



norden

NordForsk

eScience Globalisation Initiative

A third mode of
advancing research

eScience Globalisation Initiative

A third mode of advancing research

eScience entails the development and application of advanced tools for computer simulations and data analysis. The field represents a third mode of advancing research that complements theory and experiments. eScience also involves global collaboration, open access to data and computational resources, and facilitation of open research initiatives.

Goal: The Nordic eScience Globalisation Initiative (NeGI) was established to promote outstanding research in selected areas of eScience and to expand Nordic and international cooperation on eScience research and higher education.

Focus areas: The initiative focuses primarily on eScience research in relation to the Grand Challenges within the areas of the environment and climate change as well as health and the social preconditions for health. Research on eScience techniques, tools and software in these areas is imperative, with researcher training representing another key area of activity. In addition, the initiative is closely linked to important components of eInfrastructure.

Calls and activities: A call for proposals for Nordic Centres of Excellence within eScience research on climate and the environment was issued in May 2012. During autumn 2012 a funding announcement for projects on eScience in health and social preconditions for health will be issued, and an initiative on graduate-level education in eScience tools and techniques will be launched. The Nordic funding may be used to support researchers and research groups at academic institutions and research institutes in the Nordic countries and the autonomous areas. The projects may also include participation by actors funded through other sources. The Nordic Centres of Excellence must be hosted by an institution in one of the NeGI co-funding countries, i.e. Finland, Norway or Sweden.

Facts in brief: The Nordic eScience Globalisation Initiative represents a common understanding among Nordic policymakers about the importance of eScience. The initiative is a collaborative effort between NordForsk, the Nordic Council of Ministers and the national research councils in Finland, Norway and Sweden. The initial level of funding is EUR 14.8 million for 2011-2015, and the initiative is coordinated by NordForsk.

Background: In 2006, the Nordic Council of Ministers appointed a working group to propose a joint Nordic strategy on eScience. Representatives of various Nordic funding agencies worked together in the NordForsk-funded eNORIA group to produce the Nordic eScience Action Plan in 2008. The Plan proposed ten concrete actions on Nordic eScience and eInfrastructure, which the Nordic Council of Ministers then developed into a proposal. This proposal resulted in the recent establishment of the Nordic eScience Globalisation Initiative (eScience research and education) and the Nordic eInfrastructure Collaboration (eInfrastructure – computing and data).

Contact information: Sverker Holmgren, Programme Director, Sverker.Holmgren@nordforsk.org

Illustration: Sergey Panteleev/shutterstock



norden

NordForsk

Nordic Research Collaboration

NordForsk is a platform for joint Nordic research and research policy development. The aim is to facilitate cooperation in all fields of research and research-driven innovation when this will add value to activities being conducted in the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, including the autonomous areas of the Faroe Islands, Greenland and the Åland Islands. NordForsk carries out assignments from the Nordic Council of Ministers, and provides input based on analysis of the Nordic research and research policy landscape. NordForsk is governed by a Board composed of its main stakeholders: the national research funding agencies in the Nordic countries, higher education institutions and industry.