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## Hello network!

We are happy to welcome both old and new readers to our quarterly newsletter! The purpose of this 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!

[NTN website](#)



## Thank you for attending our hybrid meeting and study visits!

We would like to start by thanking everyone who attended our event on November 14th and who helped us made it such an interesting and inspiring day! An extra thank you to our speakers and hosts, Petrus Jönsson, Tobias Semberg, Louise Gårdenborg, Jonas Engström and their teams!

*Photo: NTN*

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## NTN Morning mingle

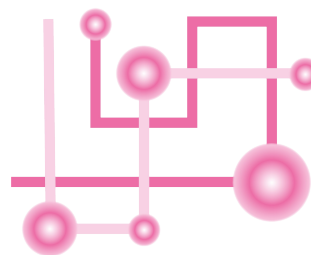
**December 15th 09:00-10:00 CET**

Are you interested in continuing the conversations started in Uppsala? Have you missed our event and would like an opportunity to catch up? NTN's upcoming morning mingle will be the occasion to follow-up on our latest event and discuss the following elements together:

- **Calls for 2024:** EIC pathfinder, Vinova Bioinnovation on carbon efficiency, Horizon calls, and Nordforsk calls.
- **NTN Vision 2030:** give us your inputs on the network new vision.

An invitation has been sent to testbed members, confirm your participation through the booking! You haven't received the invitation but would like to join to present a program or look for partners to apply to a call? Contact [tatiana.proisy@analysismason.com](mailto:tatiana.proisy@analysismason.com) to receive an invitation.

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## Join SNS at IUFRO world congress 2024

Nordic Forest Research (SNS) is coordinating a Nordic booth at one of the world's largest global forest-related events, IUFRO, which is taking place in Stockholm June 23rd to 29th 2024. Your organisation can contribute to the Nordic booth by for example placing physical material, such as leaflets, rollups etc., exhibit products or projects, using screens to exhibit films or other digital material, creating side events or by using the booth as a meeting place.

Do you want to join SNS? Contact [anna.meisner.jensen@slu.se](mailto:anna.meisner.jensen@slu.se) for more information.

[SNS website](#)



## MATCHMAKING DAY for researchers in agriculture and food

Welcome to join Nordic Agri Research's matchmaking event to find out more about living labs and lighthouses, how to apply for funds from Nordic Agri Research (NKJ) and connect with other researchers who are looking for collaboration opportunities!

**When:** December 14th 2023, 13:30–16:00 CET

**Where:** Online via Zoom, link will be sent out in advance of the meeting

**Registration:** Register to the event by sending an email (name, research area and institution) to [nkj@slu.se](mailto:nkj@slu.se)

[Find more information here](#)



### **OPEN CALL for Nordic researchers in agriculture and food**

Nordic Agri Research now welcomes applications from researcher networks in all aspects of food and agriculture. NKJ wants to facilitate collaboration between researchers in the Nordic countries, increase synergies and bridge gaps between research and practice.

**Deadline** for application: January 31st 2024

You can apply for maximum 300.000 SEK, and you will need co-financing of at least 50% of the total budget.

[Find more information here](#)



### **SAVA: Advancing Sensor Technologies and Autonomous Robots in Agriculture**

Earlier this year, the Danish Technological Institute (DTI) joined the SAVA project, funded by the Innovation Fund Denmark, alongside key partners AGCO, AgriRobot, Compleks, DTU, MaybeRobotics, and DTI. The project addresses important environmental and safety challenges in agriculture, aiming to enhance agricultural operations through advanced technologies and a user-centered approach

Over the next three years, the project will focus on the development and implementation of new sensor technologies for autonomous field robots and other machinery in agriculture. The aim is to improve the precision, range, and obstacle-detection capabilities of sensor solutions



available, by developing machine learning and artificial intelligence algorithms for real-time processing of sensory inputs and safety-related detections. By increasing safety in agricultural operations, the project also contributes to the protection of wildlife and the prevention of accidents.

The project targets three application scenarios: grassland operations, turf care, and orchards and vineyards. The DTI AgroTech Testbed focusses primarily on testing and validation, which are integral parts of the project, ensuring compliance with stakeholder needs and standards.

*Photo: SAVA*

[Read more here](#)



### **The BioBoosters Accelerator Programme gives momentum to Bioeconomy and Agrotechnology innovations**

Smart Bioeconomy Testbed in Finland will launch the BioBoosters Accelerator Programme! Calling on Bioeconomy and Agrotechnology startups, this initiative aims to accelerate the digital transition of Bioeconomy and sustainable food production through collaboration!

Participants in the program are offered access to a

unique development environment, testing, and validation, along with opportunities for customer insight and investment. The program provides a tailored development plan, university expert networks, experienced coaches, and direct connections to end customers! The accelerator journey culminates in the AgriVenture event, showcasing companies to potential investors.

Language of the hybrid programme is English and Finnish. Participation in the accelerator programme is free-of-charge.

The next application period for the BioBoosters Accelerator Programme will start in early 2024. If you are

Photo: Bioboosters

[More information](#)



## New innovation CALL on marine economy

Nordic Innovation, an organization under the Nordic Council of Ministers, has just launched a new call for proposals on multi-use at sea.

The call is part of the Sustainable Ocean Economy program and targets projects contributing to

increasing co-location of activities from different marine sectors. With multi-use in the Nordic Sea, it is possible to enable more sustainable and efficient use of scarce marine resources in the region. The call for tenders will lead to new products, partnerships, business models or value chains strengthening entrepreneurship and competitiveness in the Nordic maritime economy.

- Nordic Innovation will finance three projects with up to NOK 2 million each. Co-financing is required.
- The project period runs from May 2024 to September 2025 at the latest.
- Applicants must be Nordic consortia (i.e. with parties from at least three different Nordic countries).
- The application deadline is February 22nd 2024.

On December 19th 2023 at 10:00 (CET) Nordic Innovation organizes a webinar to present the call in more detail and answer questions. This is also an opportunity to make contacts with potential consortium partners. The webinar is free, but the number of places is limited.

Screenshot: Nordic Innovation

[Register here and find more information](#)



## 2nd Nordic Field Trials Network Conference: Innovation in Technology and Automation

The event kicks off with a networking dinner where participants can meet and get to know each other. The following day, delve into the conference where you'll gain valuable insights into the most innovative technological applications within field

trials, presented by leading experts research and industry. Topics will cover areas such as robotics in agriculture, self-driving agricultural vehicles, autonomous machinery for field trials, the use of drones, and many more. It takes place at SLU Campus in Uppsala February 7th and 8th 2024.

Contact: Nicolai Fog Hansen, [nfh@teknologisk.dk](mailto:nfh@teknologisk.dk)

Photo: Nordic Field Trial Network

[Read more here](#)



## Phase 2 of Mistra Digital Forest has started

Mistra Digital Forest has been granted funding for the second phase of the program. Some key areas in Phase 2 of Mistra Digital Forest:

- Digital technology development and decision support: digital tools are developed to help forest owners' decision-making and operational work

- Automation: Automating forest machines can increase performance and sustainability
- The different values of the forest: Increased focus on sustainable development by introducing new tasks covering the following topics: "How do individual forest owners adopt new digital technology?", "How can you work with digital twins of the forest to strengthen the different values of the forest?" and "Which forest structures are perceived as valuable when it comes to recreation?"
- New process manager for social sustainability: The program will strengthen its work in social sustainability

Planning for IUFRO 2024 is in full swing. Mistra Digital Forest, together with "sister programs" SmartForest (Norway) and UNITE (Finland), will arrange a session on the theme "Digitalization for sustainable forest management". In addition to the session, it is also planned for a forest excursion during the last week of June. It has been filmed with drones to produce a film to promote the session and forest excursion and participation in the SNS booth at the fair.

Screenshot: Mistra Digital Forest



## Data model opens the reasons behind seasonal variation of milk production

Jamk University of Applied Sciences organized hackathon for Valio Ltd. to find solutions to equalize seasonal variation in milk production. Swedish Elvenite AB offered the winning solution for ValioHackathon November 28th 2023, its

solution aims to utilize data straight from dairy farms. Elvenite proposed to pilot a data model to understand the factors affecting the seasonality of the milk production. The pilot will be developed based on a dataset collected from representative sample of dairy farms, featuring farms with high and low seasonality. "We have already started the discussion with Elvenite on the next steps." Ulf Jahnsson, VP of Primary Production and Milk Procurement, Valio.

*Screenshot: Bioboosters*

[Curious? Read more here](#)

## Season's greetings to all members!

2023 is coming to an end! NTN is grateful for all members' participation which made this year fruitful and exciting. The Nordic Testbed Network wishes you a happy New Year! We are warmly looking forward to yet another active and collaborative year in 2024.



*Photo: Shutterstock*

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