



## A Nordic network-based snow research cluster

### Background

Snow is one thing that defines the Nordic countries and makes us unique. There are currently quite a few organisations that work with research, innovation, and development around snow as a resource. The interest in this area is currently growing, especially given the climate challenges we now are facing.

New initiatives & projects are started and/or discussed, research on different levels are being conducted but there is currently no good overview today of what is being done and who is doing what and there is currently little coordination between the Nordic initiatives. It is also difficult for the industry (companies, organizations, facilities, associations) who work with snow-related issues to know where to find help with a challenge.

To address this - Peak Innovation, Luleå University of Technology, Mid Sweden University and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and are now creating a snow research cluster and invite you to be a part of it.

### Through coloration we can all become stronger

With a **Nordic network-based snow research cluster** that will enable collaboration and coordination we can:

- ⇒ Coordinate efforts around snow research and avoid redundancy
- ⇒ Increase the speed of knowledge development within the area of snow
- ⇒ Be better to solve national and international challenges
- ⇒ Know of, and value add each other's areas of strength
- ⇒ Get access to infrastructure for snow research that exists within the network
- ⇒ Commercial actors can easily find the right partner for the challenges they face.
- ⇒ Create a better awareness of the ongoing projects and the various skills that exist within the network.

We also believe that with regular interaction between us we will increase our ability to create and build consortiums for larger projects (Horizon, EU etc.).

### For whom?

Any university or research institution with snow and snow related research in the Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Greenland and Faeroe Islands)

## Join Today

Within the project of SNÖRIK we are currently creating the framework for the cluster that will contain two parts:

### **Online tool:**

A digital tool for information sharing. A web-based framework where cluster members share ongoing research projects, competences, and snow related infrastructure.

### **Annual Meetings:**

Two annual meetings that will ambulate between the members with the goal to present, discuss and update on:

- ⇒ New research and information within the snow area
- ⇒ Ongoing projects and findings
- ⇒ Coordinate larger projects/initiatives.

As a second step when the cluster is up and running, relevant private, public, and the civil sector partners can be invited to parts of the cluster as well.

- ⇒ This will strengthen the demand driven science and ensure national and international challenges are better solved.
- ⇒ The involvement of companies, municipalities and civil organisations will make it easier to build consortiums and to finance future projects.

The Initial development and coordination will be done within the project of \*SNÖRIK, from 2021 the administration, coordination and development of the cluster can be handled by Peak Innovation for a low annual member fee.

*\*SNÖRIK- Snow research and innovation across the border. The purpose of the project is to increase businesses and societal gain by promoting and expanding the knowledge within the field of snow, as well as by strengthening and developing the cross-border innovation system for snow. The project is primarily financed by the Interreg Sweden Norway Programme. The project is run by Peak Innovation, Mid Sweden University and NTNU in Trondheim.*



Current focus areas for the founding members – to be expanded with new areas when more members join:

Vehicles and traffic in snow and ice	Snow storage
Snow production	Measurement techniques of snow/ice properties
Snow and ice mechanics	Sliding friction on snow and ice
Snow quality and salting	Wind deposition of snow
Snow and ice ploughing and salting	Snow transport and storage
Cover materials for snow storage	

### **To join or to get more information, contact:**

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