



Procedure for seeking the free, prior, and informed consent of the Sámi from the Sámi Parliament in Finland for research projects dealing with Sámi cultural heritage and traditional knowledge and other activities that have or may have an impact on this heritage and knowledge. The guidelines were adopted by the Sámi Parliament in Finland on November 24, 2016. The present English translation has been approved by the President of the Sámi Parliament in Finland Tiina Sanila-Aikio on March 28, 2019.

The procedure is based on the principle of FPIC (free, prior, and informed consent) and the Akwé: Kon Guidelines (see Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity 2004, CBD Guidelines, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/akwe-brochure-en.pdf>).

The objective of the procedure is to guarantee that the indigenous rights of the Sámi are realized in research dealing with Sámi cultural heritage and traditional knowledge and other measures that have or may have an impact on this heritage and knowledge; the procedure is also aimed at promoting the preservation of the cultural heritage and the traditional knowledge of the Sámi and safeguarding the self-determination of the Sámi over this heritage and knowledge.

The procedure will be applied to research projects dealing with Sámi cultural heritage and traditional knowledge and measures that have or may have an impact on the cultural heritage and the traditional knowledge of the Sámi (later *activity*).

1. The carrying out of a research project or an activity requires obtaining a free, prior, and informed consent from the Sámi Parliament and the Sámi community if the study will deal with the cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of the community or if the research project or activity may have an impact on the community. As concerns carrying out a research project or activity that deals with Skolt Sámi cultural heritage or traditional knowledge, a free, prior, and informed consent must also be obtained from the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting. The Sámi Parliament cannot give its prior consent if the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting or the concerned Sámi community denies its prior consent to the research project or activity. The prior consent must be sought in writing. The consent must also be given in writing.
2. The consent will not remove the proprietary rights of the Sámi to their cultural heritage and traditional knowledge.
3. The proponent of the research project or activity must, in due time, be in contact with the Sámi Parliament and the Sámi community whose cultural heritage or traditional knowledge will be studied or on which the activity may have an impact. If the research is done on the Skolt Sámi cultural heritage or traditional knowledge, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting must also be contacted. The Sámi Parliament, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting and the affected Sámi community must be given sufficient time to deal with the consent inquiry.
4. The ones responsible for a research project or activity must submit, to the Sámi Parliament, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting and the concerned Sámi community, the necessary and sufficient information on, for example, the project's objectives, (research) methods and material, schedule, duration and location, as well as a tentative assessment of the impacts on the Sámi and their cultural heritage and traditional knowledge, and a plan for minimizing these impacts. The information must also describe the anticipated ethical problems the research project or activity will give rise to, and provide proposals for their solution and a plan on how the findings or acquired benefits will be returned to or shared with the Sámi.

5. Reports on the carrying out of the research or activity must be regularly submitted to the Sámi Parliament, the affected Sámi community and the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting. The Sámi Parliament, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting and the affected Sámi community must be provided with the opportunity to participate in the execution of the research or activity. The proponent of the research or activity will provide the resources such participation requires.

6. The Sámi Parliament, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting and the concerned Sámi community are entitled to deny consent to the proposed research project or activity. The Sámi Parliament, the Skolt Sámi Village Meeting and the concerned Sámi community shall not be pressured, manipulated or threatened to give their consent. Any changes to the research project or activity require that a new free, prior and informed consent be obtained from the Sámi.