



Nordic Innovation

Invitation to tender, below the national threshold value

for the purchase of:

AI and Data Hackathon

1. Introduction

Nordic Innovation is looking for a supplier to plan and execute Nordic AI and Data hackathon.

a) The Buyer

Nordic Innovation is an organisation under the Nordic Council of Ministers working to promote cross-border trade and innovation. The Nordic Council of Ministers is the official inter-governmental body for cooperation in the Nordic region. With 26 million inhabitants in the Nordic region, Nordic cooperation is one of the most comprehensive regional partnerships anywhere in the world.

Nordic Innovation's mission is to contribute to making the Nordics a leading region for sustainable growth and to increase entrepreneurship, innovation and competitiveness in the Nordic region.

Nordic Innovation has an annual budget of approximately NOK 100 million. For further information, please refer to the following webpages:

[Nordic Innovation: Promoting cross-border trade and innovation.](#)

2. AI and Data program (2021 – 2024)

Nordic Innovation's program *AI and Data* is looking for a supplier to plan and execute a hackathon in the Nordic region. The *AI and Data program* runs in 2021 - 2024 and is one of the eight programs launched by Nordic Innovation with respect to the joint Nordic Action plan for the Nordic Council of Ministers' Vision 2030. The program's objective is to contribute to the following vision:

The Nordic region as a leading region in digitalisation, AI and responsible use of data.

The objectives of the *AI and Data program* are as follows:

- Making public datasets with high value available across the Nordic countries for companies that develop solutions with artificial intelligence.
- Exploring perspectives, needs and opportunities of data for Nordic companies.
- Joint branding and exchange of experience between companies and other relevant actors across the Nordic countries.
- Implementation of the Nordic Smart Government (NSG) roadmap.

The Nordic AI and Data hackathon should take as a starting point the work carried out by the *Nordic Council of Ministers' working group for Nordic AI and Access to Data* which in its end report¹ has explored datasets that could be collected and opened across the Nordic countries.

The recommendations in the report were discussed at the Ministerial meeting for Nordic Business Policy on September 1st, 2020. There was support at the Ministerial meeting for the report's recommendations e.g., in relation to organising a Nordic hackathon.

¹*Nordic Cooperation on Data to boost the Development of Solutions with Artificial Intelligence* report can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3relSbn>. The report has been produced by Rambøll Management Consulting in collaboration with Research Institutes of Sweden, on behalf of the Nordic Council of Ministers for *Nordic Council of Ministers' working group on AI and Access to Data*.

a) Background

AI can help solve major societal challenges and provide significant benefits in a variety of areas. AI offers significant potential for the Nordic countries in business and public sector activities.

The potential lies in implementing today's technology and know-how to increase efficiency and value creation, and in continued development where AI tools become more user-friendly and available for broad use, and in the long term, more advanced in more application areas. Widespread use of AI in the economy can double the economic growth potential in the long term.

All Nordic countries have strongly regulated data environments based on common values and understanding of ethical standards regarding security and responsibility of collecting, sharing, and using data. Therefore, a joint Nordic program creates:

- Increased access to data that supports Nordic companies' digital opportunities and contribute to the development of technologies such as artificial intelligence.
- Increased Nordic opportunities for digital and data-driven interaction between the public and private sectors.

3. The Procurement

a) The purpose

The main purpose of this Invitation to Tender is to plan and execute a AI and data hackathon in the Nordics.

b) The challenges and scope of the hackathon

The main purpose of the hackathon is to stimulate creation of digital AI solutions that can help the Nordics to achieve the program's vision.

The hackathon must take place in the Nordic region and/or virtually depending on the current Covid-19 situation. The hackathon should be open to everyone with a special focus on Nordic participants and it should be run in English.

The challenges that digital AI solutions will contribute to solve should be relevant in particular for the following UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 13: Climate action
- SDG 15: Life on Land.

The hackathon should take as a starting point the recommendations made in the above-mentioned report by Rambøll Management Consulting concerning **the road camera data** (photos). The supplier should ensure that the road camera datasets in the five Nordic countries can be prepared for and are usable in the hackathon in a responsible way. However, it is equally important that the road camera data is complemented in the hackathon by additional datasets relevant for the above-mentioned SDGs. The supplier is responsible for finding such complementary datasets relevant for the above-mentioned

challenges and SDGs. It is important to examine which datasets are requested by Nordic companies, i.e., which datasets are of business interest. The road camera data should preferably come from the five Nordic countries while the complementing datasets can come from an individual Nordic country. The supplier can involve stakeholders who have an interest in using AI solutions developed in the hackathon.

The tasks of the supplier should include at least the following:

- Identification of relevant datasets: which datasets – in addition to road camera data – will be used in the hackathon? The datasets should be relevant for the identified challenges and SDGs.
- Preparation of data: how the supplier will ensure that the identified data sources and datasets can be used together in the hackathon, taking into account responsible use of data?
- Recruitment of participants: how the supplier will ensure a good mix of participants in the hackathon taking into account diversity and that the participants present the five Nordic countries?
- Preparation, execution, facilitation and communication of the hackathon, including all technical and practical support and the winning ceremony: how will be the event designed, facilitated, communicated and marketed?
- Organization of the selection committee, including composing assessment criteria for the hackathon (i.e., the criteria by which participants will be judged), in cooperation with Nordic Innovation².
- Provision of a 'platform' to support solutions going forward: how will the supplier ensure that solutions will be developed further after the hackathon? The 'platform' may involve provision of facilitation, mentoring, connections, and/or data for up to six months after the hackathon, possibly together with relevant partners.

The winners of the hackathon will be chosen by a selection committee represented by Nordic Innovation and relevant stakeholders.

The supplier can be a single entity, or a consortium represented by a lead partner.

c) The selection of the supplier

Nordic Innovation will select the supplier Nordic Innovation deems best suited for the assignment and offers the most economically advantageous tender based on the evaluation criteria listed below.

d) Evaluation Criteria

The awarding criteria are given in the following order of weight:

Award criteria	Documentation	Weight
Expected quality of the delivery.	The Supplier's understanding of the task and proposed approach, hereunder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project plan. 	40%

² The composition of the selection committee and assessment criteria will be discussed and together with Nordic Innovation, but the supplier can include suggestions in the application, if it wishes to do so.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ability to provide and prepare relevant data to be used in the hackathon. - The ability to attract Nordic participants in the hackathon. - The ability to find relevant partners and stakeholders who are interested in using the solutions. - The quality of a 'platform' to support solutions going forward after the hackaton. - Uniqueness of the plan. <p>Please also describe the way to organize the work, including proposed timetable (also responsibilities and distribution of roles if the supplier is a consortium).</p> <p>To be included in the Tender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An activity plan for how the supplier intends to solve the assignment. - Proposed time and activity schedule. 	
The competence of the designated person/entity/consortium and experience of performing similar type of assignments.	<p>The Supplier's experience, the relevance of that experience and a track record with similar assignments.</p> <p>To be included in the tender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short description of earlier experience and a track record relevant for the assignment. - In case of a consortium, description of roles, responsibilities and complementing competences of each consortium member. - Relevant experience in a Nordic and/or international context. 	40%
Total cost Value for money	<p>To be included in the tender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial proposal itemizing estimated costs for services rendered (daily fees), travel and any other costs related to supplies or services required for the assignment. 	20%

e) Contract value

Total price must be lower than NOK 1 000 000 (excl. VAT). That includes all working hours, travel, meetings, hackathon costs, including marketing and communication as well as external services/subcontracting. Own co-funding, working hours or additional co-funding is allowed, if in line with Nordic Innovation's criteria.

The supplier shall cover all costs related to the hackathon including potential premises and catering. It is expected that the selected supplier will cooperate with public and private partners in running the hackathon.

4. The tender and application deadline

a) Application deadline and important dates

Deadline: the application deadline is at **15.00 CEST 15th September 2021**.

The tender deadline is absolute. Tender received after the Tender deadline will be rejected. The Supplier carries the risk of errors or delays in the submission/sending of the Tender.

The tender must be submitted electronically to Nordic Innovation at: info@nordicinnovation.org and labelled "Tender – AI and Data Hackathon".

A list of important dates is as follows:

Activity	Date
Publishing of the tender	26 May 2021
Deadline for asking questions regarding the tender	14 June 2021 at 13.00 CEST
Answers published online	16 June 2021
Deadline for Invitation to tender	15 September 2021 at 15.00 CET
Selection of supplier	4 October 2021
Contract signing	18 October 2021
Deadline for validity of tender	90 days from submission deadline

Please note that the dates can be subject to change.

The Bidders may be invited to present their tenders and/or to provide answers to potential questions from Nordic Innovation.

Participation in a kick-off meeting and a planning workshop shall be part of the offer. Cooperation with Nordic Innovation will be agreed to in more detail in the beginning of the contract period.

b) Tender requirements

The supplier shall be an entity registered in the EEA, the EU, Greenland or the Faroe Islands. The registration shall be documented in the tender.

The tender must be valid for minimum of 90 days from the Tender deadline.

The tender shall be in English and submitted in a single PDF-file. All written and oral communication with regards to this competition shall also be in English.

The Supplier should use the Nordic Council of Ministers' Design Manual in all communication and deliverables: <http://design.norden.org/> .

The selected supplier shall deliver/provide Nordic Innovation with a tax certificate from the country of registration.

A signed HES Self Declaration (see Appendix III) shall be included.

5. Administrative requirements

A prospective supplier requiring any clarification of the tender should submit their questions in writing to info@nordicinnovation.org and labeled with "Questions about tender – AI and Data Hackathon" no later than 14 June 2021 at 13.00 CEST.

All questions and answers will be published on our website www.nordicinnovation.org, and www.doffin.no no later than 16 June 2021.

The procurement process will follow the principles of the Norwegian Act for public procurement of 17 June 2016 (LOA) and the Regulations for public procurement (FOA) of 2016-08.12-974 part I.

The supplier is responsible for ensuring that all questions, requirements and clarification points are answered / highlighted and documented in the tender.

Nordic Innovation may refuse all tenders if the result of the tender procedure gives a reasonable ground for doing so. If all the tenders are refused, Nordic Innovation will notify those who have submitted tenders of the refusal.

The decision about to whom the contract is awarded, will be published on Nordic Innovation's website.

Please note that Nordic Innovation's General Conditions for Purchase of Services (see Appendix II) will be a part of the contract with the supplier. By delivering a tender, it is assumed that the General Conditions for Purchase of Service are accepted.

6. Contact information

Contact person:	Anna-Maija Sunnanmark
Position:	Senior Innovation Adviser
E-mail address:	a.sunnanmark@nordicinnovation.org

Contact person:	Mikael von Dorrien
Position:	Senior Innovation Adviser
E-mail address:	m.dorrien@nordicinnovation.org

7. Appendix

- A. Details about the supplier
- B. General Conditions for Purchase of Service
- C. HES Self Declaration

A. Details about the supplier

The supplier shall fill in the table and sign under the table.

The name of the supplier	
Org. number	
Postal address	
Visiting address	
Phone number	

Contact person	
Phone number	
Email address	

City

Date

Signature

Name with capital letters