

NordForsk is an organisation under the Nordic Council of Ministers that provides funding for Nordic research cooperation as well as advice and input on Nordic research policy. The organisation plays a key role in enhancing the value of existing research activities in the five Nordic countries, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland, as well as the autonomous territories of the Faroe Islands, Greenland and the Aaland Islands. NordForsk has a basic allocation of NOK 121 million in 2014. The organisation's head office is located in central Oslo. For further information, see www.nordforsk.org.

The Nordic e-Infrastructure Collaboration (NeIC) is seeking:

Project manager/e-infrastructure specialist for the Supporting EISCAT_3D project

NordForsk is coordinating and hosting the Nordic e-Infrastructure Collaboration (NeIC) since January 2012. The organisation is financed by or via the national research agencies. In 2014, the new organisation has an annual budget of 3 million Euros which covers a director and as of October 2014 a staff of 20 persons dispersed within the Nordic countries.

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.

neic.nordforsk.org

The vision of NeIC is to facilitate the development and operation of high quality e-infrastructure solutions in areas of joint Nordic interest.

In that functional role, NeIC was approached by the EISCAT Scientific Association with an updated Letter of Interest (https://wiki.neic.no/wiki/Letters_of_interest) in order to initiate a new collaborative activity (Supporting EISCAT_3D) to support preparing for the implementation of the EISCAT_3D project.

EISCAT_3D is an environmental research infrastructure on the European ESFRI roadmap. It is proposed as an international research infrastructure using the incoherent scatter technique to study the upper atmosphere above the Arctic in order to investigate how the Earth's atmosphere is coupled to space. EISCAT_3D is a multi-static phased array radar system that will be installed at remote locations in the most Northern parts of the Scandinavian peninsula. The system will be operated by and be an integral part of the EISCAT Scientific Association.

Today the EISCAT Scientific Association operates and maintains three incoherent scatter radar systems and an ionospheric heater on Svalbard and on the Scandinavian mainland and can look back to over 30 years of successful operation for basic research. Current EISCAT associates are China, Finland, Japan, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

The EISCAT_3D baseline design consists of a core site that will be located close to the intersection of the Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish borders and four receiving sites located within approximately 50 to 250 km from the core. The implementation is planned in four stages with the initial stage 1 consisting of three full-sized antenna arrays: the core and two receive sites. Its construction can start 2016, first operations in 2018 and full science operation in 2021.

In continuation of the EU FP7 preparatory phase of EISCAT_3D that ended with September 2014, the goal of the collaborative activity is to support the preparation of the implementation of EISCAT_3D for those parts that concern e-infrastructure.

The e-infrastructure challenges for EISCAT_3D include finding cost-efficient state of the art solutions for on-site computing and establishing network connections between the different sites and with the data archive. Particular goals of the collaborative activity also include to develop solutions for locating the data archive within existing national e-infrastructures and to support EISCAT in planning the recruitment of e-science experts for the project.

NeIC is now looking for a project manager/e-infrastructure specialist who can support the EISCAT_3D project in dealing with those e-infrastructure challenges. Much of the work will be carried out in an international environment collaborating with other parts of the EISCAT_3D project as well as with other international infrastructure projects. The successful candidate must therefore be able to collaborate across disciplinary and international boundaries. This will require a willingness to travel and excellent oral and written communication skills in English and the ability to work independently as well as in collaboration with others. In order to tackle the indented variety of interesting tasks both deep technical understanding and management skills will be needed. The ideal candidate should preferably have expertise in process architecture, real-time distributed computing architecture, synchronization, distributed computing and control.

The NeIC project “Supporting EISCAT_3D” is planned for a three year period and will be situated under the new strategic area dedicated to environment. It will be carried out in close collaboration with the NeIC ENV area coordinator. The work tasks include drafting the detailed plan for the project, participating in staffing the project, leading work in a distributed team toward deliveries and project completion, provide regular progress reports for the project, maintaining an active requirements dialogue with reference groups and producing the final report upon project completion.

The successful candidate will have 50% of his/her time committed to the project. Presumably, the candidate is already employed at a national e-infrastructure organization, one of its collaborating institutions or a similar institution. In that case NeIC will fund salary and overheads for the committed time, based on agreement with the home institution.

More information about EISCAT and the EISCAT_3D project can be found at: www.eiscat.se and www.eiscat3d.se

The project directive of the intended collaborative activity can be found under: wiki.neic.no/wiki/EISCAT_3D_Support

For further questions about the position please contact:

Gudmund Høst, phone +47 95816846, Gudmund.host@nordforsk.org. Applications including CV should be submitted to neic@nordforsk.org within October 31st. Applications should include a support letter from the candidate's home institution and preferably also from a national e-infrastructure organization.