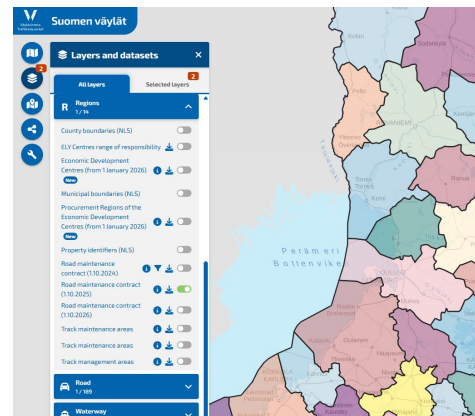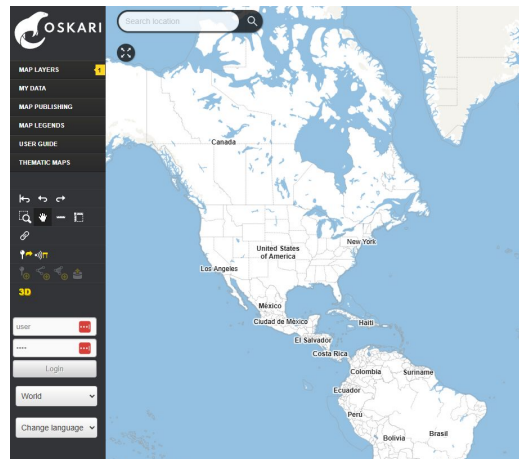# What is Oskari?

For those who use
or are interested to use
Oskari map service
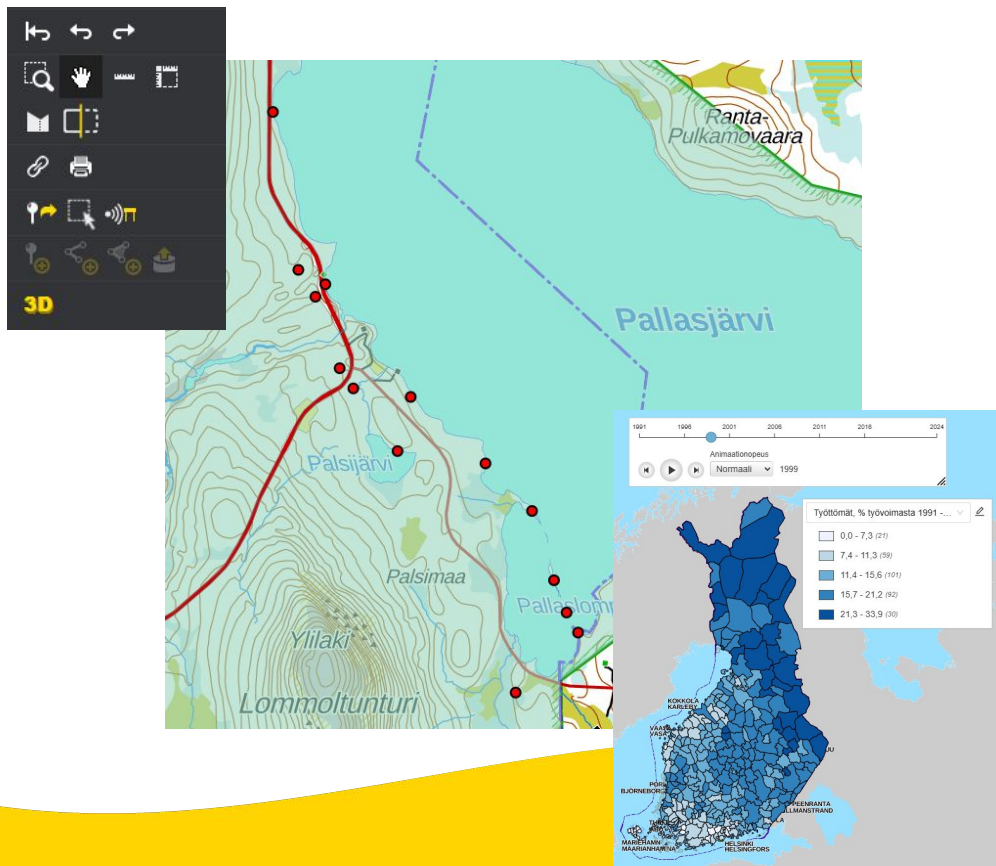
Oskari in a nutshell

- An open source map service application developed in Finland
- **The aim**: to help organizations create better map applications for web browser use (desktop + mobile)
- Oskari allows you to create a browser-based map service, either as
  a) a standard geoportal or
  b) an extensively customizable map embed
- Oskari can be customized:
  - Appearance, user interface, usable functionalities, creating new functionalities
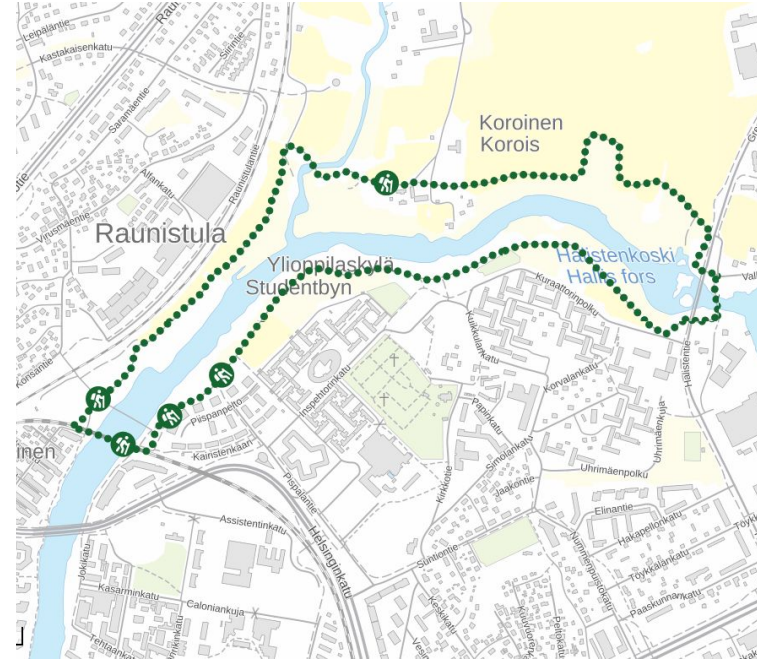
Oskari enables

- Viewing spatial data in a web browser
- Combining several different data sources and viewing different map layers simultaneously
- Sharing your own or other people's maps to other websites as map embeds
- Exporting and importing data
- Thematic maps, address search, locating the end-user, 3D, user management, granting rights to layers to users with certain roles…

Benefits of Oskari

- Ease of use
- Makes data easier to find
- A view to the spatial data that organisation produces
- Comparing different map layers
- A geoportal that can be used to publish map embeds either to create a new standalone map service or a simple map embed for an article
- Locating and editing features outdoors
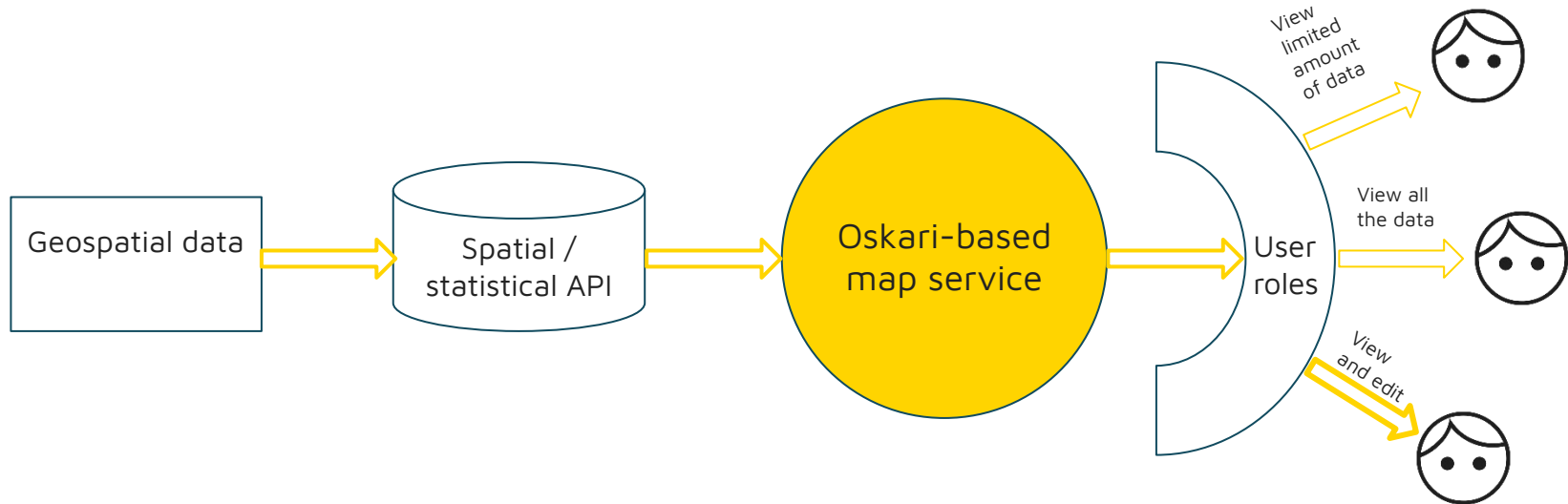
Requirements

Necessary:

- A server where Oskari is located
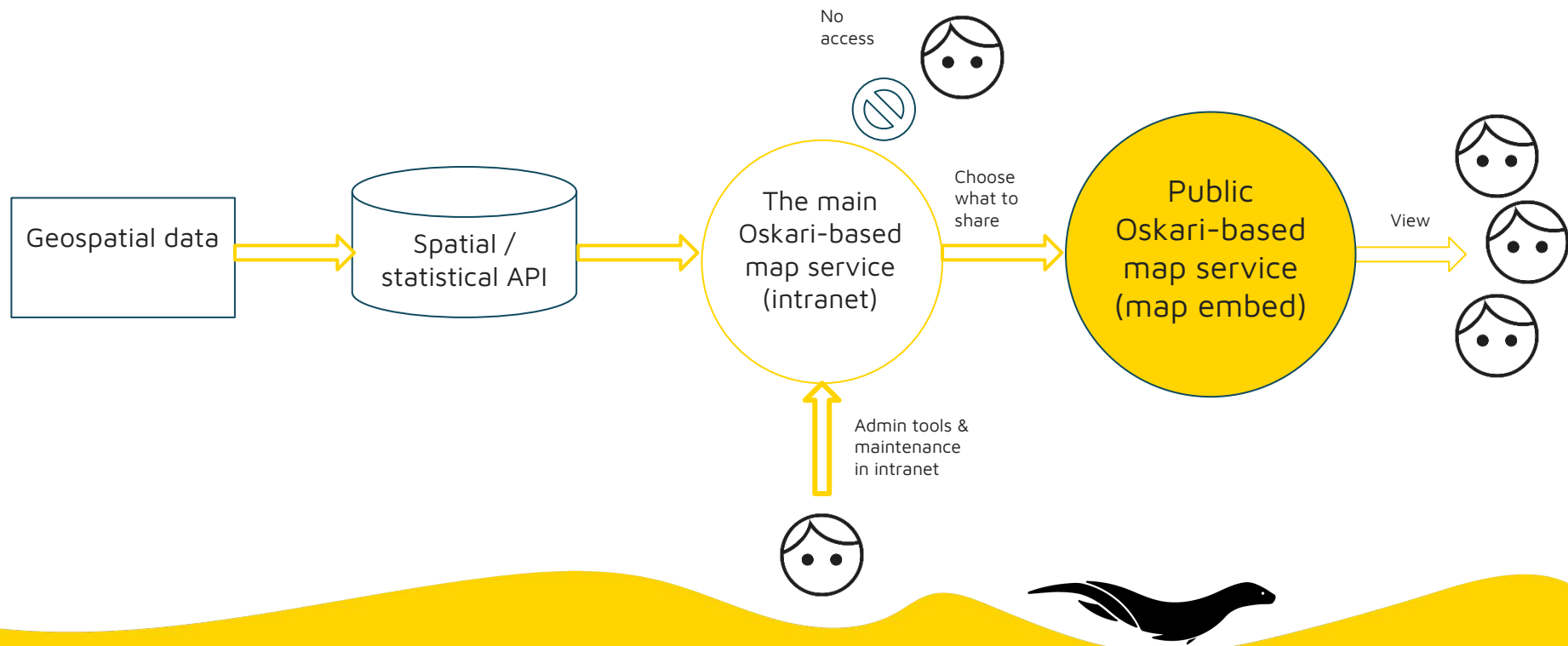- Geospatial data that are available via an API

And if needed:

- A software (GeoServer, for example) that allows organisation to publish its own data via an API
- A database (PostgreSQL + PostGIS extensions, for example) if the organisation wants to allow user the end-users to import their own datasets to the map service

Data flow in Oskari (simplified)

Alternative data flow in Oskari

Geospatial data → Spatial / statistical API → The main Oskari-based map service (intranet) → Public Oskari-based map service (map embed) → View

No access

Choose what to share

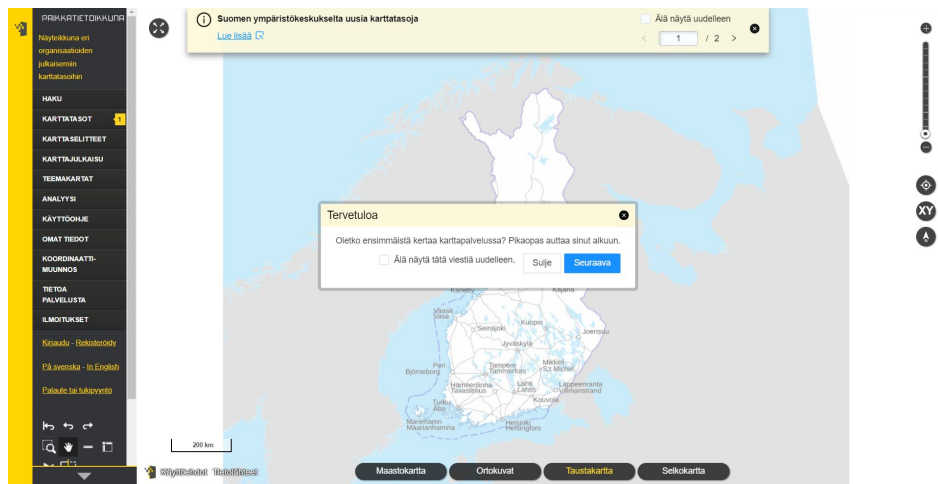Admin tools & maintenance in intranet

The Oskari community

1. Oskari community is coordinated by National Land Survey of Finland
   - Product owner, technical coordinator
   - Communications coordinator as a consultant service
2. Oskari Joint development forum
   - 7 organisations (10/2025): NLS FI, Väylä, DVV, HSY, City of Tampere, City of Joensuu, Ubigu Ltd.
   - Meetings on a monthly basis: use cases, needs, co-operation possibilities, what's new
3. Project steering committee is responsible for the code
4. Development, consultation, training, support, maintenance
   - Different companies, no vendor lock-in
5. Oskari community
   - Organisations using Oskari: Lounaistieto, Museovirasto, Ruokavirasto…
   - About 50 people, from both public and private sectors
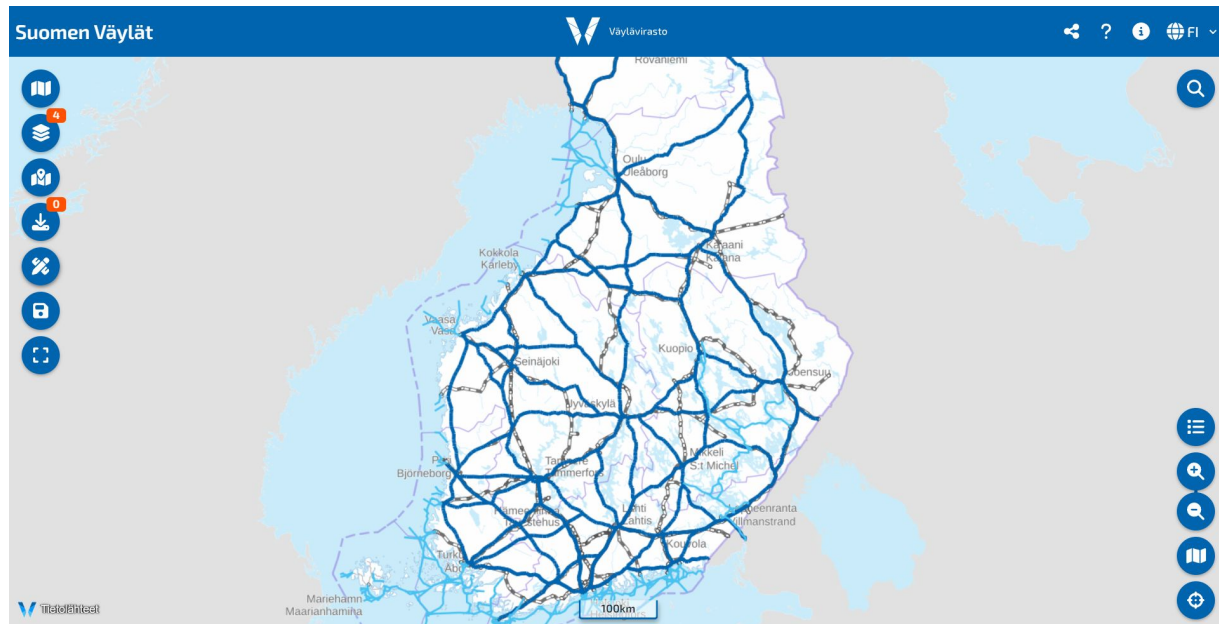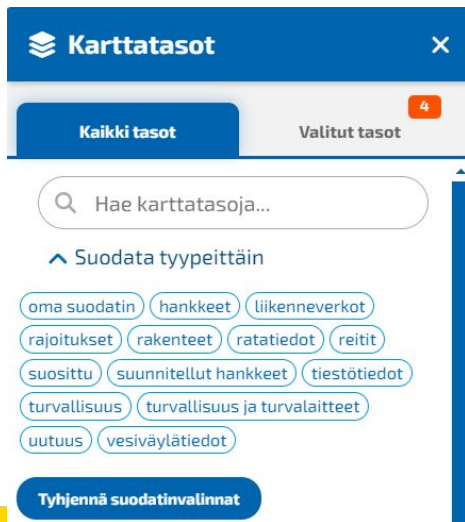
Use case: Paikkatietoikkuna

- Released in 2009, Oskari as open source in 2011
- The first Oskari implementation
- Only data from Finland
  - ~60 organisations providing data
  - ~4000 map layers
  - ~60 000 registered users (6000 active)
  - ~ 5000-6000 users every weekday
- Used for work and leisure

Use case: Väylä

- Based on a map embed
- Customized user interface
- Own functionalities, inc. filtering layers by theme
- The maintenance is done in geoportal that is not open for the public

Contact

Website: https://oskari.org/

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OSKARI