

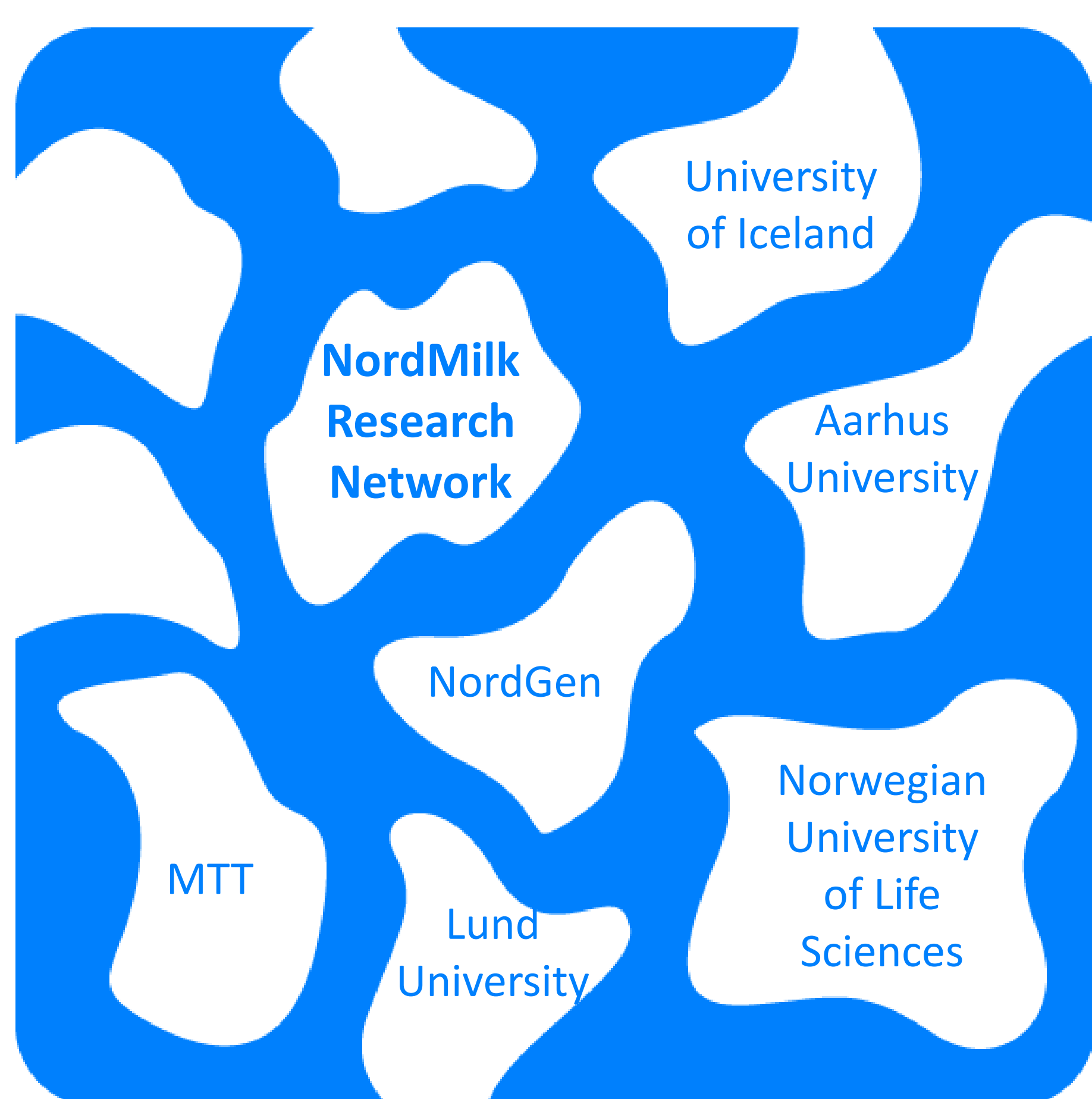


# NordMilk – Nordic network on characterization of milk from indigenous Nordic cattle breeds

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The newly established **NordMilk Research Network** is a scientific network exploring the characterization of milk from **indigenous Nordic cattle breeds**. The aim of the network is to contribute to fulfilling biodiversity conventions through **genetic and phenotypic characterization** of milk from Nordic indigenous cattle breeds. This is considered as a step towards developing dairy niche products from these breeds and thereby **sustainable use and conservation of genetic resources**.



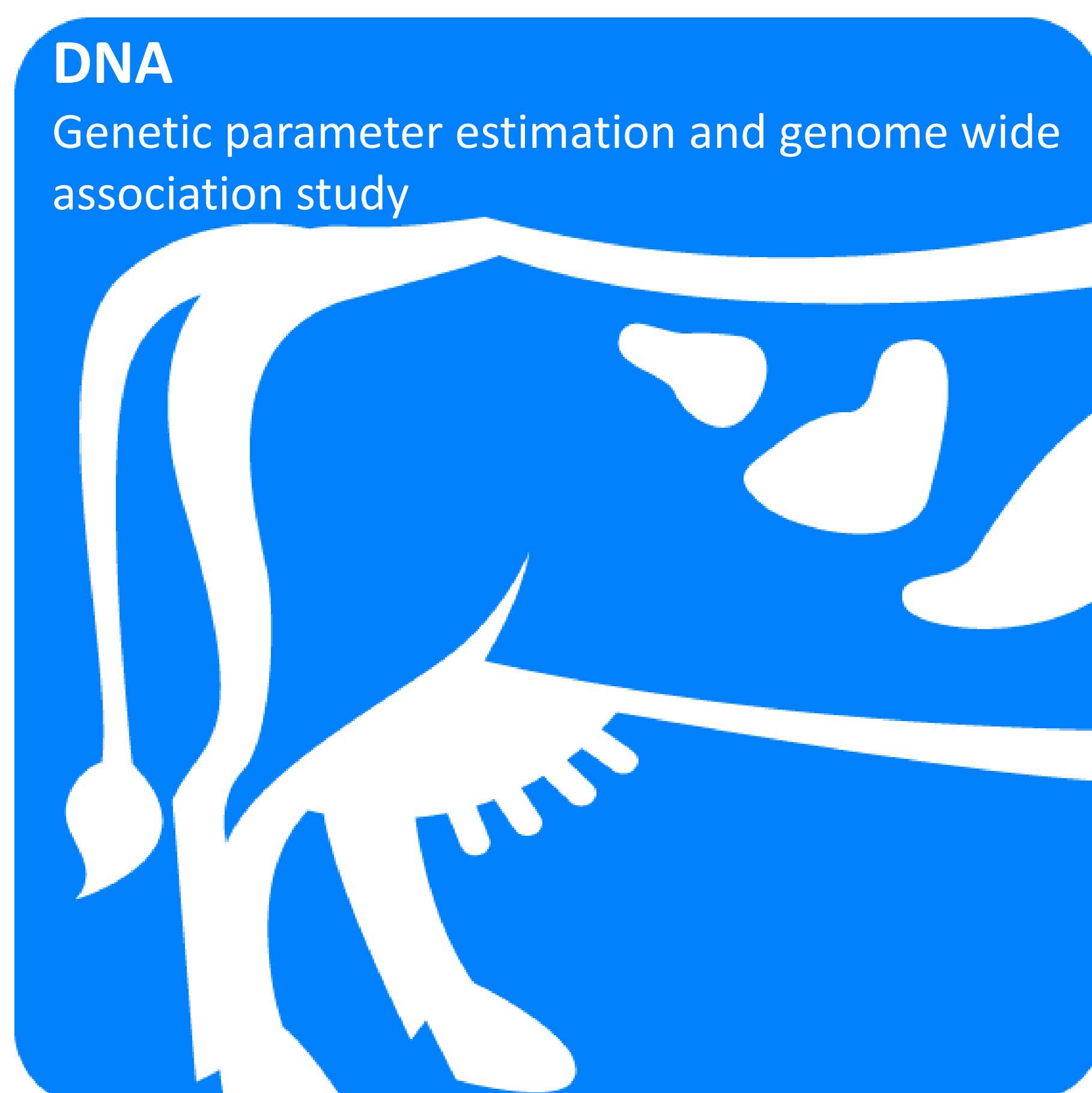
## Objectives

- utilize **synergies** between Nordic research groups on genetic and phenotypic characterization of milk from the Nordic indigenous cattle breeds by coordinating and creating national and joint projects
- promote development of **dairy niche products** from the Nordic indigenous cattle breeds

Development of dairy niche products based on milk from indigenous Nordic breeds

Molecular characterization of the Nordic breeds suggests that they are **genetically distinct** and show different allelic and genotypic frequencies for example at the casein loci. This could be reflected in **distinct milk composition** among breeds, which could facilitate development of niche dairy products. Genetic analyses using the bovine HD chip will provide new understanding of the genetic basis of these traits in indigenous Nordic cattle breeds.

National funding in the different Nordic countries has ensured that milk from the indigenous breeds can be collected and characterized in order to document if milk originating from indigenous breeds have **desirable characteristics of nutritional and/or technological value** that can be exploited in specific dairy products, like drinking milk, butter, cheese or fermented dairy products.



Interested in collaboration?  
Please contact us and visit [www.nordmilk.nordgen.org](http://www.nordmilk.nordgen.org) for more information