NeIC Tryggve
Collaboration on sensitive data

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NordForsk

neic Nordic e-Infrastructure Collaboration

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wiki.neic.no/wiki/Tryggve

Tryggve is a three-year project to establish a Nordic platform for collaboration on sensitive data, funded by NeIC and the ELIXIR nodes in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Aims

- Improve current practical routines for sharing sensitive data, to give scientists more time for science.

- Create a productive work environment where it is easier to follow the legal requirements than to break them.

- Ensure that only authorised persons can use only their data.

- Integrate national initiatives and solutions.

- Interconnect platforms with highest possible security.

- Make existing data discoverable by making metadata searchable.

- Prove that this will be more secure than current best practice.

elixir DENMARK   elixir FINLAND   elixir NORWAY   elixir SWEDEN

Sensitive data

The bio- and medical sciences strive to cure disease, improve quality of life and mitigate societal and environmental risks. Like all science, these fields need to build upon a solid foundation of facts. However, the facts involved often include highly sensitive data on individuals, such as gene sequences, data on drinking or smoking habits, or presence of inherited disease in the family.

These data are collected confidentially and according to terms of allowed use signed by the donors. Donors contribute data for many reasons, for example to advance science and cure disease, or to know more about their own disease condition.

This type of data is currently routinely shared, also across borders, in accordance with the terms of allowed use. This has many benefits: access to more data helps researchers to draw better conclusions more quickly; it is cheaper and quicker than collecting new data; and it makes better use of the donors' contributions.

Improve current practical routines

The current practical routines for storing, using and sharing sensitive data have not moved with the times, and are time-consuming, cumbersome and error-prone. For example, it is alarmingly easy to make simple mistakes such as saving data on a USB stick or working with it on a personal laptop, despite the fact that such activities are, in fact, illegal.

The Tryggve project aims to improve these practical routines, to create a productive work environment where it is easier to follow the legal requirements than to break them, and to give scientists more time for science.

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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.

NeIC facilitates the development of advanced IT tools and services in areas of importance to Nordic researchers.

NeIC supports the Nordic research community by:

- Supporting collaboration on e-Infrastructure in the Nordic region.
- Providing added value to researchers and national funders.
- Contributing to more cost-efficient development and deployment of e-Infrastructure services.
- Supporting the national e-Infrastructure providers in terms of competence building, task sharing and joint operation of services.