The Horizon2020 **CoRdiNet**-consortium (www.CoRdiNet.net) invites external partners to propose activities that focus on making the Copernicus-ecosystem, both at the demand and supply sides of the value chain, more transparent and enhance a systematic dialogue between users and solution providers.

Project activities foster engaging Copernicus users (local, regional or national authorities) with specific observation and reporting needs and Copernicus added value service providers (SME's, research institutes, etc) capable of providing Copernicus based solutions to those needs.

Selected activities will be supported by the project's funds with a financial volume of max. 5.000 (five thousand) EUR per activity.

Objectives

- Proposed activities should generate information on local and regional authorities already using successfully Copernicus based services or products, service provider already addressing regional challenges successfully, regional/local authorities interested in implementing Copernicus based services;
- Project activities should contribute to launch a systematic dialogue amongst Copernicus-stakeholders, namely public users, local and regional authorities, companies, research players, business associations with the objective to get a better insight into challenges, needs, interests and potential barriers to a more effective exploitation of Copernicus data.
- Proposed activities should contribute to get a better understanding of the challenges (technical, social, cultural, legal, economic, political, staff training, building skills and knowledge) to an optimal exploitation of the Copernicus program.
- Proposed activities that reach out to new user-communities, e.g. digitalization, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, are welcome.
- Proposed activities should be complementary to the activities of the core consortium and contribute to generate additional findings, additional outreach etc. Applicants are invited to visit the CoRdiNet-website: www.CoRdiNet.net to familiarize themselves with the activities of the core-consortium.

Eligibility criteria

- Legal entities from Copernicus-participating countries (EU-countries, Norway and Island) or third countries that signed bilateral arrangements with the Commission, are eligible. Copernicus Relays are encouraged to 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-stakeholders, relevant public users and interlocutors in regional/local administrations.

Selection criteria:
- Proposed activity is clearly described and soundly presented;
- Proven/demonstrated commitment for the proposed activity (e.g. own contribution to budget etc.)
- Capability/effectiveness/innovative approach to stimulate dialogue amongst the described target groups
- Capability/effectiveness/innovative approach to generate new findings on challenges, needs and barriers of Earth Observation data/Copernicus data use at regional and local level
- Special attention will be paid to project proposals proposing networking. event or activity formats that in an innovative and more effective way encourage exchange amongst described target groups
- Capability to generate new findings in areas that are not covered by CoRdiNet-partners either in thematic or geographic terms or new user-communities (complementarity to CoRdiNet-consortium)

Each criterion above will be ranked by an independent board of experts, the Evaluation Board, on a scale starting from 1 (poor) up to 10 points (outstanding). The highest scored activities will be selected.

Time Schedule:
Publication Date: 13/06/2019
Submission Date: 24/07/2019
Project Evaluation: 16/07/2019-31/07/2019
Projects selected: 01/08/2019
Project results and outputs: 15/09/2019
Applications submitted before the deadline will be tried to evaluate and inform earlier.

All the activities and the foreseen outputs (i.e., stakeholders identification and engagement, interviews and questionnaire feedback collection, report on the results) must be completed and delivered to the CoRdiNet consortium **by 15th September 2019**, to allow their ingestion within the D2.3 (Report on the analysis of stakeholder feedbacks and strategy to cope with needs and "barriers").

In order to speed up the work of the applicants of the selected proposals as well as producing results ready to be integrated with the ones already achieved within the CoRdiNet consortium, some useful tools (i.e. stakeholders inventory template, questionnaire format for interviews) already produced within WP2 will be made available to selected applicants.

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

The applicants have to present an overview of the expected expenses related to the selected activities. Following the successful implementation of the selected activity, presentation of original paid invoices form the base for reimbursement.

The special project funds aim at stimulating external partners to develop cooperative initiatives and connect with the CoRdiNet-project. Therefore, only expenses that arise directly for the implementation of the selected activity are eligible. Examples for eligible costs are: translation services, printing, expenses related to the organization of a workshop/event, e.g. catering, venue, technic;
Please note, staff, equipment and subcontract expenses are not eligible.

> **Civil/dual use scenarios/GDPR/Gender Equality in H2020:**
> **Please note in case of proposed dual use scenarios only the part referring to civil use might be supported.**
> **The CoRdiNet consortium is funded under the H2020-program and therefore committed to the sole support of civil purpose related activities.**
> **With the application the applicant confirms that the applying organization complies with EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).**
> **The CoRdiNet partners are committed to promote and support equal opportunities and a balanced participation of women and men in their project work this call is part of.**

More info on CoRdiNet-project:

CoRdiNet is an open network of five very diverse Copernicus Relays with a facilitating function on local, regional, cluster and national level, supporting, promoting and stimulating digitalization and new business solutions based on Earth Observation (EO) i.e. Copernicus data. This support action bundles the local expertise in the civil use of EO, close to the needs and offers of citizens, administrations and businesses, and will share them with other Copernicus Relays, the Copernicus Academy and new EO players. Joint outreach and dissemination activities facilitate embedding of its work in national and EU activities. CoRdiNet enjoys support of the European Association of Remote Sensing Companies (EARSC), the Caroline Herschel Framework Partnership Agreement, the Copernicus Support Office, and six external regions.