



Dear Author, we welcome your contribution!
Please make sure you read carefully the following instructions for Authors

1. Copernicus user stories shall be submitted as **articles via the TEMPLATE** (Annex 1) strictly following its requirements both in format and content. Authors should be inspired by the MOCK-UP (Annex 2) of the final editing.
2. Articles shall be written in **English**¹
3. The activity is funded by the EU Copernicus Programme. There is **no publication fee** to Authors.
4. Articles shall feature **EO-derived solutions** that are based, entirely or partially, directly or indirectly, on Sentinels (or Sentinel-like) or Copernicus Contributing Missions data.
5. **Lead Authors** (i.e. first authors) shall be from institutions, entities or companies from Copernicus Participating States².
6. Multiple authors are welcome but **only Lead Authors shall act as contact point** for the Publication Manager and and take full responsibility for ensuring that all Co-authors agree to the contents of the article (see Point 11).
7. Authors shall be aware that in order for the reviewers to assess the suitability of the submitted contributions for the Publication, **the criteria** listed below will be used. They should all be met.
 - The described challenge corresponds to a **concrete need of regional**³ **policy making** and/or enforcement, ideally on regional responses to EU directives, within Copernicus Participating States;
 - The described **EO-based solution is sound and mature** and effectively responds to the above mentioned regional challenge;
 - The described **EO-based solution is actually used or planned to be used, ideally by a local and regional authority (NUTS 2 or NUTS 3)** and in an operational way;
 - The **active involvement/interest** of the public authority is apparent (e.g. ideally, via co-authoring or as a minimum via an explicit user statement);

¹ The project language is English and interactions with the Publication Manager will be in English. Requests for handling non-English versions could be accepted in exceptional cases (e.g. request from high-level staff from the public authority authoring the articles) and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Interested parties can email (in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Polish) to copernicus4regions@euroinbox.com. Emails shall have the following title in English "REQUEST FOR SUBMITTING A CONTRIBUTION IN NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE".

² Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

³ The notion of "region" or "regional" is used to encompass the different administrative levels below the national one.

- There are **clear and well-described benefits** on society⁴, policy making⁵, economy⁶ or environment, preferably expressed through effective indicators or estimates.
 - The article **follows the template** and coherently addresses the various sections;
 - The submitted paper is well written in a **clear and concise language, understandable** by a non-technical audience (i.e. policy makers and general public);
8. Authors shall be aware that the Publication Committee will pay particular attention on identifying Copernicus use cases eligible for **enhanced outreach actions** (such as the presentation of the Copernicus user story at the European Parliament and having it filmed professionally). In this respect, we particularly welcome contributions addressing:
- Outstanding examples showing the penetration of Copernicus **outside from the traditional Copernicus/space boundaries** (e.g. cases that were developed with non-space funds);
 - Innovative solutions through which Copernicus has effectively contributed to **improve the administration processes and to increase its performances** (e.g. increased cost-efficiency, better response to long-standing regional problems).
 - Examples of exploitation experiences within **EO/Copernicus new-comers**;
9. When submitting their contribution, Lead Authors shall **select a relevant application area** for each submitted article among the ones below **and indicate it in the Declaration on intellectual property rights**. Articles will be featured in the publication under these application domains:
- Transports, Civil Infrastructure and Safety;
 - Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Leisure;
 - Biodiversity and Environmental Protection;
 - Territorial Management and Urban Planning;
 - Public Health;
 - Civil Protection;
 - Agriculture, Food, Forestry and Fisheries;
 - Climate, Water and Energy.
10. Lead Authors shall **specify the name of the (NUTS2 or NUTS3) region/municipality** that will be used to feature the article and **indicate it in the Declaration on intellectual property rights**. This should be in principle the region/municipality where the EO-based solution is deployed. Alternatively⁷, it could correspond to the region/municipality of the Lead Author. The Lead Author shall submit the logo of the region/municipality on the ConfTool software system with the other requested documents (see point 10). Articles describing cases of interregional cooperation that can be inspiring for promoting further sharing of best practices are also of interest. In this case, multiple regional logos might be featured.

⁴ An impact on society can be assumed if e.g. the presented Copernicus-use contributes to improve living conditions, or comes with a learning effect and distinguishes itself as valuable teaching or promotion material.

⁵ An impact on policymaking could be e.g. if the showcased Copernicus-example provides information that give input to the policy decision making process or alerts of risks.

⁶ Portrayed Copernicus-uses which are underpinned by economic indicators and entrepreneurial success-stories.

⁷ E.g. in case of cases deployed outside Copernicus participating countries, supported by European companies or universities.

11. Lead Authors shall register on the Conftool software system at the following address <https://www.conftool.pro/copernicus4regions> and submit the items listed below via the same system. The INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS RELATED TO THE CONF TOOL (Annex 4) should be of support.
 - TEMPLATE (Annex 1) in Word and PDF formats – compiled
 - 2 images pertinent to the article, in .tiff or .png formats with a 300dpi resolution
 - 1 logo of the region/municipality, in .tiff or .png formats with a 300dpi resolution
 - DECLARATION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (ANNEX 3) – signed
12. Lead Authors are entitled to sign the DECLARATION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (Annex 3) in full representation of all co-Authors. Lead Author shall sign, scan and upload the Declaration on the ConfTool software system with the other requested documents (see point 10)
13. **The Publication Manager is the sole interface for the authors. Interaction with the Publication Manager** will take place exclusively via the Conftool software system and the email copernicus4regions@euroinbox.com.
14. Communications related to the project will take place via the NEREUS website (mainly on the project webpage www.nereus-regions.eu/Copernicus4Regions, but not exclusively).
15. Authors should expect feedbacks within about 2 months from the Closure Call. They might be requested to provide further clarifications or refinements of the article as needed. They will be asked to confirm the final version before publication. Excessive delays in providing clarifications to the Publication Manager hampering the timely delivery of the publication could imply that the article will be discarded for the printed edition.
16. Authors of the previous NEREUS/ESA publication “[*The Growing Use of GMES across Europe’s Regions*](#)” are particularly invited to submit an up-date of their Copernicus-case, showcasing the journey of these cases to the market and their further evolution up to today, provided they meet the criteria set out in this Call.

Any further question, please address to copernicus4regions@euroinbox.com

List of Annexes

Annex 1 – Template

Annex 2 – Mock-up of articles

Annex 3 – Declaration on IPR

Annex 4 – Instructions for the Authors related to Conftool software system