

16 May 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Academy of Finland Annual Report 2007 out now

Enclosed please find the Academy of Finland's Annual Report. The Report describes the Academy's operations and tells about Finnish science in 2007.

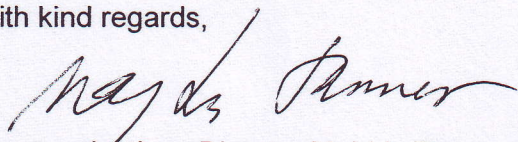
As the prime funding agency for scientific research in Finland, the Academy allocated a total of 264 million euros to promote high-quality Finnish research in 2007. Some 80 per cent of Academy funding went to universities to finance research projects and programmes as well as Centres of Excellence in research.

In terms of research policy, 2007 saw an exceptionally large number of significant development projects in Finland. In the areas of innovation strategy, sectoral research, Strategic Centres for Science, Technology and Innovation as well as in national and international infrastructure policy, the Academy continued to emphasise the key importance of maintaining the highest possible standards of scientific research.

The President of the Academy of Finland, Professor Markku Mattila writes in the Annual Report that in 2007 there were signs that the importance of science and research to our future welfare and well-being is more and more widely recognised. It is understood that answers are urgently needed to the tough questions and challenges faced by humankind: the state of the environment, climate change, clean water, energy production and globalisation. None of these questions can be properly answered without the knowledge, know-how and understanding that come with scientific research. At the same time, research is used to an increasingly extent to inform decision-making in business and industry and other sectors of society as well. The growing importance of science and research further underscores the Academy's key role in the Finnish research system. Increasing effort must be devoted to promoting, facilitating and funding high-level research and international scientific cooperation.

The Annual Report is available on the Academy's website at [www.aka.fi/publications](http://www.aka.fi/publications) and it can be ordered from the Academy's Communications Unit at [viestinta@aka.fi](mailto:viestinta@aka.fi).

With kind regards,



Communications Director Maj-Lis Tanner, PhD  
Academy of Finland  
Communications Unit

More information on the Academy of Finland: [www.aka.fi/eng](http://www.aka.fi/eng)  
More information on Finnish science: [www.research.fi](http://www.research.fi)



ACADEMY OF FINLAND  
RESEARCH FUNDING AND EXPERTISE