

EO DataHub Questions and Responses from the User Pilot Project AO

Updated: 06/03/2023

1. Is it possible to extend the response time by a week.

Yes, we have extended the deadline by one week to 9.30 am on Monday 13th March and have also moved the project start dates to March 20th.

2. Will you accept multiple applications from the same institution?

Yes, provided that there is a clear delineation in purpose/theme/goals between each submission.

3. Do you have a copy of the contract and what is the cost basis? Please could you confirm whether the hourly rate for personnel should be with or without overheads.

We will placing a draft copy of the contract on this website shortly. The cost basis is 100% FEC plus VAT as these are procurements.

There is a mistake in the call. It should ask for **daily rates** for personnel without overhead and then list the overhead. We will accept hourly rates if this is explained.

4. I would like to participate but am not confident I can get approvals on time for the pilots. What are the other routes open to me at a later stage?

The information note that was released refers to the main ITTs which will be released in the next months. These will include development work for, “web applications/portals which exploit the Hub”. In addition to the User Pilots AO, there is a wider user engagement activity underway. We would really welcome input from the community on examples of applications which could exploit the hub concept even if it is not possible to submit these as part of the current AO.

5. Does my use case need to be primarily based/have some component of Satellite data use or can modelling/climate prediction, flight, or ground-based data be also considered as the majority input?

We welcome use cases which include other sources of data in addition to satellite-based observations but there should be a good component of satellite observations.

6. Can STFC, NERC, Catapult staff apply; who is eligible for funding?

Yes, provided that any conflicts of interest are declared and that there is a clear separation between proposers and the EO DataHub project team.

7. What criteria will the applications be judged against?

Applications for the AO will be judged against the call text and in particular section 2.1, Expected Project Criteria

8. Given the size of the grant and timeframes sub-contracting could be problematic. Can one organization present and provide input for a network? Do you require letters of support etc?

A proposer can present on behalf of a network if required. Letters of support are not essential but they may be helpful in strengthening the case for the proposed work. What is important is that you can provide some evidence of engagement from the network.

9. How do we register interest if we can't submit in time and how will you be following up?

Note the answers with respect to the extension of the deadline (1), follow-up ITTs and other routes to participation (4). We will shortly be opening a registration/email subscription list.

10. Who should be going to the industry day?

We welcome and encourage attendance of any individuals or organisations who are interested in finding out and engaging with the planned work including the forthcoming ITTs and particularly those who have expertise and experience which they could contribute to towards the successful delivery of this project. The ITTs will be concerned with the integration of data streams, core software infrastructure and web applications/portals which exploit the Hub.

11. Is it an advantage to have commercial users as part of our bid?

We welcome bids which include users from the commercial and public sectors and academic communities. Commercial users are definitely a target group.

12. Should the focus be on UK or International users?

The focus can be on UK and/or international users but note the call text states, "It will implement a uniquely UK offering which will federate access to data and provide centralised software services to bring value across the breadth of UK EO sector users." International users who can provide an export path for services or an international partnership would be particularly helpful.

13. Do we need developers as a part of our bid?

No but please note the Expected Project Criteria in section 2.1.

14. What qualifies as an “activity which allows testing of the service idea”? Can this be a standalone demo with a small amount of data on a local computer which, can be scaled up for the Hub?

Yes, it can be but not limited to a standalone demonstration as you have described. It has to be a demonstration which shows the need and advantage of the hub approach. The demonstration should point to what is needed in a hub version of the demonstration.

15. In the AoO for the EO Data Hub User Pilot, section 2.2 initially says the project ends 31st August 2023, it then later states it ends 30th June 2023, and then the deliverables are all due by 15th June 2023. Can you please clarify which of these 3 deadlines is correct?

Apologies, August 2023 is a mistake in the text. To be clear, the date for completion of the work is 30th June. The 15th June deadline for deliverables *is* correct. Though this marks the last formal deliverable we expect to be able to work with the supplier for the remainder of the month to discuss and take forward the outputs of the study forward into the work that follows in the development of applications for the Hub.

16. In the announcement, it says that 25% of the payment is due by the end of March, but do we have to use all of it by then, or can we spend it over the course of the project?

Spend can be over the course of the project; the payment is for a reasonable and informative milestone at the end of March.