

Project call for applications for Nordic collaboration within the focus area *Content and Accessibility* of the Nordbib programme

- Work package 2 for the funding years 2006 – 2007

Invitation

The Nordbib programme hereby opens the first stage within the Focus Area for *Content and Accessibility* (Work Package 2) covering four result areas. This call is made in collaboration with NOP-HS¹ who supports two of the result areas with co-funding.

The project call is open to everyone, who may be part of the potential project applicants such as national libraries and research libraries in collaboration with universities, national digital library projects, research institutions, scientific societies, scientific academies or scientific publishers.

The closing date for applications is 1 April 2007

Nordbib invites the Nordic libraries and research parties as mentioned to develop application for Nordic collaboration initiatives within the area of *Content and Accessibility* in collaboration with relevant strategic Nordic partners. The collaboration has to ensure that the national and research libraries most specialised knowledge and know-how can be reused and made useful in boarder environments.

The paradigm shift

The research programme takes as its point of reference the present situation concerning the increasing need for access to digital scholarly scientific information in connection with research and education. Scholarly communication finds itself in the midst of a shift of paradigm – in a mediation context as e-publishing and in research where access and availability is imperative.

The digital university with e-research, e-learning and shifts of paradigm in learning creates a need for optimal access to digital research data and information. It requires that modern digital research libraries are able to make electronic services available independent of time and place, i.e. 24/7 remote access and across institutional and national borders.

Development of the digital service, including access to digital content, presupposes a close co-operation and an up-to-date technical infrastructure between research institutions, universities, educational institutions and research libraries. Just as research into new methods of communication, publication models, peer review models, quality assurance, citation techniques etc. are necessary.

At the moment the shift of paradigm is taking place at global level, which means that development needs are the same while the pace varies within the different subject areas. Seen in a global perspective Nordbib as a common Nordic development programme for e-publishing aims to strengthen scholarly communication in the Nordic countries. Therefore the Nordbib programme

¹ Joint Committee for Nordic Research Councils for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (NOS-HS)
www.nos-nop.org

comprises joint Nordic initiatives in the areas of production of digital scientific content and publication of Nordic scientific journals as well as developing co-operation between the key actors in scholarly communication and e-publishing.

Focus Area for Content and Accessibility (Work Package 2)

The purpose of the focus area is to support activities related to generating contents, creating access to research and learning resources, and addressing interaction and task distribution in connection with e-science. The national and digital research libraries will take part in the migration of Nordic scientific publishing through Best Practice within e-publishing and digitisation, and also in strategic collaborations about the use of existing communication platforms such as Google, DOAJ or OAister.

In addition, the programme area aims towards establishing strategic collaborations between Nordic scientific institutions, publishers and researchers which may lead to a strengthening of Nordic scientific publication within the humanities and social sciences which often publish in Scandinavian languages. Furthermore, the focus area aims to establish strategic initiatives that have their starting point in interaction and task distribution between scientific environments and research libraries in connection with e-science.

Target Results (Deliverables)

The goal is achieved by means of open calls for projects, where the proposed projects must illustrate and as a minimum establish a demonstrator (proof of concept) in the areas of e-publishing and e-science.

- ❑ E-publishing platform and business models
Result is the establishing of an e-publishing platform comprising the entire workflow of the publishing process, hereunder peer review – a Best Practice model – which can be implemented in several, different publishing environments and supports the preservation activities of the national libraries. Also, the solution should contain alternative business models for Nordic, non-commercial players.
NOP-HS support possible (see below under Applicants).
- ❑ E-science
Result is a demonstration project which comprises co-operation between research libraries and scientific environments in a specific field. This field addresses interaction and task distribution in the establishing of structuring and rendering accessible scientific information in the form of raw research data.
- ❑ Communication platforms
Result is a strategic collaboration promoting the visibility of Nordic scientific information in existing international communication services. The activity may for instance be a demonstrator project rendering visible the contents of OA archives based on strategic collaborations about the use of existing communication platforms such as Google, DOAJ or OAister.
- ❑ Retro digitization
Result is digitisation of joint Nordic scientific journals.
NOP-HS support possible (see below under Applicants).

Conditions for application

Applicants

Nordbib demand that joint collaboration will consist of 3 institutions from 3 Nordic countries as a minimum. Nordic applicants may be national or/and research libraries in close collaboration with strategic partners from the research and scholarly publishing environment. This in order to ensure interaction and cross sectoral development of and access to digital scientific information.

Potential applicants may be national libraries, research libraries, universities, national digital library projects, research institutions, scientific societies and academies as well as scientific publishers and companies.

NOP-HS: Editors and/or publishers of journals that qualify for support from NOP-HS should indicate this in the consortium application. In the next call for applications to NOP-HS, due to be published 1 June 2007, there will be an opportunity for journals to express interest in participating in a successful Nordbib consortium.

Project demand

Nordbib expects that the application and initiatives will meet the following:

- That the project support the purpose of the Nordbib programme
- That the outlined target results are met
- Are based on and utilize already existing activities and expertise within e-publishing
- Solutions are based on international standards within digitisation and e-publishing
- Ensure that knowledge and know-how can be reused and made useful in boarder environments
- The application is written in English
- The description of project or initiative is to be max 5 pages
- The application is to be signed by the project responsible institution with signatures of respectively project manager and institution manager
- The application will be reviewed in April 2007 and given a feedback of assurance/rejection no later than 15 May 2007.

The order of priority when reviewing applications

When giving grants Nordbib is prioritizing those projects, that:

- With the greatest possible scope contribute to realizing the purpose of the programme
- Make the Nordic utility value visible
- Create value for the end users (researchers, educators and students)
- Have a permanent impact
- Are completed with user involvement
- Are relevant for a broader circle of libraries and scientific societies and academies
- Deliver results that can be reused by other Nordic research libraries and scientific societies and academies.

Conditions for grants

The application is to live up to the Nordbib programme purpose and conditions as described in *Nordbib Programme* and *Procedures and guidelines for applications for Nordbib*.

Funding period: Application in January 2007 covers the funding period 2006 – 2007

Project period: The project can extend over the period 2007 - 2008

Next grant round is 1 June – 1 September 2008 covering the funding period 2008 – 2009

Recommendation and decision of WP 2 takes place in April 2007

The Nordbib grant for Work package 2 in 2007 is thus DKK 3.1m for a 2 year period under the presumption of a co-financing (self-financing by project partners and perhaps other funds such as NOP-HS) of 60% of the projects' total budget. (See the grant model in *Procedures and guidelines for applications for Nordbib*).

The application is to be sent no later than 1 April March 2007 at 05.00 pm CET in *digital format* to the Nordbib secretariat Nordbib@bs.dk and *by duly mail in signed format* for the Nordbib secretariat c/o The Danish Library Agency, H. C. Andersens Boulevard 2, 1553 Copenhagen V, Denmark.

Questions can be directed to Programme Manager Hanne Marie Kværndrup at hmk@bs.dk or at telephone +45 33 73 33 73 (direct +45 33 73 33 55).