

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to apply for city hospitality in conjunction with the upcoming **eLTER Science Conference**, scheduled to take place in Tampere from the 23^{rd} to the 27^{th} of June 2025. Below, we have provided all the necessary details as per the requirements outlined on the City's website.

Name of the Event: eLTER Science Conference, https://elter-ri.eu/science-conference

Event Organizer and Contact Information: The event is organized by the University of Helsinki as part of the eLTER PLUS project (funded by European Commission Grant no 871128). Paulina Rajewicz will serve as the contact person for the event and can be reached via email at paulina.rajewicz@helsinki.fi or by phone at 046 950 38 90.

Requested Time and Date of the Reception: Tuesday, 24 June 2025 at 19:00

Estimated Number and Profile of Participants: We anticipate approximately 300 attendees, comprising mainly researchers from various disciplines related to biogeoscience, biodiversity research, and social ecology. In addition, different stakeholders such as representatives of the private sector (e.g. research instrument manufacturers) are invited to attend the conference and participate in this reception. Most of the participants will come from Europe, as eLTER is currently active in 26 European countries including Israel, but we also expect attendance globally as there are corresponding networks in the US, South Africa, Australia, and China.

Detailed Description of the Event: The eLTER Science Conference convenes researchers and stakeholders from across Europe to advance ecosystem understanding within a pan-European network. This international event, held in Tampere, comprises scientific sessions, workshops, and excursions to nearby research sites such as Hyytiälä Forestry Station, Lammi Biological Station, and Seitseminen National Park. Social events facilitate networking and collaboration among participants.

Emphasizing sustainability, the conference focuses on high-level discussions regarding climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity loss at local and regional levels. Practical measures to minimize the carbon footprint include selecting local, organic products for catering and encouraging participants to minimize travel-related climate impact. The conference's commitment to sustainability aligns with Tampere City's ambition for climate neutrality and the objectives of the Pirkanmaa Climate Action Lab. The Pirkanmaa Climate Action Lab, a collaboration between the University of Helsinki and Tampere University, aims to help communities and businesses adopt practices for increased environmental sustainability. Based at the Hyytiälä SMEAR II eLTER station, the lab organizes co-creation workshops on topics related to carbon neutrality and biodiversity, making the eLTER Science Conference a fitting complement to its goals. Given the event's significance for promoting scientific exchange and enhancing the visibility of Finland, the Pirkanmaa region, and Tampere among international researchers and stakeholders, hosting a City hospitality evening would greatly contribute to its success. Such an event would also serve to showcase Tampere's opportunities and support the conference's objectives.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via email or phone at your convenience. Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with the City of Tampere and contribute to the success of the eLTER Science Conference.

Yours sincerely,

Paulina Rajewicz Research coordinator for eLTER at the University of Helsinki

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Jaana Bäck professor, co-chair of the Organising Committee eLTER PLUS coordinator