

# *From Treasure Hunters to Citizen Scientists: metal- detecting and archaeological heritage in the Nordic region*

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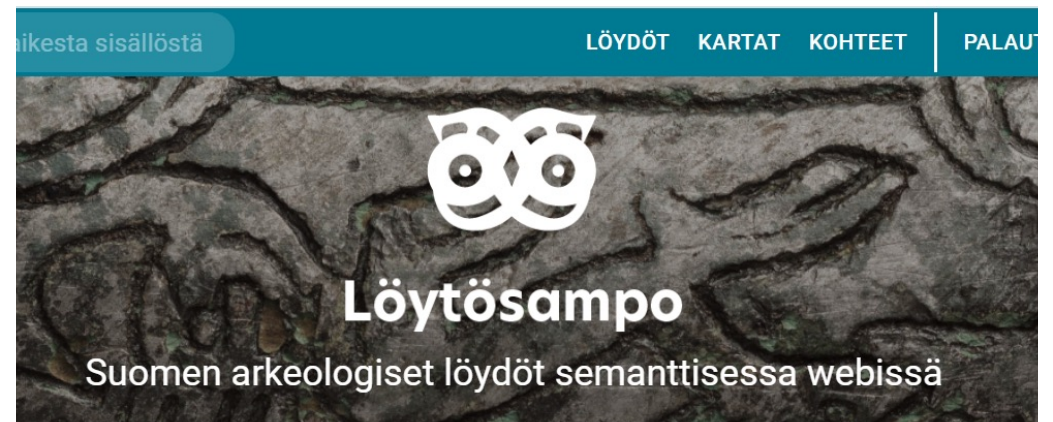
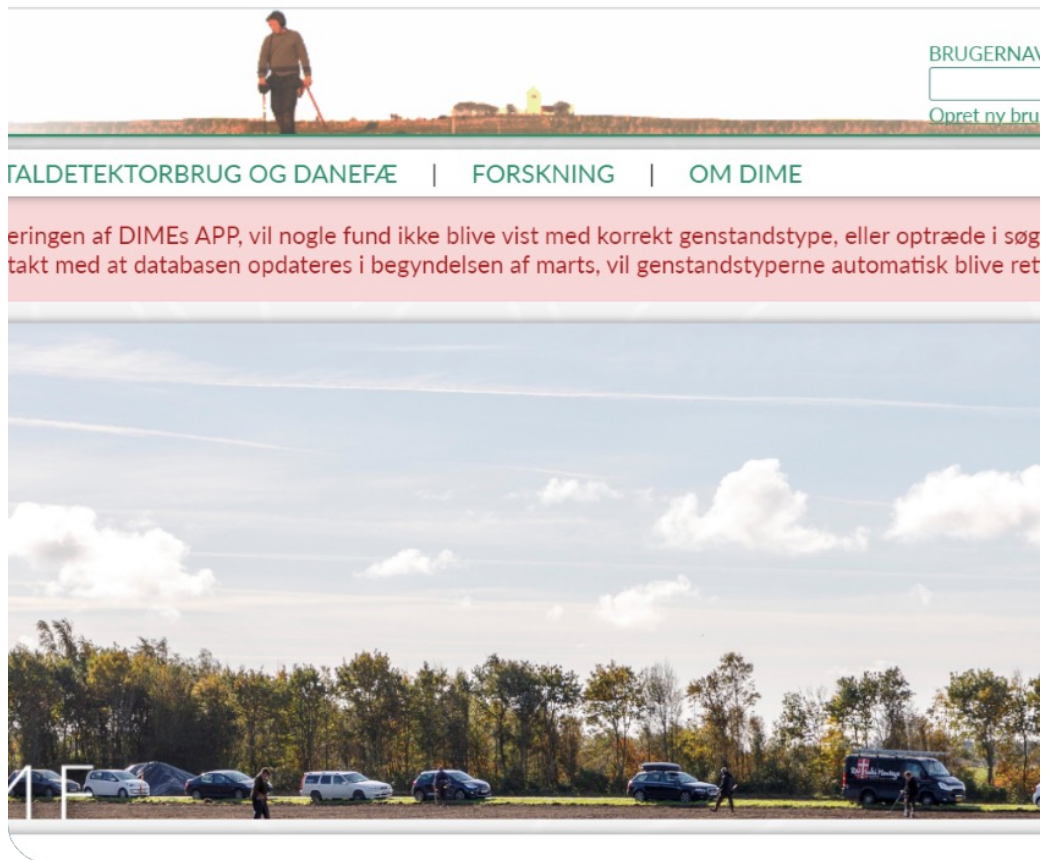
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Treasure hunters? Citizen  
scientists?

# Nordic countries have different responses to metal-detecting and public finds

- Sweden: metal-detecting is de facto prohibited
- Norway: metal-detecting is legal but restricted to cultivated land only, even though regional differences occur
- Denmark and Finland: metal-detecting is permitted within certain constraints; national services and online databases being developed to identify and record finds
- Iceland: all buildings and archaeological sites over 100 years old are protected by law; any archaeological discoveries should be reported to the National Museum.



Valitse näkymä aineiston hakua ja tutkimista varten:



# Types/levels of citizen science

1. **Contributory projects**, which are generally designed by scientists and for which members of the public primarily contribute data
2. **Collaborative projects**, which are generally designed by scientists and for which members of the public contribute data but also may help to refine project design, analyse data, or disseminate findings
3. **Co-created projects**, which are designed by scientists and members of the public working together and for which at least some of the public participants are actively involved in most or all steps of the scientific process

Bonney, Rick, Heidi Ballard, Rebecca Jordan, Ellen McCallie, Tina Phillips, Jennifer Shirk, and Candie C. Wilderman. "Public Participation in Scientific Research: Defining the Field and Assessing Its Potential for Informal Science Education. A CAISE Inquiry Group Report." *Online Submission* (2009).

# Our workshop series idea is born – the *Nordic added value*

- Particular strengths of Nordic researchers
- Address needs that are unique to Nordic countries in light of shared institutions/social structures/heritage
- Focus on geographical/climatic/cultural/social phenomena in the Nordic countries
- Utilize data on uniquely Nordic registries
- Helping to build critical mass/expertise on important
- Enhance cost-effectiveness by sharing infrastructure/harmonizing
- Lead to networking and regional mobility
- Enhance scientific quality, lead to high-quality scientific publications
- Increase the chances of success of Nordic researchers in EU/international research activities
- Lead to more results and quality-assured conclusions in shaping the statutory framework and rationalizing public administration
- Promote innovation and solutions to enhance industrial development and cooperation in the Nordic region

So, what will we talk about?

# Helsinki: *Future directions in audience engagement for heritage management organizations*



*Focus on the heritage management authorities*

- Why is outreach from heritage organizations and the academy important (such as what are the goals of doing this?)
- How can we work participation into heritage management operations?
- Where do common ground and disagreements about participation occur?
- (For example, what if the community have different values or don't want to follow e.g. best practices? What if they are not homogeneous and have different perspectives?)



# Bergen: *Current opportunities in public archaeology research - Uses and Users of the Data*

*Exploration of the public archaeology and engagement aspects of the data generated by metal detectorists.*

- How are finds databases used?
- Is there a difference between how professionals and the public use finds databases and archaeological finds?
- How is this interaction shaped by collection management policies?
- Do potential and current archaeological citizen scientists find that the resources and applications available to them are fit for purposes?
- What are their own goals for contributing data to archaeological heritage management organizations?
- Who is a citizen scientist?



# Århus: *Understanding the social and cultural aspects of metal detecting: practices and attitudes of public finders and of professionals*

*Focus on the historical and contemporary contexts of how metal detecting relates to professional archaeology across the Nordic regions.*



- What are the experiences of metal detectorists and archaeologists across the region?
- Where are there points of commonality?
- How do experiences (and needs) differ?



# The European Public Finds Recording Network



<https://www2.helsinki.fi/en/networks/european-public-finds-recording-network>



# SAVE THE DATES!

- Helsinki, 2-3 June 2022
- Bergen, 6-7 October 2022
- Århus, 27-28 April 2023
- <https://www.helsinki.fi/en/conferences/treasure-hunters-citizen-scientists>

Kiitos! Tak! Takk! Tack!  
Pakkir! Thank you!