**[greeting]**,

We would like to invite **[organization name]** to take part in the next phase of the CodeRefinery project, as we seek to find a sustainable model for the time after the current funding period (ending October 2021). We currently hope that CodeRefinery can continue in the form of a consortium of Nordic institutions with their staff contributing to CodeRefinery as a part of their work with the help of a centrally funded coordinator and manager. We hope that we can invite **[organization name]** to teach together with us.

CodeRefinery as a project has existed since 2016, funded with ca. 3 FTEs/ year (typically 10 staff at a time) in a 50/50 co-funding model. In this period, we have trained over 1400 students, researchers, and infrastructure staff to advance FAIRness of software management and development practices, in over 30 workshops ([full list](https://coderefinery.org/workshops/past/)). We have collaboratively built up a solid curriculum and have managed to build a community and a training network for *teaching together*. In addition, we have been in the last few years collaborating with [The Carpentries](https://carpentries.org/) to bridge the gap in digital research skills among researchers.

The need for teaching researchers to develop software that contributes to reproducible and reusable research as well as the need to update and develop world-class curriculum does not stop at the end of the CodeRefinery project. To keep this momentum, contribution by both skilled and motivated CodeRefinery instructors and coordination effort are essential. Therefore we are approaching the organizations that have training and digital skill development as a part of their mandates: including Sigma2, SNIC, ENCCS, University of Oslo Library/Digital Scholarship Center, Aalto Scientific Computing, DeiC, CSC, and ETAIS. To coordinate this collaborative training effort as continuation of the CodeRefinery activities, we are applying for

funding to the 2021 NeIC (Nordic e-Infrastructure Collaboration) open call, with a volume of 1 FTE/ year, for a 5 years period.

We kindly ask interested organizations to indicate by 2021-02-28 (contact: Radovan Bast, radovan.bast@uit.no) with a letter of intent on how many person months or what FTE share they plan to contribute to this project per year to support our application towards the NeIC open call (proposal deadline is 2021-03-10). We don't expect this to be some new commitment: the actual time should overlap with your existing teaching time, the only difference is a commitment to teach together. We recommend an in-kind contribution of 1 or 2 working days per week, ideally for more than one person per organization. Further below we will also highlight the benefits for participating organizations.

In our proposed mode, CodeRefinery continues to exist as an open collaboration network with the following model:

* Partners continue with staff commitment roughly as now, but the funding would come from the partner. This bigger commitment however also means more influence and benefits (see below).
* CodeRefinery continues to give its 3 day workshops split over 6 half-days, most likely continuing online even after the pandemic is over.
* In addition, we hope that partners begin collaborating on more specialized workshops (e.g. data visualization, containerization, reproducible workflows, data management, etc.).
* Staff are under full administrative control of the partner, but there is an expectation that at least some time goes to the greater benefits of our collaboration. No one can be forced to do anything that is not beneficial to their organization.
* Partners have a greater responsibility for advertising to their own audiences to attend workshops. On the other hand, non-partner sites have a greater pressure to contribute to CodeRefinery to receive workshops.

Benefits for participating organizations (depending on the level of commitment):

* Continuation of CodeRefinery into the future and thus access to more workshops which are in high demand.
* Securing a certain number of seats for learners from the partnering organization.
* Influence on course material development.
* Participation in collaborative training and train-the-trainer events.
* Cross-advertisement of workshops to a wide network of trainers and learners.
* Partners are acknowledged in every workshop they contribute to and highlighted on our website and social media.

On behalf of the CodeRefinery project,

**[name]**