



European Public Sector Award



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SignWiki



Open Access Platform to collect, edit and share sign language dictionaries and resources on sign languages through the Web and Mobile Internet



The inspiration for SignWiki



- New laws on the status of Icelandic and Icelandic Sign Language (ÍTM)
- A repeated cut down in budget
- A lot of material available in SHH
- Need for a system to disseminate sign language; a dictionary and e-learning
- The same need in developing countries



Inspiration



Co-operation between Shh, Iceida and MoE in Namibia on developing Deaf education and services for the Deaf in Namibia



General objectives of the Initiative



To strengthen the status of ITM

To empower the Deaf and to increase their participation in society

Make a powerful, low-cost and easy-to-use collaborative web and mobile platform – simple in structure and in a user friendly system

- Could be utilized by organizations involved in deaf education in different countries
- Allowed collection, dissemination and analysis of SL resources and knowledge



- A development manager was hired
- Decided to develop a Wiki farm
- Possible to connect through mobile phones, tablets and computers
- Built in an open software – MediaWiki and jQuery mobile
- Videos stored on YouTube or Vimeo
- First step to develop SignWiki Iceland



Specific objectives of SignWiki Iceland



- To Support
 - teachers of the Deaf
 - families for ÍTM language acquisition of Deaf children
- To Collect
 - ÍTM signs in a dictionary
 - and put together diverse knowledge on ÍTM
 - and put together informative material in ÍTM
- Make accessible on-line
 - ÍTM / Icelandic dictionary
 - learning materials in Icelandic Sign Language
 - Icelandic Sign Language courses for e-learning
 - Scholarly papers on ÍTM



Specific objectives of SignWiki Iceland



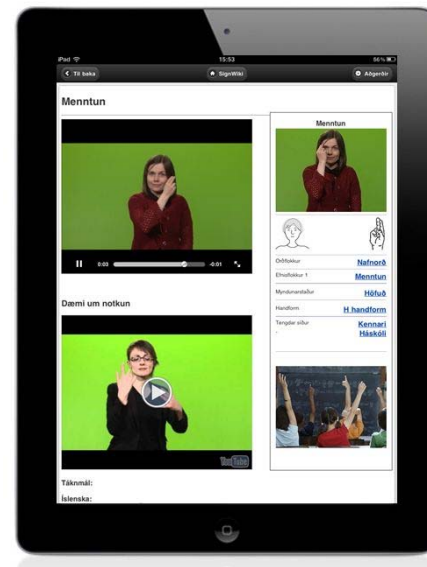
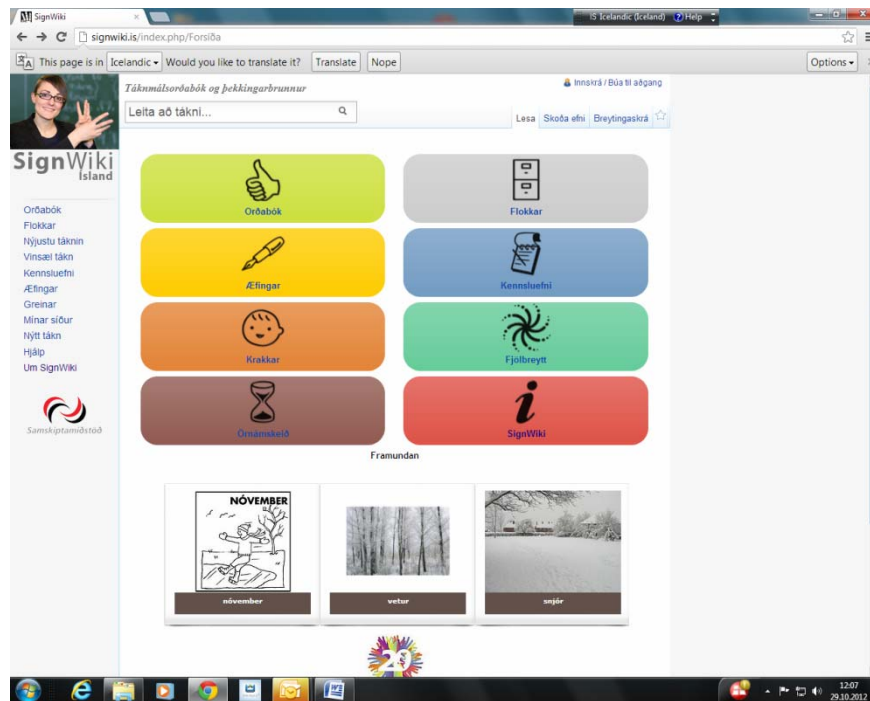
- Promote
 - linguistic analysis of Icelandic Sign Language
 - an interactive platform for discussions on Icelandic Sign Language and language policy
 - standardization of Icelandic Sign Language
- Make an app for off-line use
- Collaborate with developing countries on making their own SignWiki on “the farm”



Smartphones, tablets and computers



A Sign Language dictionary, an open pool of information and Deaf Education Resources through computers, tablets and mobile phones



Advantages and Opportunities



- Dictionary between Icelandic and Icelandic Sign Language
- Courses in Icelandic Sign Language always accessible
- Easy sharing of instructional and informational materials
- Custom made glossary for homes, workplaces and schools
- SW activates language politics and language policy
- Resource for linguistic research in Icelandic Sign Language
- Grants for research
- Open source platform centrally hosted providing global access



Transferred to other countries



is.signwiki.org

na.signwiki.org

tz.signwiki.org

no.signwiki.org

finsl.signwiki.org

finssl.signwiki.org

fo.signwiki.org

A screenshot of the SignWiki Namibia website. The page title is 'Sign Language Dictionary and Resources'. A search bar contains the text 'Search for signs...'. The main content area is titled 'Elephant' and features two video players. The first video shows a man performing a sign, and the second is labeled 'Example of usage' and shows the same man performing a different sign. To the right of the videos is a metadata table for the sign 'Elephant'.

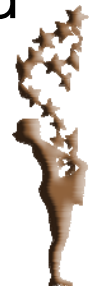
Lexical category	Noun
Category 1	Animals
Location	Neutral space
Handshape	1 handshape
Related pages	Etosha Lion



Key success criteria



- New low cost/low overhead ideas
- Open source; collaboration - peer production
- CC; the idea of sharing creative works
- Participatory and collaborative approach to establishing SL dictionaries also in other countries.
- Any country (Deaf Association, Communication Centre) can establish a new wiki on the „farm“ to build their own sign language dictionary on SignWiki
- Possible to share learning resources and expertise also with developing countries
- Mobile devices and computers, YouTube and Vimeo used to create, store and share sign language videos



- A teacher of a Deaf child: „SignWiki makes all the difference. With all its knowledge, guidance, articles and teaching it is revolutionary, absolute breakthrough and such a net of support in my teaching.
- A mother of a Deaf child: „The family uses SW all the time both on-line and the app; with homework, find words/signs, to learn both Icelandic and Icelandic Sign language. A fabulous web, a revolution for everyone that needs to have access to sign language.
- A Deaf car mechanic: „SW has changed my access to the working place. The workmates can open SW, find translations and show me what they want to say or they can learn from the wiki how to say it. My daughters friend (6 years) uses SW, before she visits us, to learn how to say in ÍTM: *May I have a slice of bread please?*



The SignWiki Team



Grants and co-operation



Innovation Centre Iceland

Landsvirkjun

The Ministry of Education, Science and
Culture

Nethönnun

Statped midt

NordPlus

<http://signwiki.is/index.php/Takk>

