

Invitation to companies, investors, and municipalities in Southern Northern Ostrobothnia

Game of Drones – Real World Challenge

Do you have a development need that calls for new, smarter, or safer solutions?

Drone and autonomous solutions are developing rapidly, but often without a clear understanding of real-world needs. In the Game of Drones challenge, the starting point is your needs, not ready-made products.

Game of Drones – Real World Challenge is an idea competition implemented by NIHAK and the ÄlyPilot project, where real regional challenges are brought to experts for solution development—concretely and with clear objectives.

Who is this for?

Game of Drones – Real World Challenge is aimed at organisations in Southern Northern Ostrobothnia that have practical development needs. A good challenge arises from everyday operations, is clearly definable, and is meaningful. You do not need to understand the technology—identifying an area where operations could be improved is enough.

Examples:

- **Municipalities and municipal companies** – infrastructure, real estate, environment, and safety
- **Industry and energy sector** – production, maintenance, and monitoring
- **Construction and infrastructure operators** – site monitoring and documentation
- **Logistics and warehousing** – area surveillance and inventory management
- **Agriculture and forestry** – mapping and monitoring
- **SMEs and investors** – process development and pilots



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In this challenge competition you define the challenge, experts develop solutions, and you decide on the next steps.

Why participate as a challenge owner?

Game of Drones – Real World Challenge offers a practical way to develop operations by utilising drone and autonomous solutions. Drone technology does not only mean aerial unmanned systems, but also autonomous systems operating on land, on water, and underwater. These systems can be used for inspections, measurements, monitoring, and data collection in environments that are difficult to access.

By participating in the challenge competition, you will:

- Receive multiple solution proposals at once without heavy preparatory processes
- Identify regional expertise and technological capabilities
- Participate with a light commitment and no obligation for follow-up actions
- Improve safety, responsibility, and efficiency through new solutions

Each challenge is linked to a monetary prize defined by the challenge owner, signalling the seriousness of the challenge and attracting top experts to focus specifically on your problem.

Challenge competition schedule

- Submission of challenges closes: 28 February
- Publication of challenges: 11 March
- Submission of solutions: 31 March
- Competition ends: 29 April

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Read more: <https://www.nihak.fi/en/game-of-drones-challenges-companies-and-municipalities-in-southern-northern-ostrobothnia-to-leverage-innovations-in-new-technology/>

The ÄlyPilot project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund. The project coordinator is Centria University of Applied Sciences, with NIHAK and the Haapavesi–Siikalatva Region Development Centre as project partners.



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