

NORDIC FIVE TECH

CHALMERS



NTNU

Nordic Five Tech Strategy 2021-2025

Why we collaborate

Nordic values

The Nordic perspective, our common Nordic values, constitute the foundation of Nordic Five Tech and why we collaborate. The Nordic values feature openness, trust in each other, conviction of peoples' equal value, focus on creativity and innovation, respect for nature and the environment.

Complementary and parallel strengths

By jointly addressing issues in areas where we all excel, N5T can challenge the boundaries of what is possible. This includes our prolific standing in terms of innovation, research excellence and cutting edge educational programmes and environments. By sharing best practices, we entrench and propel our position as an influential alliance of first tier Universities.

Globalization within reach

Through collaboration between Universities in the Nordics that are all in close geographical proximity, the carbon footprint for collaboration is greatly reduced and our efforts greatly augmented. More can be achieved with less as the threshold for collaboration is relatively low.

Influence within the Nordic arena

The N5T Universities already enjoy the status of being prominent partners vis a vis our respective governments and not least the Nordic Council of Ministers. Though concerted efforts have been made already, influence is an area in which our efforts can yet be increased by assuming common positions in issues that are important for all, or some, of the alliance Universities.

Sustainability is the Permeating Theme of N5T Collaboration

The N5T Universities recognize that sustainability needs to be the basis for every future undertaking. N5T research and educational activities play a central role in contributing to the green transition and solutions for the sustainable societies of the future. As such, sustainability is the underpinning and permeating theme of each of the below focus areas for the coming four years.

NORDIC FIVE TECH



Focus areas in the coming four years

I Education - We offer unique and high-quality university education by

1. increasing the magnitude of Student Mobility

The alliance aims to attain significantly increased and balanced student mobility between our five Universities. This includes both physical and virtual mobility but will focus on the former. The close proximity of our Universities allows for more sustainable travel options, meaning that environmental impact will be minimal.

2. developing our Educational Infrastructure

Pedagogical development, sustainable learning environments and digitalization are necessary parts in future Engineering education. Additionally, Lifelong Learning is an area of increasing importance that is both in high demand from industry and prioritized by all of the alliance Universities. Consequently, N5T will greatly emphasize benchmarking and sharing of best practices within these areas.

3. offering Joint Master's Programmes

Joint Master's programmes are and will continue to be an important joint educational activity for the alliance. The aim of the joint programmes is to offer unique educational content, support educational synergies and to integrate educational offers across the alliance with the objective to create an extended campus

II Research – we offer knowledge for a better world by

1. developing collaboration in Doctoral Education

During the coming years N5T will focus on increasing the collaboration in doctoral education, in the context of working towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Jointly supervised projects will be offered in topics selected on a yearly basis. The aim of these efforts is to build a Nordic network for young researchers and provide access to the local research environments, infrastructure and courses across all partners.

2. further developing our Research Infrastructure collaboration

Research Infrastructures are essential assets for all N5T institutions and also large and long-term investments. It is estimated that the N5T partners can benefit from improving joint access to their

NORDIC FIVE TECH



shared catalogue of Research Infrastructure and thereby provide a platform for utilizing complementary equipment. In building on the work done by the Shared Infrastructure Group, N5T will investigate how to integrate Research Infrastructure collaboration and possibilities for shared access and also initiate collaboration on joint training initiatives and exchange of methods. The aim of these efforts is to position N5T infrastructures internationally and increase collective competitiveness.

3. joining forces in acquiring Research Funding

Nordic Five Tech aims to continue on-going efforts on research support collaboration within the alliance through the Working Group Research Funding, thereby contributing to capacity building of and best practice exchange between its research support functions. As a means to increase proclivity for researchers to apply for joint funding with alliance colleagues, the Working Group Research Funding aims to establish a N5T incentive scheme through joint workshops, seminars, study visits etc., relating to Nordic and European funding opportunities.

4. becoming the higher education spearhead in Artificial Intelligence application to serve society

Our Universities are all heavily engaged in AI research in our own right and can only become stronger by collaborating and coordinating our efforts. The Nordic AI Network constitutes an important platform for furthering alliance ambitions within this area.

III Creating Positive Impact by

1. sharing best practices and joining forces on Strategic Political Statements

The alliance Universities share a common value to positively impact society by producing new solutions that address the grand challenges facing our world, educating global citizens capable of being leaders who contribute to society and increasing the innovation capacity of those within our spheres of influence. The alliance Universities share best practices and work to jointly communicate and raise awareness of this impact. N5T also seeks to jointly influence decision makers at the national, Nordic and European level. This includes writing joint statements and preparing white papers that address key issues that are of importance to N5T universities and societies. When appropriate the alliance will also arrange and support joint events that broaden and highlight our impact.

2. establishing a Nordic Model for the Development of Sustainable Communities

This model will emphasize the importance of involving research and students. This includes both collaborating with regions and municipalities in the Nordics as well as using data from municipalities as a platform for knowledge and innovation. Several of the collaborating alliance universities have worked with models for collaboration with the public sector aiming to develop sustainable municipalities as well as the public sector as such. The focus has been knowledge-based development. This work has been in line with European trends regarding the development of the role of universities in terms of the social mission. Methodology aiming at incentivizing and motivating researchers to engage with the public should be a central aspect of this model.