

## **DDLS Steering group meeting no. 37, 2024**

**Date:** December 16, 2024

**Time:** 9.00 - 12.00

**Zoom:** <https://uu-se.zoom.us/j/67000736787>

### **Attending members:**

*Erik Kristiansson (Chalmers/ Göteborg University, §1 - §8)*

*Tuuli Lappalainen (KTH, Royal Institute of technology)*

*Janne Lehtiö (Karolinska Institutet)*

*Sara Hallin (SLU, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, §1 - §3)*

*Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (Lund University/WCMM. NSC chair, §5 - §9)*

*Carolina Wählby (Uppsala University)*

### **Other participants:**

*Olli Kallioniemi (Director of the DDLS research program), Chair of the meeting*

*Siv Andersson (KAW representative)*

*Margit Mahlapuu (chair, DDLS research area expert group in Cell and molecular biology, §1 - §8)*

*Jan Ellenberg (Director SciLifeLab)*

*Jenny Alfredsson (Head of Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Johan Rung (Head of SciLifeLab Data Centre)*

*Heidi Törmänen Persson (DDLS collaboration manager, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Titti Ekegren (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Ulrika Wallenquist (DDLS coordinator, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Mojgan Seraji (Collaboration manager, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Johan Inganni (Communications officer, Operations Office SciLifeLab)*

*Björn Nystedt (Head of unit Bioinformatics Long-term Support, WABI)*

*Wojtek Potrzebowski (Data Science Coordinator, SciLifeLab Data Centre)*

*Jessica Lindvall (Head of SciLifeLab Training Hub)*

### **Members not attending:**

*Matts Karlsson (Linköping University)*

*Oliver Billker (Umeå University, MIMS director)*

*Erik Lindahl (Stockholm University)*

*Fredrik Ronquist (NRM, Swedish Museum of Natural History)*

*Next meeting: Jan 22, March 13, April 24, June 10, August 27, October 2, November 11, December 15, 2025*

## Agenda 2024-12-16

All documents including presentations from the meeting can be found on NextCloud:  
<https://nextcloud.dc.scilifelab.se/s/QJdLwPxn4ntzrYC>

1	<p><b>Meeting formalities</b></p> <p><i>Carolina Wählby was chosen to attend the minutes.</i></p> <p><i>The DDLS Steering group <b>approved</b> the previous minutes.</i></p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i></p> <p><b>Appendix:</b> <b>1. Previous minutes, 24-11-12</b></p>
2	<p><b>Director's update</b> (See presentation "Dec 16_DDLS SG presentation-total" page 3-25 for details)</p> <p><i>A meeting was arranged with DDLS fellows and KAW in connection to the DDLS annual conference. The discussion items concerned Data storage and Data services. Overall, the DDLS fellows gave positive feedback.</i></p> <p><i>As a follow up of that meeting there are some other concerns / issues where we have had a dialogue with the DDLS fellows to collect their thoughts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Data Storage Solutions: Have you tested the SciLifeLab FAIR Storage solution? How does it work for you?</i></li> <li><i>• Local Contact Persons: Do you have a local senior person at your university, besides a prefect, whom you currently can turn to in challenging situations?</i></li> <li><i>• KAW Overheads Issue: Do you have to "pay" the extra (missing) overhead of KAW grants to your department?</i></li> <li><i>• Docentship: Has the lack of a docentship been an issue for you, and if so, in what way?</i></li> <li><i>• Supervision of PhD Students: Do you have concerns about your independence in PhD student supervision?</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The response to these questions will be prepared. A meeting with the partner representatives in the DDLS National Reference group and DDLS fellows will be arranged early in 2025 to discuss these issues.</i></p> <p><i>The new KAW investment of SEK 600 million to data-driven life science at SciLifeLab is divided in 5 packages in 5 separate donation letters;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• <b>200 MSEK</b> to KTH/SciLifeLab for the DDLS program, 11 new DDLS fellows,</i></li> <li><i>• <b>135 MSEK</b> to KTH/SciLifeLab</i> <i><b>135 MSEK</b> to HPA for Alpha cell project</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> <i>Olli Kallioniemi</i></p>

*Next meeting: Jan 22, March 13, April 24, June 10, August 27, October 2, November 11, December 15, 2025*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>100 MSEK</b> to KTH/SciLifeLab for Alpha cell instrumentation</li> <li>• <b>30 MSEK</b> to Mathias Uhlén for HPA project</li> <li>• Hence, if we remove the specific research projects that are not under the DDLs SG or the national SciLifeLab board, there is 200 MSEK of new funding to DDLs. Hence, the total funding for the 12 year DDLs program should now be considered to be 3.3 BSEK.</li> </ul> <p><u>Joint WASP and DDLs call for NESTs</u> The NEST call closed Oct 30, 2024 and 24 applications were received (about 2 BSEK applied for). The pre-screening process turned out difficult due to several COI among national reviewers so all applications will now be subject to international evaluation. The final decisions will be made by the SciLifeLab board on their meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>.</p>	
3	<p><b>The RDCP expression of interest call</b> (See presentation “Dec 16_DDLs SG presentation-total” page 26-34 for details)</p> <p>Each research area will have one RDCP funded based on a simple application process (0,5 MSEK x 2 years =&gt; 1 MSEK x 4 research areas). Three to dozens of PIs for each RDCP are expected to collaborate to develop data-driven research communities that highlight opportunities and examples of future data-driven communities. Collaboration and resources from the WABI and DC at each DSN is expected and the resulting RDCPs can serve as leading example of DDLs in the various RAs. At the same time, we hope for ambitious projects that will also position themselves towards raising grand challenge funding to promote this work.</p> <p><u>Some comments from the DDLs Steering group:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the broad call text and the aim to grant only one application from each Research Area, it may be a challenge to find reviewers and avoid conflicts.</li> <li>• International evaluators may again need to be assigned at some point in the evaluation process.</li> <li>• National team science project is a better description than a Flagship project. Flagship project implies a bigger scope than the 0,5 msek/year in this RDCP call</li> <li>• Do we want a focused project or a big community? Currently this is left open, but at the end the synergy and benefits to the internal and external community will hopefully dictate the best proof of concept example for each RA.</li> <li>• Mentioning 3 – 10 PIs as co-applicant is a reasonable range, considering the available funding. Others can represent a community to be engaged.</li> </ul>	<p>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</p> <p>Appendix: <b>3. Draft- EoI Call for Research Data Community Projects</b></p>

	<p><i>Timeline:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call Opens: January 15, 2025</li> <li>• Application Deadline (Eol): March 12, 2025</li> <li>• Review and Shortlisting: April 2025</li> <li>• Final Proposal Submission (by invitation): April 2025 (internationally reviewed)</li> <li>• Decision and Grant Start: June-July 2025</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> the DDLS Steering group agree to send the RDCP-EOI call text and process to the SciLifeLab board for decision. The DDLS Steering group also agree to give the DDLS director and the DDLS program office mandate to revise the final document according to comments.</p>	
4	<p><b>DDLS communication and visual identity</b> (See presentation “Dec 16_DDLS SG presentation-total” page 35-45 for details)</p> <p>Examples were shown of the visual identity of DDLS in presentations, posters and flyers. This will all be presented in the communication plan that is about to be finalized.</p> <p><u>General instructions for presentations (ppt slides)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SciLifeLab &amp; KAW logo together at least once</li> <li>• Full name of the program visible at least once (1-3 rows)</li> <li>• When using colours, choose Teal &amp; Aqua first, then Lime and Grape</li> <li>• When possible, use the DDLS background</li> <li>• Use the Lora &amp; Lato fonts if available, if not, Arial and Poppins</li> <li>• KAW should be highlighted as the financier in presentations</li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> Johan Inganni</p>
5	<p><b>New DAC member</b></p> <p>Lara H Urban, Technical University of Munich, DE is, after a period of parental leave willing to be re-assigned as member in the DDLS advisory committee.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> The DDLS Steering Group agree to re-assign Lara H Urban into the DDLS Advisory committee. The SciLifeLab board will take the decision.</p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> Olli Kallioniemi</p>
6	<p><b>Update from Program Office</b> (See presentation “Dec 16_DDLS SG presentation-total” page 48-56 for details)</p> <p>The plan for allocation of DDLS funding surplus from Phase I was approved by the SciLifeLab board on meeting no. 74, 7 Nov 2024 and also finally approved by KAW. Details about how to account for the surplus usage is still pending and will be presented in January 2025.</p>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> Heidi T. Persson</p>

	<i>The DDLS Program Office had a full-day workshop in December with presentations and discussions about the operational areas of the DDLS program.</i>	
7	<p><b>Update from DC, WABI &amp; DSNs</b> (See presentation “Dec 16_DDLS SG presentation-total” page 58-72 for details)</p> <p>WABI is preparing a yearly summary and highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over 30 publications</li> <li>- 20 national + 4 international courses (&gt; 500 participants)</li> <li>- 34 PhD students in the Swedish Bioinformatics Advisory Program</li> </ul> <p>The WABI project calls in October 2024 received 27 omics applications and 4 structural biology/Cryo-EM applications. Of these, 5 and 3 were granted respectively.</p> <p><u>Data Centre update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cluster migration nearly finished</li> <li>• Establishing software development roadmaps for all services</li> <li>• SciLifeLab Reference Genome Portal launched</li> <li>• Precision medicinal portal in preparation for launch early 2025</li> <li>• Survey to DDLS fellows and groups members (60% response rate, under analysis)</li> <li>• Service uptime since last SG meeting: 99.75%</li> </ul> <p>New NIH funding to DC for Pathogen Data Network project strengthens visibility to the data services work of the program (the Pathogens Portal is developed together with the UmU DSN) and the collaborations with EMBL, EMBL-EBI and SIB.</p> <p>A lot of outreach activities has been done for DDLS fellows, together with AI courses and workshops and the Research Data management road tour.</p>	<p><i>Presenters:</i> Johan Rung, Björn Nystedt</p>
8	<p><b>DSN development and operations document</b> (See presentation “Dec 16_DDLS SG presentation-total” page 73-82 for details)</p> <p>Presentation and discussion about the draft document on DSN (data services part) guidelines and organisation, prepared by DC.</p> <p><u>Comments and reflections from DDLS Steering Group:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Important that the RAs have a strong role in determining the scientific scope of services developed by the DSNs</li> <li>- Overall, the document appears too complex: Would be good to separate strategic and operational issues</li> </ul>	<p><i>Presenter:</i> Johan Rung</p> <p><i>Appendix:</i> <b>8. Data Science Nodes guidelines</b> (data services)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Important that the DSNs remain well integrated with the rest of the DC operations as they depend on central DC resources, competences, and services</li> <li>- Highlight the role of the DSNs to make DDLS data services development established at the national level</li> <li>- Clarify the role of the DSN management and their connection with DC management</li> <li>- Must be clear what the KAW funding is used for, while still positive to find syneriges with other initiatives/funding streams</li> <li>- Important to utilize the local environments at the nodes</li> </ul> <p>Data Centre together with the DSNs and the DDLS director will draft a new version of the guidelines for continued discussions, ideally to be distributed well before the next SG meeting.</p>	
9	<p><b>Other issues</b></p> <p>No further issues. The chairman thanked all participants for a nice meeting!</p>	<p>Presenter: Olli Kallioniemi</p>

-----  
Olli Kallioniemi, chair of the meeting

-----  
Carolina Wahlby, Attending minutes