



Hello network!

We are happy to welcome both old and new readers to our second newsletter! The purpose of this quarterly letter is to keep you updated on what is happening across the network and to share relevant topics.

Don't hesitate to contact us with any input or ideas on what to highlight here!

[Contact](#)

Thank you for attending our virtual meeting!

We would like to start by thanking everyone who attended the virtual meeting in May, and who helped us made it such an interesting and inspiring day! An extra thank you to Marija Slavkovic for the talk on AI and to all of our testbed representatives, providing us with insights into the hands-on development of the digital bioeconomy.



We started the day with asking "What's the latest in the digital bioeconomy?". With an inspirational talk on AI, testbed presentations and a joint discussion on how we can co-create solutions for tomorrow's bioeconomy – we hope that you left the day with not just one, but several answers to this question.

If you did not have the chance to attend the meeting, or want to experience it again, you can access the recorded version of the [inspiration talk](#) and the [testbed presentations](#).

[Nordic Testbed Network online](#)



Check out our new report: Testbeds as drivers in the digital bioeconomy

Providing the reader with an outlook on policy initiatives and learnings from practice, the ambition of the report is to offer both insights and inspiration.

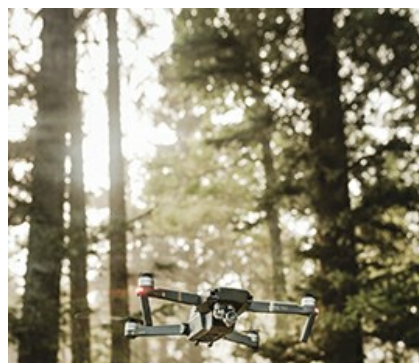
Centred around three concepts; digitalisation, bioeconomy and testbed, the report touches upon initiatives on global, European, Nordic-Baltic, and Nordic level. Moreover, it highlights several inspirational testbed initiatives and learnings from these. To exemplify, integrating stakeholders from various sectors and providing relevant solutions to the target audience are some of the key success factors identified.

The report was prepared in connection to the Nordic Testbed Network event in May.

[Find the report here](#)

Cellular & UAS innovation zone for future unmanned traffic management system

At the virtual meeting, Drone Center Sweden presented a new project that will be run at the testbed area in Västervik: Cellular & UAS Innovation zone for a future Unmanned Traffic Management system (UTM). The project aims to use the mobile network to safely position, navigate and communicate unmanned vehicles in the air, on the ground and at sea.



With unmanned vehicles that can fly autonomously and out of sight, and with support from the cellular mobile infrastructure, there are many possibilities for inspection of forests, crops, railways, power production and power lines. These solutions are expected to have a positive impact on food production and sustainable forestry, addressing vital areas of the bioeconomy.



The project is coordinated by RISE and involves organizations such as Telia, Ericsson, Vattenfall, Västervik municipality, Södra Forestry, SWEPOS – Swedish Land Survey's support system for satellite positioning, The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), LVF – Air Navigation Services of Sweden, and more. It has received SEK 10 million in funding from the Swedish Transport Administration.

[Drone Center Sweden](#)



Key take-aways from EU's workshop on reference testing and experimentation facilities

In the previous newsletter, we highlighted that the European Commission organised a series of workshops in January in order to refine the concept of reference testing and experimentation facilities for artificial intelligence (TEFs) under the Digital Europe Programme.

Agriculture and rural development constituted the theme for one of the workshops, and [the workshop report can now be accessed here](#).

Below, we shortly summarize some of the key take-aways from the workshop.

- Experts stressed the need for the TEFs to cover the diversity of the sector in terms of biogeographic and climatic conditions across the

EU and/or cropping cycles.

- Also, the need to make TEFs easy to use from the perspectives of cost, skill level, geographical distance and support offered was highlighted.
- Collaboration was seen as key by experts and can be done via many different mechanisms, such as Digital Innovation Hubs, open standards, open data, data exchanges and more.
- There was a fair amount of focus on data and data-related aspects. However, also hardware (e.g. robots) needs a stronger emphasis in line with the needs of the sector.

Next up: Webinar on usability

[Webinar on usability from the perspective of end users – Oct 8th, 10-12 CET](#)

How can we work to ensure that solutions developed at testbeds are user friendly and easily adopted by end users? This is one of the questions that we will approach at the webinar this fall.

Many thanks to all testbed representatives that have provided us with valuable input on the theme for the webinar. The user perspective has been highlighted as relevant by several and will therefore be our focus this time. We will keep the other suggestions in the pipeline for future activities.

Save the date: Oct 8th, 10-12 CET. More information about the webinar will be provided in the early fall.

[Find more online](#)

Get in contact

You are always welcome to contact us with any questions and to share your news with us!

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In May we launched the Nordic Testbed Network's own website, where you can read more about our network members and keep up to date with the activities organised.

[Our website](#)



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