

Information meeting – Funding opportunities for new Digital Life Research Projects

The Centre for Digital Life Norway (DLN: www.digitallifenorway.org) is a joint national effort to form a new direction in Norwegian biotechnology¹, with a strong implementation of computational, mathematical and engineering approaches in the life sciences. DLN is a virtual centre, hosted by NTNU, UiO and UiB, financed under the “[Digital Life – Convergence for innovation](#)” initiative by RCN’s BIOTEK2021 program. A call is coming up soon for [new digital life projects](#) to join the centre with new funding. There will be an information meeting for all interested on the 29. May, 15:00-16:00.

Venue: Store Auditorium, 2. floor Datablokken, Høyteknologisenteret, Thormøhlens gate 55

Program

- 15:00 – 15:15 The Digital Life initiative and the Centre for Digital Life Norway (DLN)
Roger Strand (prof. II in DLN) & Rune Kleppe (coordinator in DLN)
- 15:15 – 15:30 Ambitions and perspectives from UiB as a hub partner in DLN
Eyvind Rødahl (DLN Board member, UiB)
- 15:30 – 15:45 Funding opportunities – What is a digital life project?
Anders Goksøyr (BIOTEK2021 board member)
- 15:45 – 16:00 Discussions and questions

The meeting is open for everyone!

What characterizes a digital life project?

(Description by the DLN leadership/board)

Digital Life projects are transdisciplinary biotechnology research and innovation activities that combine and merge approaches from life sciences, mathematics, computer science, physics and engineering. They are directed towards a question or challenge with relevance to the society where the use of biotechnology is part of the solution and guided by the principle of Responsible Research and Innovation. Last, but not least, they include, as an integral and central part of the project², the application or development of computational methods or theoretical and experimental modelling approaches from mathematics, computer science, physics and engineering. They do so to contribute to the further development of these approaches by incorporating or otherwise applying biological concepts and observations.

¹ By biotechnology, we here mean all sectors (marine, health, industry and agriculture): Aquaculture, seafood, and management of the marine environment; land-based food and biomass production; environment-friendly industrial processes and products; and health, health services and health-related industries.

² “Integral and central part of the project” should also be understood as a *sine qua non* condition: Without that part, the project will not be able to pursue its goals.

One of the main objectives of the BIOTEK2021 and Digital Life initiatives is to increase innovation in Norwegian life science. The innovation potential of the research projects is therefore important to address.

A Digital Life Project application should therefore:

1. Address a societal challenge where the use of biotechnology can be part of the solution.
2. Be transdisciplinary by including as an integral and central part of the project computational or theoretical approaches from mathematics, computer science, physics or engineering on biological systems, i.e. empirical data from experimental, clinical or observational studies.
3. Have integrated Responsible Research and Innovation in the project.
4. Clearly describe the innovation potential of the project.

On the web site of the centre (www.digitallifenorway.org) there is a description of all present projects in the centre, which could give a good idea about the scope and approach for digital life projects.