



Information note on the UK EO Data Hub

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to inform you that activities for an EO Data Hub in the UK have been approved by NERC as part of the UK national projects stream announced in late November 2022¹. ITTs will now be released over the next months as the financial routes for the project are implemented. We encourage the community to get involved and provide their inputs to shape this first UK EO data asset which will be available to all: industry, academia and research labs, government.

There will be two streams of activities: 1) pilot activities to enable a fast start to EO Data Hub activities; 2) main ITTs for the key software components and operational delivery. Some likely dates are given here, noting that some ITTs will go live at the same time or very close to this notice.

Pilot activities

This work will be initiated with a call for *User pilots*. The goal is to provide seed funding for software applications which could be candidates to use the Hub system as it is developed.

1. to demonstrate EO service and data supply concepts that would benefit from the EO Data Hub in both conceptual and practical forms using available data sources (including climate model data);
2. to provide specifications for the functionality and software requirements for the Hub system.
3. to provide a user perspective on the development of the Data Hub, providing user-specifications, evaluation and test users for the first development steps of the project.

The User Pilots ITT will be managed by NCEO Leicester. The release date is 24 February 2023, contract KO 7 March 2023

Additional pilots may be commissioned to further inform and direct the development of the overall system.

Main ITTs:

Following from the pilots, ITTs will be issued for the major components of the Hub system and their operational delivery. This includes the integration of data streams, core software infrastructure and web applications/portals which exploit the Hub. ITTs will be issued via STFC procurement from May – July 2023.

¹ <https://www.nceo.ac.uk/article/uk-government-commits-close-to-400-million-to-earth-observation-research-and-industry-projects/>

Note that we may make additional open calls for external consultancy to assist with the preparation of the above ITTs and to support the development of EO data streams. Once the ITTs have been awarded, the key leads of Hub software and web portal/application suppliers are expected to become full partners in the EO Data Hub. Further information to follow.

Industry Day: Monday 13th March, Harwell Campus

It is intended to hold an Industry Day for potential suppliers for the Hub software components and operations on Monday 13th March at the Harwell Campus. Further information to follow. Please hold this date in your diaries.

Email enquiries: all email enquiries should be directed to support@ceda.ac.uk with the subject line, "EO Data Hub Industry Day".

We will endeavour to keep the whole community informed using existing communication channels.

Phil Kershaw, Head of CEDA at RAL Space and Head of NCEO Data Services

John Remedios, Executive Director of NCEO.