



Nordic-Baltic Committee on Food Analysis
www.nmkl.org

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NMKL Annual Report 2024

Eystein Oveland (PhD), NMKL Executive Director

NMKL – NordVal International

c/o Institute of Marine Research

P.O. box 1870 Nordnes

5817 Bergen

Norway

E-mail: post@NMKL.org

<https://www.nmkl.org/>

OBJECTIVE

NMKL is linked to, and funded by, the Nordic Council of Ministers EK-FJLS Food (500 000 DKK/ Year), to support reaching strategic goals such as a green Nordic region with sustainable consumption.

NMKL was established in 1947 with the purpose of ensuring that reliable analytical methods and procedures for food, feed and water are available for the Nordic countries and conveyed to private and official laboratories in line and in dialogue with competent authorities. NMKL has expanded to involve the whole Nordic-Baltic region with the purpose of 1) being a network for knowledge sharing and collaboration between official and private food laboratories and food safety authorities in the Nordic-Baltic region, 2) providing reliable, suitable, well-documented, and effective methods and procedures for the analysis of food, feed and water in

line with international regulations, 3) offering courses in relevant topics, 4) ensuring safe rapid kits for food, feed and water testing by NordVal certification according to EU legislation and international rules, and 5) promoting Nordic-Baltic interests in related topics in international communities.

The NMKL secretariat is hosted by the Institute of Marine Research (Org. No. 971 349 077), in Bergen, Norway since Nov 2020. Eystein Oveland is the Executive Director supported by Veslemøy Villanger as the Administrative Assistant. NMKL had 77 members from Nordic and Baltic countries and extends to stakeholders world-wide through international networks.

About NMKL webpage:

<https://www.nmkl.org/about-nmkl>

DELIVERABLES

Projects. In the NMKL workplan 2024 to EK-FJLS 36 different projects were ongoing in the four NMKL groups, Microbiology (9), Chemistry (12), Sensory (6), NordVal International (6), and intergroup (2). Some of the projects were finalized and some are continuous, as well as additional projects were initiated.

New publications. NMKL published a new method, [NMKL 206](#). Several (around 15) actual methods and procedures were reassessed and concluded to still be valid whereas [NMKL 121](#) was withdrawn. New editions were made and published for the methods [NMKL 192](#), [NMKL 125](#), [NMKL 55](#) and [NMKL 189A/B](#), and the procedures [NMKL Proc 21](#) and [NMKL Proc 16](#). NMKL updated the [contact information for Nordic-](#)

[Baltic NRLs and OFLs](#), from 2025 decided to be replaced by links to respective official webpages.

The newsletter [NMKL News 108](#) summarizing many of the activities 2024 was published Dec 2024.

Dissemination.

NMKL had 22 online subscribers to methods and procedures in addition to single purchase costumers and sold 865 publications (664 methods and 201 procedures) monitored counted from unique downloads. The website nmkl.org had 19 300 unique visitors with 72 700 page views from 100 different countries.

NMKL offered free access to NMKL publication for educational purposes to assist sustainable development and young people in the Nordic-Baltic region, e.g. offered to laboratory technology students at Erhvervsakademi MidtVest (DK).

Experts in NMKL addressed 15 queries from stakeholders about analytical methods, thus striving to be an interconnecting network for food analysts in the industries, the governmental sectors, and scientific disciplines.

NordVal International certificates. NordVal International certified 1 additional alternative method (rapid kit) for analysis of yeast and mold in foods ([NordVal 063](#)), extended

the scope of one certificate for Salmonella analysis ([NordVal 032](#)), and approved renewal of 12 certificates (validity 2 years at a time), holds per date [32 certificates](#), and has 12 new alternative methods in the certification process.

Workshop and courses. NMKL arranged a Microbiology course [in Finland](#) and [in Estonia](#) in national languages based on common presentation material made by NMKL in English. NMKL arranged a [Workshop on Validation and Certification of Alternative Methods for Food Analysis](#) in Lithuania.

MEETINGS AND COLLABORATION

NMKL meetings and communication

Å2024. The NMKL's 78th Annual Meeting 2024 was held 1-3 Sept at Matis, Reykjavik, Iceland as a hybrid meeting. Plenary sessions included scientific presentations about genetic tools in research and about NextGenProteins.

Digital meetings. In addition to the Annual Meeting, the NMKL groups had 2-3 digital meetings. The NMKL Board had two digital meetings. Further, the projects groups and NordVal Technical committees had several digital meetings.

NMKLIntra. NMKL members and project members communicate by e-mails and through NMKLIntra on Teams/SharePoint.

Collaborating organizations.

Through our [collaborations](#) NMKL was involved in different meeting activities:

ISO. NMKL is a liaison organization. An NMKL representative attended the ISO TC 34/SC 9 Microbiology meeting in June. An NMKL representative attended the ISO/TC

34/SC 9/ WG 3 Method Validation digital meeting in May.

IAM. The NMKL executive Director attended the meeting in Budapest in May to prepare and align opinions from the different standardization organizations in food analysis for the CCMAS42.

CODEX. NMKL attended the CCMAS42 meeting in Budapest in May addressing endorsement of (NMKL) methods.

AOAC Europe. The NMKL Executive Director is a board member and attended several digital meetings, and common activity on analytical challenges with novel foods planned with NMKL in 2025.

MicroVal. The NMKL executive Director is a member of the MicroVal General Committee (MGC). The NordVal International Technical Committees attended the digital 60th MicroVal Technical Committee (MVTC) Meeting where our organisations individually had reviewed the same alternative methods for certification. The expert lab presented study plans and validation reports.

FoodBalt 2024. The NMKL executive Director was a speaker at the FoodBalt 2024 conference in Estonia in May (digital presentation) aimed at strengthening our collaboration with the Baltic countries.

Nordic Council of Ministers. NMKL, represented by the Executive Director and the President, attended several meetings

with the Nordic Council of Ministers EK-FJLS Food section.

E.g., a physical meeting in Copenhagen in March to promote NMKL as an important contributor in the Nordic Cooperation, digital meeting to present the NMKL Workplan 2024, and digital meetings contributing to outlining the Nordic cooperation program for MR-FJLS 2025-30.

ACCOUNTS

NMKL reported the accounts for 2024 to the Nordic Council of Ministers 24 February 2025.

The income including DKK 500 000 from NMR was in total DKK 919 617, and the expenses were in total DKK 997 212, giving an annual result of DKK – 77 595.

The negative result was expected and covered by earned capital from previous years.