

The strategy describes three key points for the work on developing the libraries during the strategy period:

- **Dissemination:** During the strategy period, a focus will be placed on strengthening the libraries' and librarians' efforts to provide access to the large diversity in the libraries' collections. For this reason, the National Library is announcing funding for dissemination, with the aim of reaching new library users, getting more people to read and increasing the number of loans. Public and county libraries may apply for this funding.
- **Cooperation and development:** During the strategy period, the National Library will use development funding to strengthen cooperation and the sharing of resources between libraries, different types of institutions and administration levels. Particular emphasis will be placed on the municipal and regional reform and an assessment will be made of whether this leads to changes in the library landscape that require action.
- **Infrastructure:** The government will strengthen and develop the National Library's shared physical and digital infrastructure for the country's libraries. The aim is to ensure that the libraries' collective resources, both physical and digital, will be more easily accessible to the population as a whole. This will also free up resources in the individual library that can and should be used for greater emphasis on dissemination and content production. As part of the national infrastructure, the National Library will offer the expertise libraries need.

The National Library has appointed a strategic council to follow up on the strategy. This council will help ensure a good, regular and coordinated dialogue with the libraries during the strategy period. The council consists of 15 library leaders from the entire country.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokumenter/nasjonalt-bibliotekstrategi-2020-2023---rom-for-demokrati-og-dannelse/id2667015/>

<sup>2</sup> Strategisk råd – Bibliotekutvikling.

## **1.2 Expansion of library strategy**

In Prop. 1 S (2022-2023), submitted to the Storting by the Ministry of Culture and Equality, the National Library's role is termed the state's developmental agency for the library sector. Furthermore, it is stated that the government will prioritise project and development funds for libraries when the profit from lottery funds is to be distributed in 2023, and that the Ministry will revise the National library strategy.

In December 2022, the National Library was tasked with proposing a revision of the library strategy. This assignment included reviewing existing measures and if necessary updating these, as well as proposing new measures for the strategy with the purpose of making literature more accessible to the general public across the country. The new measures will be additional to the measures written into the library strategy for 2020–2023. In the assignment, it was further specified that the National Library's strategic council should be involved in the process, and that the new measures should be owned by the Ministry of Culture and Equality and followed up on by the National Library. The Ministry of Culture's measures in the library strategy are applicable to the end of 2023. The Ministry of Education will consider its measures in the strategy in connection with a new strategy for reading enjoyment.

The expanded national library strategy is based on a proposal from the National Library, which in turn is based on comments from external players and discussions with the National Library's strategic council.

## **1.3 Extension of strategy period**

In 2019, the libraries had 25 million visits and 15 million loans. During this year, 54 per cent of the population used the libraries. After 2019, the number of visits and loans dropped dramatically due to the pandemic. Due to lockdown in 2020, the libraries were not able to get started on the dissemination activity outlined in the library strategy 2020–2023. Already then, therefore, the strategy period for the measures that are followed up on the National Library was extended to the end of 2024. A large portion of the strategy period has been spent trying to bring back the members of the public who used the libraries before 2020.

The government will extend the strategy period to the end of 2025, to give time for the focus area of active dissemination to work in line with the intentions of the strategy.



## 2 Summary – New and updated measures

The expanded strategy for libraries is an extension of the *National strategy for libraries 2020–2023*. It involves updating existing measures, where appropriate, as well as developing new measures for the strategy. The purpose of these new measures is to make literature more accessible to the general public across the country. The expanded library strategy puts particular emphasis on strengthening and developing dissemination activities and measures to promote reading enjoyment in the country's public libraries, and must be seen in connection with the government's upcoming strategy for reading enjoyment.

Each year, the National Library manages development and project funds allocated to the library sector. These funds are part of the profit made by the Norwegian lottery company Norsk Tipping AS, and go to support the follow-up of the library strategy. In 2023, the funds amount to NOK 54.7 million. This includes an increase of NOK 5 million in 2023 for measures to promote reading enjoyment and literature dissemination in libraries.

*National strategy for libraries – A space for democracy and self-cultivation* will be extended to the end of 2025. The National Library's strategic council will be continued during this period.

In the expanded library strategy, the three main points for library development work will be continued, and the development funds will be distributed between these three main areas:

- Dissemination shall be continued and strengthened. It is an aim is that all public libraries shall carry out active dissemination measures during the course of the strategy period.
- Cooperation and development are narrowed down to larger and fewer individual projects. Following comments from the sector, these funds will be used for larger one- or two-year development projects in libraries.
- Infrastructure will be continued and strengthened. The National Library will discuss with the libraries what new infrastructural measures should be developed, and help find sustainable operational models for national infrastructure.



### **Measures – Dissemination**

- The National Library will each year announce funding for active dissemination, so that the public libraries and county libraries can create good measures to promote reading enjoyment and literature dissemination in libraries across the country (updated)
- The National Library will develop an online resource for upper secondary schools linked to the National Library's collection and dissemination of Norwegian cultural history (updated)
- The National Library will make its own events accessible digitally and facilitate competence sharing with other libraries in the area of digital dissemination (updated)
- The National Library shall make the services offered by libraries visible to individuals with disabilities that make it difficult for them to read visual text or normal books, such that the libraries actively disseminate this to users entitled to adapted library services (new)

### **Measures – Cooperation and development**

- The National Library will announce project and development funding (updated)
- The National Library will partner with relevant players to follow up on applicable measures in the upcoming strategy for reading enjoyment (new)



## Measures – Infrastructure

- The National Library will establish an infrastructure that facilitates a transition to central production and sharing of metadata for Norwegian libraries (updated)
- The National Library will, in partnership with Sikt – Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research develop the Norwegian Authority File (updated)
- The National Library will, in close consultation with the library sector, contribute to establishing a shared national digital infrastructure in Norwegian public libraries (new)
- The National Library will, in close consultation with the library sector, investigate various models for organising and funding digital infrastructure for public libraries for the period after 2025 (new)



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DEREN  
Charlotte Hurdman  
Landskulturförlaget

## 3 Key points of the strategy

### 3.1 Dissemination

#### 3.1.1 Summary of the strategy for 2020–2023

The strategy's main measure is *active dissemination*, and one of the aims is to reach out to those who do not use libraries. The most important measure is that the National Library will each year announce funding for active dissemination, enabling public libraries and county libraries throughout Norway to draw up effective measures to boost reading and increase the borrowing of analogue and digital material from the collections.

When the pandemic hit in the spring of 2020, libraries closed, and in-person, outwardly directed dissemination activity had to be postponed. For this reason, the government and the National Library implemented extraordinary measures to provide the public with a digital offering that was as good as possible. The funds that were to be allocated to public libraries in 2020 were instead allocated to county libraries, Deichman and Bergen Public Library for additional purchasing of digital content and for digital dissemination. This led to a rapid growth in e-loans. Reports from counties indicate that the funds provided valuable skills and strengthened the regional collaboration concerning digital dissemination. At the same time, the challenges of reaching and establishing an audience for digital events became clear<sup>3</sup>.

For 2021–2024, funding for active dissemination is announced as described in the strategy. The funds have been divided into three categories of applicants: a) public libraries, b) city libraries and c) county libraries.

Public libraries have been eligible to apply for up to NOK 75,000 for staffing resources for new dissemination measures. City libraries (in municipalities with more than 70,000 inhabitants) have been eligible to apply for up to NOK 400,000 per year for the sharing of resources, staff and dissemination methods. A requirement has been a partnership between at least two municipalities. County libraries have been eligible to apply for up to NOK 300,000 per year for measures to strengthen the dissemination skills of library staff.

Over 70 per cent of the country's municipalities have applied for funding for active dissemination. This includes applications in which the libraries have applied either alone or jointly with other libraries, in partnership with city libraries, or through applications in which the county library has applied on behalf of multiple public libraries. For 2021–2022, the county libraries chose to join forces in the skills boosting measure *Dissemination skills in public libraries (Formidlingskompetanse i folkebibliotek (FiF))*<sup>4</sup> and were awarded NOK 6 million for this over two years. This measure has been awarded another NOK 3 million for the period 2023–2024.

The biggest and perhaps most important dissemination measure is *Sommerles*<sup>5</sup>, the libraries' reading campaign for primary school students during the summer holidays. Sommerles is funded by the National Library for the entire strategy period. In 2022, Sommerles had 162,600 participants, which is equal to 37 per cent of all children in the target group. A survey conducted by the National Library in 2022 shows that one of four members of the public have heard of Sommerles.<sup>6</sup> Vestfold and Telemark County Library, which has been responsible for the reading campaign project, has now developed a new pricing model that will ensure more stable financing to develop Sommerles in the years ahead.

The *National strategy for libraries* also states that the National Library's dissemination shall to a greater extent be directed towards school pupils. This has been followed up for instance with

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<sup>3</sup> <https://bibliotekutvikling.no/2021/12/17/rapport-etter-tiltaksplan-for-folkebibliotekene-varen-2020/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://bibliotekutvikling.no/formidlingskompetanse/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://sommerles.no/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://bibliotekutvikling.no/2022/10/11/en-av-fire-har-hort-om-arets-sommerles/>

designated web pages on nb.no, which present the services offered to schools.<sup>7</sup>

Parallel to the *National strategy for libraries*, a computer game strategy was presented, in which the libraries were highlighted as pivotal to the dissemination and diffusion of Norwegian computer games. The Norwegian Film Institute, which is responsible for purchasing of computer games, used this opportunity to introduce a funding arrangement for skills strengthening measures for disseminators of computer games<sup>8</sup>.

Due to lockdowns and restrictions during the pandemic, measures relating to active dissemination had to be postponed. The National Library has received many requests from players who would like more time to complete the measures.

### 3.1.2 Expanded strategy

In 2023, the government increased funding for library development by NOK 5 million. These funds will be allocated to a stronger push for reading enjoyment and active literature dissemination in libraries.

Funding for active dissemination will be continued through annual funding announcements for public libraries and county libraries. Having the county libraries take responsibility for uniform dissemination methods in their county has proven successful. This model can also be adopted by other counties to reach the goal of having all Norwegian public libraries actively engaged with new dissemination measures. By giving the county libraries this responsibility, a closer connection is also drawn between the county libraries' joint campaign to boost skills, known as *Dissemination skills in public libraries*, and further efforts within active dissemination, giving better results for both. At the same time, there will still be room for the public libraries to apply for funding for active dissemination on their own or jointly. The National Library will support this effort by, for instance, presenting good examples and other useful resources on bibliotekutvikling.no.

From 1 July 2023, the Norwegian Library of Talking Books and Braille (NLB) was merged with the National Library, and the mandate of the National Library was thus expanded. This merger holds great potential to strengthen the offering to the target group for which NLB was previously responsible, i.e. individuals with disabilities that make it difficult for them to read visual text or normal books. In the expanded strategy period, the National Library shall make the library offering visible to this target group, such that the libraries actively disseminate this to users entitled to adapted library services.

The National Library's dissemination to school pupils shall be strengthened further. An online resource shall be developed for upper secondary schools linked to the National Library's collection and dissemination of Norwegian cultural history.

In recent years, the National Library has significantly strengthened its digital dissemination through a strategic push, in scope as well as quality. The National Library will facilitate competence sharing with other libraries in this area.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nb.no/skole/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nfi.no/sok-tilskudd/kompetansehevende-tiltak/tilskudd-til-kompetansehevende-tiltak-for-formidlere-av-dataspill>



## 3.2 Cooperation and development

### 3.2.1 Summary of strategy for 2020–2023 The National Library promotes library

development and good collaboration schemes through measures instigated by the National Library itself, and by announcing project and development funding for public and county libraries as well as libraries in higher education. For 2021–2024, funding for development projects is announced as assumed in the strategy, with emphasis on the following focus areas:

- New forms of cooperation
- Open research
- The UN's Sustainable Development Goals
- Cooperation with the National Library to develop new offerings based on the National Library's services (first for 2023)

Beyond this, it is possible to apply for funds for independent trials and preliminary projects. Funding has been awarded for approx. 50–75 projects per year. Applications, reports and other project resources are made accessible in the project bank on [bibliotekutvikling.no](https://bibliotekutvikling.no)<sup>9</sup>.

The National Library has followed up on the library strategy by asking university and university college libraries for an evaluation of the impact of development funding on libraries in higher education. Approximately a third believe the development funding has made a difference to the development of the higher education libraries, while many are neutral or unsure. Those who have applied for funding believe the funds have made a difference in the sense that the projects have led to an altered practice, altered services/offerings, greater internal visibility and changed collaborative relationships for their library.

Since 2018, the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training has awarded grants to municipalities to strengthen the efforts of school libraries to stimulate reading. The funds have been allocated to staff resources and skills development measures. The funding scheme was expanded for the period 2021–2023, in connection with the *National Strategy for Libraries 2020–2023*.

The strategy states that the grants/project funding from the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training and the National Library shall be viewed in conjunction with each other. Throughout the strategy period, these two entities have held meetings to exchange information. The National Library has funded several projects to trial a collaboration between public libraries and schools.

Arts Council Norway's trial arrangement for the purchase and distribution of cultural fund books for school libraries has been ongoing from 2020 to 2023, with the aim of providing children and young people with access to a greater range of new Norwegian books through school libraries. Arts Council Norway's internal review shows that the trial arrangement has led to a significantly higher number of loans and increased reading enjoyment<sup>10</sup>. Arts Council Norway has decided to make the arrangement permanent from 2024. The Regulation on library statistics (Forskrift om bibliotekstatistikk) has been changed, with changes coming into force in 2023, so that the responsibility for collecting statistics on school libraries is transferred from the National Library to the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training.

### 3.2.2 Expanded strategy

The collaboration between the Ministry of Culture and Equality and the Ministry of Education concerning library development will continue through the government's work on the strategy for reading enjoyment. The National Library shall partner with relevant players to follow up on applicable measures in the upcoming strategy for reading enjoyment.

Feedback and experience indicate a continual need for development projects in the library sector. The arrangement in which funding may be sought for development projects to stimulate creativity and renewal in the libraries will continue. The feedback from the sector indicates that more of the development funds should be allocated to larger one- or two-year development projects of national significance. This will also make it easier to distinguish between development funds and funds for

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<sup>9</sup> <https://bibliotekutvikling.no/prosjektbank/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://bibliotekutvikling.no/content/uploads/2023/05/Hovudfunn-skulebibliotekordninga-mai-2023.pdf>

active dissemination, the latter having smaller libraries as their key target group. For any development funds to the higher education libraries, a prerequisite will be that the projects must impact the entire library sector. If needed, the National Library may commission development projects from libraries within areas of priority.

A significant part of the development funds shall in the period 2024–2025 be spent on developing a shared digital infrastructure for public libraries, including digital content and digital dissemination solutions. The National Library will maintain a dialogue with the players in the library sector concerning needs and opportunities linked to this, see section 3.3.2.

## 3.3 Infrastructure

### 3.3.1 Summary of strategy for 2020–2023

The National Library aims to strengthen and further develop its shared analogue and digital infrastructure for the country's libraries, to improve the accessibility of the libraries' collective resources, both analogue and digital, to members of the public across the country. The National Library will help create a digital rootstock for Norwegian libraries. This will take place through the digitalisation of the National Library's own collections and through efforts to increase accessibility, clarify copyrights and share digital resources nationally. The online library nb.no is the National Library's tool to make materials accessible.

In autumn 2019, a trial arrangement was instigated to provide digital access to legally deposited material for research and documentation purposes in libraries through the National Library's online library. This trial was put on hold during the pandemic in the spring of 2020, at which time general access was given for digitalised materials through an agreement between the National Library and the copyright holders. The trial resumed in 2021. In the spring of 2023, literature which is on the syllabus of the country's university colleges and universities was excluded from the arrangement. In 2023, the National Library will evaluate the trial arrangement in close consultation with representatives from the copyright holders.

Through development funds, the National Library has supported the preliminary project *Digin – Joint operation of digital content services* and its follow-up, *Digin – from theory to practice*<sup>11</sup>, which has resulted in the purchasing collaboration Bibliotek24<sup>12</sup>. The purpose of these development projects has been to gather together, strengthen and streamline the libraries' digital content services, in order to secure more equal access and better terms and conditions. Initially, the material included is the part of the libraries' media collection that is digital but not yet covered by the National Library. This joint purchasing includes all county libraries.

E-books and audio books are currently not included in Digin/Bibliotek24. At the behest of the Ministry of Culture and Equality, the National Library has presented models for the loan of e-books and audio books, following talks with the Norwegian Publishers Association. In November 2021, the consultancy firm Rambøll was given the task of performing an evaluation of the lending models. It became clear that the model for audio books does not work as well as the model for e-books, and there are three main points in particular that are made throughout the critique of the lending models: complexity, selection/accessibility and price.

The online *Nordic World Library*<sup>13</sup> service was born of a project funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The service offers e-books and audio books in many of the languages spoken by the largest immigrant groups in Scandinavia, and is funded by the National Library along with the Swedish Arts Council and the National Library of Sweden. Malmö Library has been tasked with developing and managing the service, which is under assessment.

In the period 2020–2023, the National Library has been working to realise what is known in the strategy as a metadata vault. A metadata vault is a piece of infrastructure that facilitates the transition to central production and sharing of metadata. In recent years, the National Library has been working

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<sup>11</sup> <https://digin.vtfk.no/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://bibliotek24.no/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://verdensbiblioteket.no/>

to find out what a metadata vault will mean in practice, for instance by discussing issues with relevant suppliers and selected libraries. The takeaway from this has been that the challenges appear to be more complex and extensive than previously assumed.

The bibliotekutvikling.no website has been strengthened as a professional resource for library staff. The submission portal for applications and statistics has been made operational, the project bank has been refurbished, and a training bank has recently been established.

National library cards have been relaunched under the name *The Library Card – the key to all libraries in Norway*<sup>14</sup>. Library users will now be met with a modern and more user-friendly website, where they can register as users of the national library card.

The National Library has an ongoing dialogue with the players in the university and higher education sector concerning the preservation of and access to collections. Documents and metadata that are part of UNIT's open research archive will be followed up on in conjunction with facilitating digital legal depositing. The National Library has discontinued some collections of printed foreign periodicals. In 2023, university libraries have been allocated development funds to explore options for a collaboration on access to foreign material.

### 3.3.2 Expanded strategy

A discussion topic on several occasions in the National Library's strategic council has been how the National Library can contribute to a national digital infrastructure for public libraries which extends beyond the National Library's own services. This applies, for instance, to access to digital content and dissemination solutions.

The national digital infrastructure consists of several components. In the last strategy period, the National Library established *Library Search*<sup>15</sup> for distance lending and assumed responsibility for national library cards, now called *The Library Card*. These services will continue to be further developed.

The National Library will establish an infrastructure that facilitates the transition to central production and sharing of metadata for Norwegian libraries. The transition will be gradual and will occur through the creation of central registries and vocabularies, the definition of standards for exchanging and sharing of data, and the establishment of systems to provide central access to metadata in a single location – a metadata vault. The National Library will, in partnership with Sikt – Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research, further develop the Norwegian Authority File: Persons and Corporate Bodies, with content and features. The registry shall be an authoritative source for the metadata vault and other relevant services, including the libraries' catalogues.

Beyond this, the sector has requested two new infrastructural measures. One concerns a good shared online dissemination solution that integrates seamlessly with the library systems. A shared dissemination solution for public libraries will be able to provide nationwide access to a larger and more equal library service, and open up the possibility for more collaboration across municipal borders. Rogaland County Library has recently been awarded development funds for the project *Shared dissemination solution for Rogaland libraries (Felles formidlingsløsning for bibliotekene i Rogaland)*, and should become a key source of experience in this area.

The second request concerns access to digital content services, which in Norwegian libraries can vary widely and depend on local priorities. To level and strengthen this access, the county libraries have taken the initiative to coordinate the digital content services through the project Digin. The long-term intention is to establish an intermunicipal company that can operate these services.

On the basis of this development, the Ministry of Culture and Equality would like the National Library to establish a systematic dialogue with the library sector concerning a common digital infrastructure for Norwegian public libraries. The Ministry also wants the National Library, in close consultation with the library sector, to investigate various models for organising and funding digital infrastructure for public libraries for the period after 2025.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.bibliotekkortet.no/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://bibsok.no/>





The most important digital services offered by the libraries to the general public are e-books and digital audio books. The conclusion of the above-mentioned evaluation from autumn 2021 is that the recommended lending models no longer function well enough for either the libraries or for users. In conjunction with debating the new Book Act in the spring of 2023, the Storting requested the government to investigate the possibility of establishing regulations for public libraries concerning the lending of digital works. The Norwegian government will follow up on this.

The *Bookshelf agreement*, which was initiated in 2010, gives the Norwegian public unique access to all books published in Norway up to and including the year 2000. Currently, the service provides all Norwegian IP addresses with open access to read, search and refer to over 240,000 books. For libraries, the Bookshelf agreement represents the most important digital access for Norwegian users. The National Library is negotiating with Kopinor to secure an extension of the Bookshelf agreement.



# Attachments: National strategy for libraries – status of measures

## Dissemination

Measures	Status	Work	Comment
1. Each year, the National Library will announce funding for active dissemination, enabling public libraries and county libraries throughout Norway to draw up effective measures to boost reading and increase the borrowing of physical and digital material from the collections.	Updated	Ongoing	The first invitation to apply for funding was issued in autumn 2020 with an application total of NOK 24 million. The second invitation to apply for funding was issued in autumn 2021 with an application total of NOK 14 million. The third invitation to apply for funding was issued in autumn 2022 with an application total of NOK 12 million.
2. The National Library will initiate projects related to outreach library activities with a view to attracting new user groups/readers, including in schools.	Updated	Ongoing	Highlighted as key area for annual announcement of funding for active dissemination
3. The National Library will support measures that develop methods for digital dissemination.	Updated	Ongoing	Highlighted as key area for annual announcement of funding for active dissemination
4. The National Library will create a website for disseminating the National Library's collections to lower secondary school pupils.	Updated		This has been adjusted (see Measure 5).
5. The National Library will develop web pages for its map centre, which will also consist of content that schools can use for teaching.	Updated		A web page has been created for school visits, including the map centre: <a href="https://www.nb.no/skole/">https://www.nb.no/skole/</a>
6. The National Library will disseminate its own events through a streaming service, and be open to events from other libraries following an editorial assessment.	Updated	Ongoing	All National Library events are disseminated digitally through nb.no, on Facebook, and as podcasts

## Cooperation and development

Measures	Status	Work	Comment
<p>7. The National Library will announce project and development funding to stimulate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– new areas of cooperation</li> <li>– more cooperation between public libraries and libraries in higher education in relation to dissemination</li> <li>– trials of different models of operation and cooperation in libraries and library services, with a special focus on new counties and merged municipalities</li> <li>– new forms of cooperation between school libraries and public libraries</li> </ul>	Updated	Ongoing	<p>Annual announcement, first time in early 2021. A total of NOK 15 million was distributed to 45 development projects for public libraries, special libraries and county libraries.</p> <p>Second announcement in early 2022. A total of NOK 13.5 million was distributed to 37 development projects for public libraries, special libraries and county libraries.</p> <p>Third announcement, January 2023. A total of NOK 14.5 million was distributed to 30 development projects for public libraries, special libraries and county libraries.</p>
<p>8. <i>The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training is announcing grants for school libraries, and is extending the focus on this priority area by two years – from 2021 to 2023.</i></p>			<p>The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training has announced funding for school libraries in the period 2018–2023</p>
<p>9. The grants/project funding from the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training and the National Library will be viewed in conjunction with each other.</p>	Continued	Ongoing	<p>Hold regular meetings and email correspondence concerning the announcements for funding</p>
<p>10. <i>Funds are being set aside for the maintenance, updating and operation of Språkløyper (the National Strategy for Language, Reading and Writing) for a limited period of time.</i></p>			<p>In the strategy period, funds have been set aside by the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training for the updating and operation of Språkløyper (the National Strategy for Language, Reading and Writing)</p>
<p>11. The responsibility for collecting statistics on school libraries will be transferred from the National Library to the Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training.</p>		Completed	<p>New statutory passed. <a href="https://bibliotekutvikling.no/2022/08/12/ending-i-forskrift-om-bibliotekstatistikk-er-fastsatt/">https://bibliotekutvikling.no/2022/08/12/ending-i-forskrift-om-bibliotekstatistikk-er-fastsatt/</a></p>
<p>12. The National Library will initiate an evaluation of the impact of development funding on libraries in higher education.</p>		Completed	<p>Reference in expanded strategy</p>



## Infrastructure

Measures	Status	Work	Comment
13. Throughout the strategy period, the National Library will endeavour to increase the scope of digital material that the libraries can access.	Continued	In progress	Work in progress
14. The National Library will negotiate with Kopinor to secure an extension of the Bookshelf service agreement.	Continued	In progress	Discussed in expanded strategy
15. Norwegian Film Institute to evaluate and develop procurement system for computer games.	NFI	Completed	
16. The National Library will raise awareness in school libraries of the Multilingual Library's general services.	Continued	In progress	Has created materials and sent them to schools
17. The National Library will offer documented machine-readable access to its open access digital collection.	Continued	Ongoing	Version begun and published api.nb.no
18. Arts Council Norway will establish a pilot project for school libraries in its procurement schemes.	Arts Council Norway	Completed	Discussed in expanded strategy
19. The National Library will join forces with UNIT and the higher education institutions to secure access to the large printed collections of foreign journals found in Norwegian higher education libraries.	Continued	In progress	Discussed in expanded strategy. Granted development funds.
20. The National Library will join forces with UNIT and the higher education institutions to ensure the preservation of and access to documents and metadata in UNIT's national open research archive.	Updated	In progress	Discussed in expanded strategy
21. The National Library will join forces with UNIT to establish a national vault of metadata, which will constitute the only authorized source of metadata for Norwegian libraries and enable the reuse of metadata both between the libraries and between the libraries and other parties.	Updated	In progress	Discussed in expanded strategy

<b>Measures</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Work</b>	<b>Comment</b>
22. The National Library will join forces with UNIT to help ensure that the common register of authority records is implemented in the various library systems in Norway, and expanded to include more authority types.	Continued	Not yet started	To be seen in context of implementing the metadata vault
23. The National Library will continue to develop the national library card.	Continued	In progress	Discussed in expanded strategy
24. In cooperation with the county authorities, the National Library will hold seminars and conferences that provide knowledge and training in the use of national library services.	Continued	Ongoing	Ongoing contact with county libraries and individual libraries concerning this
25. The National Library will strengthen the bibliotekutvikling.no website as a professional resource for library staff.	Continued	Ongoing	Submission portal for applications and statistics is in use. New statistics presentation is in use. The Project Bank has been refurbished. Several courses have been created and ordered to increase competence levels.

<b>New measures</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Work</b>	<b>Comment</b>
The National Library shall make the library offering visible to individuals with disabilities that make it difficult for them to read visual text or normal books, such that the libraries actively disseminate this to users entitled to adapted library services.	New		
The National Library will partner with relevant players to follow up on applicable measures in the upcoming strategy for reading enjoyment.	New		
The National Library will, in close consultation with the library sector, contribute to the establishment of a shared national digital infrastructure in Norwegian public libraries.	New		
The National Library will, in close consultation with the library sector, investigate various models for organising and funding digital infrastructure for public libraries for the period after 2025.	New		





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