

Announcement of Opportunity

Call for Expressions of Interest: Local information events on Copernicus data and services

Great progress has been made in generating value from the Copernicus Programme in the downstream exploitation of Copernicus-enabled products and services. According to the [Copernicus Market Report](#), in 2018 the largest value chains for intermediate users of data were in services for ocean monitoring; security; agriculture; oil & gas; and forestry. The EO downstream sector in Europe shows stable growth, with business models moving towards near-real time applications, integrated solutions, cloud computing and the use of Artificial Intelligence for analytics. Growth is driven by the remaining gap between end users' specific needs for tailored products and their current offer, and the increasing adoption of EO-based solutions in some industries.

The CoRDiNet-consortium (more info: www.CoRDiNet.net) invites Copernicus Relays to draw on their experience to offer a variety of innovative local events focused on addressing the challenges and needs of local and regional authorities, exploiting the opportunities that the Copernicus Programme offers to new Earth Observation players.

In order to integrate external partners and outreach broadly across Europe, the CoRDiNet-consortium set aside a specific "fund" of 100 k EUR, across a number of calls, to **support joint activities** between the consortium and external partners involving concrete cooperation activities. For this call, selected activities will be supported by the project's funds with a **financial volume of max. 5.000 (five thousand) EUR** per activity. The supported activities will be selected by an independent evaluation board on the base of pre-defined criteria listed in the call.

Objectives of the Local Information events call:

- Proposed events should reach new user-communities, and include local and regional authorities as users – whether as new users or those already using space-enabled solutions successfully - and promote dialogue between users and solution providers.

- Events should aim at sectors seeing strong growth in use of EO for services, or new sectors, and provide stakeholders with a better insight into the opportunities of interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Events should help participants understand the challenges to optimal exploitation of the Copernicus programme.
- Events should include plans for supporting ongoing systematic engagement between stakeholders and evaluation, complying with reporting requirements of the call.

Assessment will be based on track-record of promoting the Copernicus Programme as Copernicus Relays, and for the novelty and likely success of the proposed activities, as well as any leverage that can be obtained through current projects and programmes.

Eligibility

- Only proposals by Copernicus Relay from Copernicus-participating countries (EU-countries and Norway and Island) or third countries that signed a bilateral cooperation arrangement with the Commission, are eligible. Copernicus Relays as the applying entity may engage in a collaborative approach with the Copernicus Academy.
- The regional and local level (Nuts II/Nuts III) are the targeted levels of the activities subject of the call. In individual cases, depending on the Member State, proposals by Nuts I entities will be accepted.
- Applicants have to demonstrate proven experience with the proposed activity or proven evidence for the outputs of the proposed activity.
- Applicants have to demonstrate that they have a considerable outreach in their region and have access to a broad range of Copernicus-stakeholder and the relevant public user and interlocutors in regional/local administrations.

Selection criteria:

- Proposed activity is clearly described and soundly presented;
- Proposed activity targets a strongly growing or new sector for exploitation of Copernicus data;
- Proven/demonstrated commitment for the proposed activity (e.g. own contribution to budget etc.);
- Capability/effectiveness/innovative approach to delivering local information events;
- Special attention will be paid to project proposals proposing new networking formats that in an innovative and more effective way encourage exchange amongst described target groups;
- Capability to reach new audiences in areas that are not covered by CoRdiNet-partners either in thematic or geographic terms or new user-communities (complementarity to CoRdiNet-consortium). See relevant work packages.

Each criterion will be ranked by independent experts on a scale starting from 1 (poor) up to 10 points (outstanding). The highest scored activities will be selected.

Time Schedule:

Publication Date: 24/05/2019

Submission deadline: **16/06/2019**

Project Evaluation: 17/06 – 27/07/2019

Projects selected: 28/07/2019

Project results and outputs: March 2020

All the info events and the foreseen outputs (reports including the list of attendees, and a summary of the event and any follow up activities) must be completed and delivered to the CoRdiNet consortium **by March 2020**.

Financial conditions:

Up to 100% of eligible expenses of selected activities will be reimbursed if in line with the time constrain cited above. Contributions by applicants to the overall budget will be considered favourably.

How to apply

Submissions will exclusively accepted via the online submission form via CoRdiNet and NEREUS-website:

<https://cordinet.net/open-calls>

<https://nereus.typeform.com/to/V2EzT>

Overview on Copernicus-Relay Network:

<https://www.copernicus.eu/en/opportunities/public-authorities/copernicus-relays>

What is a Copernicus-Relay?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JIVKYyB8Qc>