

# Minutes NICEST2 negotiation meeting, 13.02.2020

## Participants:

Hamish Struthers, NSC, SE  
Anne-Claire Fouilloux, UiO, NO  
Antti-Ilari Partanen for Risto Makkonen, FMI, FI  
Øyvind Seland, METNO, NO  
Mats Bentsen, NORCE, NO  
Yanchun He, NERSC, NO  
Shuting Yang for Peter Lang Langen, DMI, DK  
Michaela Barth, NeIC  
Kine Bugge Halvorsen, NeIC

Please find the presentation from the Project Owner (PO) here:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/16UvuTjtQyDzCRWellmoADUcPWYyaO8NvINOHPDJ8z0gE/edit>

Next step is hiring the Project Manager (PM) with a deadline for applications on February 15th. The consortium has the opportunity to nominate a person to join the hiring interview but doesn't see the need for it as long as their criteria are factored in.

Desirable criteria for a PM from the consortium members: It would be valuable if the PM would be also involved in the tasks and real work, and not just management if the % is as high as 40% of the total budget [*Remark after the meeting: the percentage of the PM is 31% of the total budget; 18 of 56 PMs*]. It would be an advantage if the PM works at one of the partner institutions, or at least has background in the field.

The consortium consists of co-funding and supporting partners. The travel and meeting budget will also cover the supporting partners, but these will not have any PMs funded. The role of the supporting partners is to be kept in the loop, be part of the knowledge exchange and finally use the generated outputs and benefits generated within NICEST2.

Estonia has raised their interest in joining NICEST2, namely TalTech Tallinn Univ. of Technology. Contact point given so far was Lauri Anton.

From NICEST1 experience, the Steering Group (SG) from NICEST2 was too large. The proposal is to have a Steering Group, consisting of the PO and one representative for the major contributing member in every country and an annual Collaboration Forum of all consortium members. If a Steering Group decision affecting one other consortium member is expected, this consortium member should be invited. The Terms of Reference for the SG can be such that additional attending members can also get voting rights. [*Remark: the ToR will be decided at the constituting meeting. Current formulation in the default ToR: "The steering group may at their own discretion invite observers. With a uniform decision a major stakeholder (who agrees to deliver something to the project) may become a full member of the steering group. With uniform decision they may be given voting right."*].

**Decision: The project group agreed to have a smaller Steering Group. All consortium members will meet annually through a Collaboration Forum. Also all consortium members will get informed about steering group minutes.**

Invoices should be sent to NeIC at a minimum of **annual frequency**, at the latest at 15th January the year after the year the partner is invoicing for.

NSC is planning to add in additional in-kind PMs to the project, especially at the start of the project, but not requesting more matching funding from NeIC for it. This can be included in the final budget as part of the project plan to acknowledge it. Otherwise there are currently no proposed changes to the budget as attached to the proposal. Service agreements for local staff will be handled as during NICEST1. The consortium members are encouraged to not spread their **local PM workload** over too many people, so that the project will have an **engaged core-team** with more than only a finger in the project (ideally 0.5% but at least 0.25% FTE per person).

Dependencies with other projects: Besides the ones listed also **INES** should be mentioned. **IPCC** is not as important and will have only a short overlap with the project. WCRP's **CMIP** should be added for timeline and dependencies.

Within NeIC there will be a dependency with **EOSC-Nordic** framework for Data publishing and accessibility (FAIR), which should be interlinked with NICEST2. This should be accounted for in the project plan timeline. There are two NICEST1 use cases within EOSC-Nordic (<https://nordicesmhub.github.io/eosc-nordic-climate-demonstrator/> and especially <https://nordicesmhub.github.io/eosc-nordic-climate-demonstrator/03-use-cases/> ). It is important to understand what NICEST1 is doing for this use case and sync and complement this within NICEST2. Potential increased linkage/ collaboration with **Puhuri**. NICEST2 could be a use case. *[Remark after the meeting: Being a purely technical project Puhuri doesn't plan to have use cases. But NICEST2 will be invited to be part of the Puhuri reference group.]*

Potential linkage with **NT1** with its onboarding community project (pamphlet of offering) as proposed in Activity C, Task C-1 (there is also manpower reserved for it) as well as knowledge exchange with **iOBS** on data selection, quality control and data streaming.

Expected benefits:

- 'Enable a Nordic Climate Model Intercomparison Project'. This should be reworded. NICEST2 should not sound like a competitor to CMIP. Make it clear that the project will only provide the framework.
- Framework for Nordic Model (has been changed in the Business Case for NICEST2)

There seems to be no known staffing dependencies on the actual start date expected. Beginning of June seems to be a realistic start date.

**Collaboration Agreement: NeIC will prepare a Collaboration Agreement and send it to the co-funding project partners.**

NICEST2 would like to involve the National Providers to a larger extent, and would be interested in increased linkage with the Provider Forum and discuss the business case with them.

The rest of the meeting was spent on developing the NICEST2 business case:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QQUGws9eCrq-fnpgg167xMuPWeBmyDaAKw\\_voHlugVY/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QQUGws9eCrq-fnpgg167xMuPWeBmyDaAKw_voHlugVY/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs)

For comparison the NICEST1 benefit realisation:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zeqfJx2xKDySvBKHzU2peKTd6hZX8FWs10qgLLJmJVE/edit#gid=270223352>