



Framework Partnership Agreement concerning the European Topic Centre on Data integration and digitalisation 2022-2026

Reference: Open call for proposals OCP/EEA/CAS/21/004-ETC DI

Closing date: 29.4.2021

Terms of reference's purposes:

1. Specify what activities/actions the EEA is to finance under the framework partnership agreement resulting from this call for proposals (technical specifications)
2. Announce the criteria which the EEA will apply to determine the successful consortium among the applications received (evaluation of applications)
3. Provide information on how to apply, and the expected timeline

These terms of reference will form Annex I to the framework partnership agreement resulting from this call for proposals and will be binding during the agreement implantation.

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1 Technical Specifications

1.1 Background information

1.1.1 The European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network

The European Environment Agency (EEA¹) is a main source of information of the European Union and its Member States (MS) in developing, implementing, and evaluating European environment policies. The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant, and reliable information to policy-making agents and the public.

Institutionally, the EEA is one of the Agencies of the European Union and is the hub of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet²), a network of around 350 organisations across Europe through which environmental-related data and information are collected and disseminated. The functioning of the EEA and Eionet are described in the EEA regulation³. The Agency has 32 member countries. These are the 27 EU Member States (MS), Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

The EEA Regulation identifies three elements of Eionet: main component elements of national networks, National Focal Points (NFPs), and European Topic Centres (ETCs). The Regulation⁴ sets out that ETCs are formed with institutions (within the Network) who conclude agreements with the Agency. They are designated by the Management Board and entrusted to cooperate with the Agency on specific tasks, set out in the multiannual work programme. These partnerships, implemented through multi-annual framework partnership agreements, are also foreseen to be an important element of the modernisation of Eionet that will be a key on-going process for the coming years.

European Topic Centres (ETCs) are consortia of organisations in EEA member countries with expertise in specific environmental areas, contracted by the EEA through framework agreements to carry out specific tasks to support the implementation of EEA and Copernicus work programmes.

Each ETC consists of a coordinator organisation and specialist partner organisations from the environmental research and information community, which combine their resources in their areas of expertise.

¹ <https://eea.europa.eu>

² <http://www.eionet.europa.eu>

³ (EC) Regulation No. 401/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the EEA and Eionet (codified version, OJ L126 of 21 May 2009, p13, see: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32009R0401:EN:NOT>

⁴ (i.e. articles 4 and 5).

This call for proposals aims to identify a new ETC that will take up the work in the following topic area from 1 January 2022: Data integration and digitalisation.

1.1.2 The EEA-Eionet strategy 2030⁵

The EEA-Eionet common vision for 2030 is to “...together constitute the leading network for policy-relevant environment and climate knowledge at European Union and country levels...” The Strategy – Delivering data and knowledge to achieve Europe's environment and climate ambitions clarifies how the network intends to achieve this vision and sets out the strategic directions for the network during the next decade, articulated in five Strategic Objectives (SO):

- SO1 Produce evidence-based knowledge to support policy implementation and development of new initiatives to accelerate and scale up the transition to sustainability;
- SO2 Deliver targeted inputs to inform policy and public discussions, by organising and communicating knowledge on responses, including innovative solutions to societal challenges;
- SO3 Strengthen our network through more active engagement at the country level and work with other leading organisations in order to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise;
- SO4 Embrace digitalisation, including new technologies, big data, artificial intelligence and earth observation that will complement and potentially replace established information sources to better support decision making; and
- SO5 Develop structures, expertise and capacity across our network to meet evolving knowledge needs, securing and diversifying the resources needed to achieve our joint vision.

The EEA-Eionet Strategy 2030 outlines five areas of work that strongly relate to European policy priorities and form the overall structure for the broad division of ETC support roles. The five areas of work identified in the strategy are:

1. Biodiversity and ecosystems;
2. Climate change mitigation and adaptation;
3. Human health and the environment;
4. Circular economy and resource use; and
5. Sustainability trends, prospects and responses.

Europe's production sectors (including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and industry) as well as consumption and production systems (energy, mobility, food, and buildings) will be addressed through the five interlinked work areas.

⁵ [EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030: delivering data and knowledge to achieve Europe's climate and environment ambitions — European Environment Agency \(europa.eu\)](#)

The EEA-Eionet Strategy underlines the role of data and understanding for the pivotal decade to come. It sets out how EEA and Eionet will work together with other knowledge providers at European level and with Eionet countries in support of Europe's environment and climate ambitions.

1.1.3 Role of European Topic Centres

Under the overall leadership of EEA, ETCs provide expertise and capacity to support the EEA and its member countries with implementing the EEA-Eionet Strategy. ETCs, working together with Eionet countries, facilitate the provision of data and information from the countries and deliver assessments, reports and other services to the EEA and Eionet. ETCs are extensively involved in acquiring, processing and quality assuring data for EEA. However, the nature of the data, the sources and challenges vary significantly between topics of work.

ETC work on indicator analysis and assessments involves both the development of new indicators in response to policy requirements as well as the regular processing and updating of indicators which requires networking with experts in member countries.

The role of ETCs in supporting implementation of EU legislation and policies is also a key element of EEA activities towards Member States and the European Commission. ETCs gather expertise to cover the knowledge needs for EU policies, to handle and analyse data, to assess the European state and trends of the environment occurring in EEA member countries.

In addition to expertise on specific topics, ETCs have, to differing extents, competency in digitalisation, social sciences, systemic analysis, modelling literacy, knowledge of prospective tools, co-creation methods and capacity-building in order to fulfil their roles.

Despite the different areas of expertise, ETCs need to cooperate extensively with each other and it is expected that cross-cutting cooperation will be reinforced and an important element of all ETC work for the coming years. ETCs cooperate to both respond to cross-cutting policy requirements and in relation to dependencies in their work to other ETCs.

In the past the Monitoring, Data, Information, Assessments, Knowledge (MDIAK) chain was the core EEA business model. The new EEA-Eionet Strategy sees MDIAK as a value adding chain within a wider set of business models. This change reflects an appreciation by EEA and its stakeholders that EEA can frequently add value in individual components, for example, only managing data or, instead by only providing expert assessment on data or information provided directly to EEA. This change in emphasis means that ETCs in different topic areas may work in more focused ways, or even exclusively on certain parts of the chain.

Integration across traditional topic domains to respond to specific environmental challenges is becoming a key feature of the European environmental policy support landscape. Integration and associated cross-cutting cooperation are intrinsic features in EEA work such as on SOER, indicators, LULUCF, Copernicus, Urban/city sustainability, etc. In order to achieve the necessary level of integration, good practice, including on data, within and across topics is needed.

1.1.4 Agreements

ETC activities are based on framework partnership agreements (FPAs) and specific agreements (SAs) concluded with the EEA to implement the former. Specific (usually annual) action plans (APs) agreed between the EEA and the consortium will form the basis for the SAs.

The organisation and commissioning of work will be based on an annual budget allocation cycle (grants). All grants are subject to co-financing by the consortium concerned (minimum 10% of the total eligible costs⁶). Action plans will be jointly agreed, based on proposals from the ETC in response to EEA requirements.

The FPA will be concluded for a maximum period of up to 60 months starting from the date of signature and not exceeding 31 December 2026. The FPA will be signed between the EEA and the appointed coordinator of the consortium to whom the other consortium partners confer powers of attorney (see annex 7) for the purposes of submission of the proposal and signature of the FPA and SAs in case the proposal is selected. For further details, reference is made to the draft FPA and draft SA attached as annex 5.

1.1.5 Estimated value (Budget)

The total annual budget for SAs to be concluded based on the FPA will be subject to available funds from the General Budget of the EU and priorities set in the EEA Single Programming Document (SPD). During the period 2022 – 2026, the indicative total budget allocated to ETC DI is 5.5M⁷ Euros excluding contributions from assigned revenues and other contracts.

1.2 Future demands on EEA work in the area of data integration and digitalisation 2022-2026

1.2.1 General policy context

In December 2019, shortly before the corona virus crisis struck Europe, the EEA presented its report *The European Environment – State and Outlook 2020* (SOER) which detailed the unprecedented scale and urgency of Europe's current environmental, climate and sustainability challenges.

Many persistent challenges rooted back in the past are coupled and amplified by emerging and systemic issues, associated with uncertainty, ambiguity and conflicts of interests. Issues range from exceeding planetary boundaries and tipping points, through global drivers of change, the functioning of complex systems of production and consumption and establishing fair, society-wide transformational outcomes.

⁶ The 10%-rule of minimum co-financing is applied towards the ETC as a whole. To what extent partners contribute to this co-financing is an internal ETC matter.

⁷ This figure may vary depending on actual budgets allocated to EEA and inflation.

The European Green Deal⁸, proposed by the new European Commission in December 2019, endorsed in Council and European Parliament conclusions, is the European response to these systemic challenges. It provides a framework for ambitious actions and measures to position Europe firmly onto a path towards sustainability. It places the EU as a world leader in the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, demonstrating that sustainability and prosperity could be achieved together.

The European Green Deal proposal acknowledges the work of the EEA in highlighting the extent and urgency of the challenges and sets out a roadmap of around 50 key policies and measures needed to address the challenges. It sets out several long-term strategic objectives transforming the EU's economy for a sustainable future:

- Increasing the EU's Climate ambition for 2030 and 2050;
- Supplying clean, affordable and secure energy;
- Mobilizing industry for a clean and circular economy;
- Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way;
- A zero-pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment;
- Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity;
- From Farm to Fork: a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system;
- Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility.

Amongst the measures proposed, the European Green Deal also proposed the adoption of an 8th Environment Action Programme in 2020. This is to help ensure implementation, enforcement and effective delivery of environmental and climate policies and legislation and also introduces a new monitoring framework.

As set out in the EEA-Eionet Strategy, EEA and the Eionet will play a key role in supporting actions under the European Green Deal, the implementation of the proposed 8th Environment Action Programme, as well as Europe's global commitments.

1.2.2 Topic-specific policy context

Data integration and digitalisation is one of the transversal topics that needs to provide a coherent approach across EEA, Eionet and EC on data (flow) management, geospatial data handling, advancing the use of e-reporting tools for data sharing and data intelligence in line with the European digital strategy.

The European Data Strategy (COM/2020/66 final) has a role for the establishment of a common European Green Deal (EGD) data space. The EGD data space aims to make available large pools of data in support of the Green Deal priority actions on climate change, circular economy, zero-pollution, biodiversity and deforestation, combined with the technical tools and infrastructures

⁸ The European Green Deal COM(2019) 640 final

necessary to use and exchange data, as well as appropriate governance mechanisms. The EEA is co-leading together with DG Environment the EC Task Force on Green Data set up under the umbrella of the Environment Knowledge Community, which promotes standards and common approaches across the EU services for sharing and interoperability of data within the framework of the EGD data space.

Concrete actions need to support the “GreenData4All” and ‘Destination Earth’ initiatives. Destination Earth and the ‘digital twins’ as its output products will contribute to the European Commission’s Green Deal and Digital Strategy. Its ambition is to unlock the potential of digital modelling of the Earth’s physical resources and related phenomena such as climate change, water and marine environment, cryosphere, and others on a global scale to speed up the green transition and help plan for major environmental degradation and disasters. By opening access to public datasets across Europe, it will also represent a key component of the European Strategy for Data. Copernicus will be a major contribution to Destination Earth.

The EC proposal on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030 (8th Environmental Action programme, 14.10.2020 COM(2020) 652 final) presents enabling conditions to achieve the programme’s priority objectives. Among them there is a requirement for ‘harnessing the potential of digital and data technologies to support environment policy while minimising their environmental footprint’. Specifically, The European Environment Agency (EEA) is requested to support the Commission in improving the availability and relevance of data and knowledge, among others, by ‘integrating data on environmental, social and economic impacts, and exploiting fully other available data, such as those delivered by Copernicus’.

European Green Deal initiatives require data integration and digitalisation that is based on land and soil geospatial data handling: EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (ecosystem restoration, green infrastructure and natural capital accounting) and review of EU Soil Thematic Strategy, Zero pollution ambition (soil pollution), EU Climate change package including Adaptation strategy and LULUCF Regulation. Land-based data is necessary to support agriculture (HNV farmland, landscape elements and CAP analysis), forests (support to FISE and bioeconomy assessments), follow up of the Urban agenda for the EU (and upcoming EU Urban Initiative) and Strategy for sustainable build environment as part of Circular economy. At a global level, land degradation is a part of UN Sustainable development 2030 goals (SDG target 15.3) and land use information underpins several other goals, such as SDG goal 11 on Sustainable cities.

Monitoring the progress towards sustainable development (e.g. UN Sustainable Development Goals) will require advances in data intelligence and supporting other ETCs for data integration and analytics of a) sectoral statistics, b) geospatial data, and c) thematic reporting using EC data frameworks set up by EUROSTAT (e.g. LUCAS, SEEA) and JRC (thematic knowledge centres), and EEA own standards for common workspace, data cubes, data mining tools, GIS, artificial intelligence and big data (evolving).

There is a need to advance spatio-temporal data integration across different aspects and contributing to Destination Earth and the European Green Data Space. EEA will need to develop

expertise on geospatial and land related data for development of its Spatial Data Infrastructure (relevant to the INSPIRE directive) and support EU Regional policy by providing its data and indicators in territorial and regional dimension. Therefore, there are plural environmental, climate and regional policy contexts, all containing an element of data integration and digitalisation.

The Regulation (EU) No 377/2014 established the Copernicus Programme and supports EU environment and climate policies by development of information services based on satellite and in situ data. This includes Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS), Copernicus Land Monitoring Services (CLMS), and Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), Copernicus Atmosphere monitoring service (CAMS) and for some cases, Copernicus Emergency Management service (CEMS)). The same regulation established a formal EEA's commitment, that is re-confirmed by the EU Space programme (COM(2018) 447 final) and a new regulation for 2021-2027. It defines a new EEA contribution agreement with the Commission to implement land monitoring service and coordinate Copernicus in situ component.

While implementation of Copernicus services has advanced enormously, it has become increasingly urgent to support the users and uptake of Copernicus services and their data sets. User uptake of Copernicus services by EEA and Eionet as explicitly mentioned in the strategic objective 5 of EEA/Eionet Strategy 2021-2030. The new Space regulation also calls for combined use of different Copernicus services which will require cooperation and coordination among ETC-s that relate to Copernicus.

1.2.3 EEA role in support of policy

Over the years EEA has followed the objective for monitoring, data and information management to ensure the availability, quality, accessibility and sustainability of the knowledge base, supporting environment and climate policies. As a new development, EEA will need to support a coherent approach on digitalisation in support to the European Green Deal - with all Eionet partners (national data reporters, ETCs, NRCs, NFPs) and European Commission.

Various environmental directives and regulations, where reporting and data flows from Member states have been established will require a more coherent approach across EEA, Eionet and EC on data flow management, advancing the use of e-reporting tools (such as Reportnet) for data sharing. In accordance to this, EEA shall need to:

- maintain and improve efficiency of existing data flows, QA/QC processes, indicator management and maps and graphs production, and to provide free and open access to online data and information services in accordance with the EEA data policy and digitalization framework;
- monitor international demands for environmental data and their streamlining and maintenance of the reporting obligations database;
- create relevant new data flows and QA/QC procedures based on user needs;
- improve the timeliness of European data including near-real time;
- maintain relevant European reference datasets together with Eurostat and JRC;

- support the European Commission in the further implementation of the Inspire Directive (2007/2/EC) for building a European Spatial Data Infrastructure, including monitoring and reporting on progress;
- contribute to the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) on the development, maintenance and coordination of in-situ observing networks, data sharing and other components;
- facilitate connections between Copernicus, GEOSS, and Eionet, especially in the domain of data sharing, support-user uptake, and in relation to communities of practice;

Land and soil geospatial data handling needs to support and inform policy development and implementation by means of data, information/indicators, and assessments developed under EGD priorities (see section 1.2.2). EEA will collect and make use of land and soil data to support thematic nexus analysis with geospatial data. This will provide a coherent basis for inter-disciplinary co-creation and supporting data analysis for EEA indicators and thematic assessments, including close cooperation among ETC-s. In particular, this includes:

- informing on the status of land and trends in the territorial and socio-economic (the multiple functions of land and soil) dimensions from environmental and quality of life perspectives;
- producing geo-spatial datasets, methodologies, and assessments, and inform implementation of cross-cutting policy objectives, such as urban integrated monitoring and assessment, coherent and sustainable approaches to land use, land-related resource efficiency including land take monitoring, ecological network coherence, and ecosystem accounting;
- assessing environmental problems and issues from a spatial and territorial perspective such as: loss of habitats, fragmentation, degradation of ecosystems, urban sprawl, land use trade-offs e.g. between production and multifunctional uses, territorial imbalances and changes on the urban-rural axis, soil imperviousness, risks to economic infrastructure, green infrastructure potential, etc.;
- delivering further integrated analysis of the main drivers of land use change and soil degradation, and their effects of on e.g. carbon sequestration, various ecosystems services, efficient use of resources;
- maintaining and developing spatial and thematic data integration and assessments in operative partnership with key actors (EC services, Copernicus partners, H2020 projects, etc.);
- assisting countries in their implementation of, in particular, the EU no-net loss of land objective (land take) and mapping of ecosystems and their services (supporting ecosystem restoration);
- informing on resource dependencies and territorial impacts cooperating with economic sectors such as agriculture, forest management, and with regional planning policies.

Following the Copernicus Programme as well as EEA 2014-2020 strategy EEA has been contributing to the implementation of the Copernicus operational services. Specifically, by implementing the land-monitoring service EEA is providing information for environmental monitoring of terrestrial biodiversity, soil, water, forests and natural resources in Europe and is using other Copernicus services relevant for EEA and Eionet activities. Several land monitoring products elaborated by EEA Copernicus tasks are compliant with 8th EAP thematic priority objectives. EEA is also coordinating and harmonizing the collection and provision of in-situ and reference data for the operational services. In continuation of this role EEA will need to:

- coordinate the contribution of the EEA and Eionet to the implementation of the European Union Earth observation and monitoring program Copernicus;
- identify and articulate EEA and Eionet user needs for Copernicus monitoring services;
- raise awareness on Copernicus data and information services and support user uptake and capacity building within Eionet;
- make use of Copernicus land monitoring services to secure 'land cover' as a basic spatial data layer to inform trends on Europe's natural resources (change monitoring);

The EEA-Eionet strategy 2030 highlights knowledge backed by data: Comprised of assessments, indicators, and progress to target assessments, built on the largest regular collection of data in Europe on environment and climate topics. Regarding data infrastructure, it recalls the role of an E-reporting infrastructure for national and international data flow management, underpinned by quality processes. Among 5 strategic objectives of the strategy, strategic objective 4 foresees 'making full use of the potential of data, technology and digitalization to embrace new technologies, big data, artificial intelligence and earth observation to support decision making. Strategic objective 3 on building stronger networks and partnerships (e.g. Eionet) will also need more support on data integration, digitisation and making use of new big data sources.

1.3 Specific tasks of the European Topic Centre on Data Integration and Digitalisation (ETC DI)

The European Topic Centre on Data Integration and Digitalisation (ETC DI) shall support the work of the EEA in the period 2022-26, The EEA Single Programming Document will serve as the basis for the identification of priorities and work packages set out in the ETC annual action plans.

The main scope of the ETC DI is to support EEA and Eionet on strategic objective 4 of the EEA-Eionet Strategy 2030, namely to enable timely, relevant, and up-to-date data to support our knowledge, data and information delivery through the digitalisation of EEA and Eionet and expanded use of new/innovative data sources (e.g. big data, artificial intelligence and earth observation).

Three key features of EEA and ETC work in 2022 – 2026 will be:

1. The EEA State of Environment report 2025 which will already be in preparation in 2022 and 2023.
2. Much greater focus on systemic challenges. EGD is the European approach to addressing sustainability challenges from a systemic perspective. As such, the demand for knowledge on sustainability, both for monitoring progress and designing solutions will grow.
3. Designing and providing support for monitoring requirements for the implementation of the 8th EAP and EGD.

These areas will be embedded in specific action plans. In order to ensure the best allocation of available resources, the expected work is divided into 5 work packages:

1.3.1 Work package 1 – Monitoring and e-reporting

Supporting a coherent approach for EU digitalisation policy and the European Green Deal - with all Eionet partners (national data reporters, ETCs, NRCs, NFPs) and EC. Reporting under various environmental directives and regulations, where data flows have been established - supporting a coherent approach across EEA, Eionet and EC on data flow management, advancing the use of e-reporting tools for data sharing (incl. training, Inspire implementation).

This work package will consist of the following tasks:

- Data management training service: data modelling in dataflows; Data schemas in dataflows; Common Workspace (CWS) tools and usage; use of specialist EEA data management applications, e.g. R, data management for reporting.
- Dataflow operational service: monitor dataflow status in Reportnet, provide technical assistance and Helpdesk service to e-reporting countries via EEA communication channels, e.g. OTRS Service Management Software (used for ticket management system), monitor dataflow status in processing, monitor data products.
- Dataflow quality assurance service: provide a quality assurance for thematic ETCs and data stewards for new dataflows.
- Dataflow technical support service: provide technical services for any stage of the dataflow preparation and delivery to supplement or provide technical skills to thematic ETCs. For example, data modelling, data flows integration, data interoperability, data reuse, quality control, EU dataset delivery, product development.
- Dataflow optimization service: analysis of single or logically grouped dataflows; identification of actions to optimize; define and manage plan for optimization tasks working with business and DIS; ensure service functions trained to take over updated dataflows.
- Dataflow transition service: analysis of single or logically grouped dataflows currently on Reportnet 2 to develop transition plan to Reportnet 3 and manage the plan.

1.3.2 Work package 2 – Thematic data integration based on land and soil data

Collecting and making use of land and soil data to support thematic nexus analysis with geospatial data by providing a coherent basis for inter-disciplinary co-creation and supporting data analysis for EEA indicators and thematic assessments, including close cooperation with other ETC-s.

This work package will consist of the following tasks:

- Assist EEA in providing transversal land monitoring data for reporting on land cover change, including biophysical variables and *in situ* data on land use and soil management;
- Provide support to EEA in producing coherent geospatial data for 'geographical tracking of each land area' in LULUCF reporting and agriculture/forestry analysis.
- Geospatial data support for EU Nature restoration plan and Green infrastructure deployment, nature-based solutions, urban adaptation analysis and in support of integrated sustainability analysis.

- Supporting EEA and the Commission with data to act on land-degradation neutrality objectives in UN Sustainable Development Goals (indicator 15.3.1 and other relevant SGD goals e.g. SGD 11) and 2021 review/follow up of EU Soil Thematic Strategy; support to EU Zero-pollution action plan regarding soils.
- Support the development and maintenance of the EEA land platform/portal (Land Information System for Europe - LISE) to put land cover / land use data, such as provided by Copernicus land monitoring services, into a policy relevant context and serve the countries.

1.3.3 Work package 3 – Data intelligence

Support data integration and analytics for monitoring the progress towards sustainable development and thus contributing to the Destination Earth / digital twins and the GreenData4All initiatives (section 1.2.2).

This work package will consist of the following tasks:

- Data assimilation: assembling data from different types and reporting data flows, such as in situ monitoring, Earth observation, statistics, socio-economic sectors, citizen science and modelled data; responding to multi-thematic ad hoc requests by stakeholders, for example cumulative environmental pressures.
- Data processing and automation: identifying external data sources and testing methodologies before automation of new indicators or assessments proposed by thematic groups, translating methodologies into EEA's infrastructure.
- Advance data mining, analytics and modelling for regular product updates. In cooperation with EEA experts, use of data cubes, data mining tools, GIS, artificial intelligence. Apply standards within and across these processes.
- Providing capacity building through geospatial and Earth Observation expertise to our partners (Eionet member and cooperating countries increasingly will need assistance in this technically novel and challenging domain).
- Data intelligence implementation service: manage and deliver data intelligence capabilities that complement knowledge and data management in the business domain; maturing the implementation service to operational level and then transition the service into EEA daily operations (training and support etc.).
- Data products: contribute to new products development and improvement of existing products, collect and streamline information on data needs from internal (ETC partners, thematic groups at EEA, etc.) and external (DG ENV, public) users.
- Data dissemination: implement innovative ways of disseminating products based on diverse user needs.

1.3.4 Work package 4 – Copernicus programme

EEA is committed to contribute under the EU Space programme and a new regulation for 2021-2027. This is defined in a new EEA contribution agreement with the European Commission to implement land monitoring service and coordinate Copernicus in situ component. EEA continues to build also on other Copernicus services (section 1.2.2) for developing many use cases involving other ETCs. User uptake of Copernicus services by EEA and Eionet is increasingly urgent and needs support, as well as combined use of different Copernicus services which will require cooperation and coordination among EEA/Eionet actors that relate to Copernicus.

This work package will consist of the following tasks:

- Supporting EEA contribution to EU Space programme implementation (as Copernicus entrusted entity) – technical support for implementation of Copernicus land monitoring and in situ component in EEA. More detailed tasks will be specified in annual Action plans that will correspond to a dedicated work plan set up by EEA contribution agreement 2021-2027 for Copernicus.
- Facilitating the user uptake of Copernicus services by EEA and Eionet related to environment and climate change monitoring (NFP working group on Copernicus evolving to a new level of the uptake of Copernicus across entire Eionet).
- Provide coordination function and liaise with other ETC-s that are active in uptake of Copernicus data products for monitoring and assessing environment and climate.
- Supporting EEA in a wider Copernicus programme by helping the cooperation between entrusted entities and integration of four Copernicus core services on atmosphere, climate, marine and land, and assembling data from these sources.

1.3.5 Work package 5 – ETC management, networking and outreach

This work package includes the activities and tasks necessary for the management of the ETC, outreach and capacity building. The work package includes the following tasks:

ETC Management

- ETC consortium designates a manager who is the primary contact in the ETC for the EEA, NFPs from member countries and other relevant organizations.

The manager:

- Represents the interests of those planning and delivering ETC tasks across the consortium. They assume overall accountability for ETC deliverables and services provided, including adherence to EEA corporate standards.
- Sets up and maintains procedures for quality assurance undertaken with reference to EEA standards, including documentation and language-checking of all its deliverables.
- Ensures the ETC is in compliance with legal requirements, such as in relation to data protection.

- Reports to EEA on overall progress of ETC activities against the objectives of the annual action and communication plans as well as on risks.
- Ensures that structured work plans are prepared in sufficient time by project managers within the consortia.
- Maintains oversight on state of preparation of deliverables, including critical dependencies leading to potential delays, where needed escalating needs for preventative measures or corrective actions.
- Manages change request process in relation to deliverables agreed by ETC and EEA.
- Maintains financial records in accordance with requirements.
- May be supported by core management team that may include a deputy and administrative manager.

ETC Networking and Outreach

Under the supervision, guidance, and agreement of EEA, the ETC shall support the modernisation of Eionet and maintain close links with the Eionet (EEA member countries and other ETCs) as well as support dissemination of EEA and ETC products. Main tasks are to:

- Support EEA in organizing Eionet workshops and seminars to discuss the outcomes of work and plan future activities with the member countries; build upon the discussion results of relevant Eionet groups (i.e. National Reference Centres).
- Support EEA in dialogue with countries to identify barriers to optimally performing their tasks (e.g. monitoring and reporting capacities, flows of data, knowledge gaps, indicator development, responsiveness), developing proposals for improvements to solve any issues that emerge.
- Engage in communication efforts with the countries, including networking and country visits within defined processes.
- Contribute to Eionet modernisation initiatives.
- Provide training and capacity building in the countries in response to identified and agreed priorities and needs, including where relevant on solutions to support meeting EU policy targets.
- Engage actively in co-operation with other ETCs to strengthen the coherence of data and information, based on priorities of EEA work programme.
- Undertake publishing and outreach, including through social media, in alignment with EEA communication framework and based on agreed annual priorities.
- Maintain and regularly update the consortium website (including brief description of ETC consortia, list of members of the consortia, overview of work plans) as well as an inventory and access point to ETC knowledge products (indicating any relation between the ETC product and supported EEA products).
- Make use of ETC graphical design elements and guidance on products.

- Where possible, publish deliverables and results of ETC work, accepted by EEA, in open access repositories with a public copyright license, such as creative commons.

1.4 General guidance on the organisation of European Topic Centres

The present and earlier ETCs are consortia, typically comprised of government organisations, private non-profit organisations, and commercial firms. Based upon EEA experience some general guidance can be given for a successful ETC.

The ETC shall comprise one coordinating organisation and several partners. The organisation and functioning of this grouping shall be documented in a consortium agreement. The following points shall be considered when establishing the consortium:

- EEA member country coverage is 32 countries. The consortium should be constructed in a way that gives access to partners with experience in EU and regional level work, international networks etc. without necessarily representing all EEA member countries.
- It is important that some leadership roles within the consortium are from organisations which either have experience in participating in Eionet or in working closely with and supporting EU Institutions and that their organisations are actively engaged in the policy area. The number of partners shall be balanced against the need to cover the required field of expertise and to ensure good geographical coverage.
- The consortium needs the following administrative functions:
 - a coordinator (ETC manager), having appropriate management and networking capabilities;
 - administrative support, able to work in English and organise European meetings and consultations; and,
 - accounting support, in order to ensure proper financial management and reporting.
- Effective practice has been that at least the manager and some of a designated core team work for the ETC 100%, with a group of key experts, working mainly for the ETC (i.e.>50%) supported by a broader group of experts available to provide specific expertise or work on specific tasks.

1.5 Mandatory requirements

In order to deliver high quality products and services, ETCs shall comply with the following mandatory requirements:

1.5.1 General requirements

- The ETC shall report to the EEA, the primary contact points being the ETC manager and the assigned EEA lead for the ETC.
- The ETC coordinator shall put in place and maintain an agreed internal ETC management structure that ensures delivery of outputs and services requested as well as efficient communication and coordination with all partners.

- The ETC shall be structured in a way which ensures proper linkages with other ETCs in order to respond to cross-sectoral and cross-thematic cooperation and integration needs and to avoid duplication or disintegration of tasks across partners.
- The ETC needs to be structured in a way to ensure flexibility to be able to adapt to changing needs and to be able to provide experts for specific projects.
- The ETC needs the capability to network and communicate with stakeholders in national or regional environmental administrations, European wide environmental networks, and international organisations, including regional cooperation bodies and conferences. The ETC needs to have proven links to wider European knowledge and expertise.
- The working language of the FPA and SAs is English. More particularly, the ETC is expected to deliver management documents and results ready for use or publication in English.
- ETC management must have in place procedures for quality assurance undertaken with reference to EEA standards, including documentation and language-checking of its deliverables.
- Subject to guidance from the EEA, the ETC coordinator shall ensure coherence and integration of ETC work with the work carried out by the EEA.
- ETCs shall, unless agreed otherwise with the EEA, publish the results of ETC work, accepted by EEA, in open access repositories with a public copyright license, such as creative commons.
- As a contribution to the overall EEA continuous improvement framework, ETC management shall, support EEA by identifying opportunities for innovation and improvements in specific working areas and in agreement with EEA, support their implementation.
- The EEA operates an environmental management system framed around minimizing its environmental footprint and is EMAS certified⁹. EEA offsets travel related greenhouse gas emissions, procures green energy and aims to reduce its electricity consumption as well as being active in waste minimisation. The environmental performance of contractors and partners is nested within EEA's environmental performance, which is part of the overall EEA continuous improvement framework. Thus, it is a requirement that the ETC has, or develops specific environmental policies and can document and report on steps taken to reduce environmental impact during the life of the FPA.

1.5.2 Technical and scientific expertise requirements

The consortium is expected to have demonstrated excellent technical and scientific knowledge, expertise and experience to be able to fulfil the tasks set out in the work packages mentioned in 1.3 above and to provide the necessary science-policy support as follows:

- Knowledge and understanding of relevant international, EU and policies related to environment and climate, including the EU digital agenda and the EU Space Programme;
- Knowledge and experience with spatial data handling, GIS, spatial data infrastructure services and requirements laid down by the Inspire Directive (2007/2/EC) and its implementing rules;
- Experience and expertise in:

⁹ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/emas>.

- In situ and remote sensing monitoring and image processing, including multispectral optical and INSAR radar satellite imagery;
- tabular and geospatial data management related to the environment, including big data handling;
- data assimilation, data mining, statistical and geo-spatial analytics, modelling including the use of artificial intelligence tools;
- data integration, visualisation and web map services;
- use of Copernicus services and uptake of their products. This includes the requirement to secure transparent use of approved EEA reference data sets from the EEA spatial data infrastructure and centralised data cubes applications;
- implementation of QA/QC procedures and standards for data management;
- preparing and facilitating and documenting webinars, workshops and meetings through using of advanced participatory processes;
- indicator development, maintenance and updating related to land and soil.

2 Evaluation of the proposals

2.1. Participation in the award procedure

2.1.1 Eligibility

Consortia consisting of at least two partners (natural/legal persons, private or public), these partners being established in different EEA member countries¹⁰, are eligible to submit proposals, subject to 2.1.2 and 2.2.1 below. Consortia must identify one of their partners as the coordinator who will interface with the EEA.

Entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law of one of the EEA member countries are also eligible under the same conditions, provided that their representatives have and can prove their capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume financial liability.

Partners not established in one of the EEA member countries referred to above may exceptionally participate in a consortium, provided that the other eligibility requirement is respected, and they complied with exclusion and selection criteria listed under sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 below. A maximum of two partners from non-EEA member countries may be involved in a consortium submitting a proposal under this call for proposals.

With a view to assess the fulfilment of the eligibility criteria, the consortium's coordinator is required to submit a proposal submission form (see annex 1) duly filled out, dated and signed.

¹⁰ The 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

2.1.2 Ne bis in idem

No partner may participate in **more than one** consortium aiming at the FPA **concerning this ETC**, i.e. the ETC on data integration and digitalisation. Similarly, it is prohibited for proposed staff to sign letters of intent to participate in more than one consortium aiming at the FPA concerning the ETC on data integration and digitalisation. Disregard of these rules will lead to exclusion of all consortia concerned.

2.2 Criteria

2.2.1 Exclusion criteria

Apart from the situations under 2.1.2, consortia shall be excluded from participation in this procedure if any of its partners is in one of the situations referred to in Articles 136 and 141 of the Financial Rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union¹¹.

When submitting their application, each partner of the consortium (including any subcontractor) must provide a declaration on their honour in accordance with the form attached as annex 2, duly signed and dated, stating that they are not in any of the situations specified in the above-mentioned provisions.

The initial verification of non-exclusion of partners will be done based on the submitted declarations and consultation of the [European Union's Early Detection and Exclusion System](#). The partners of the consortium with whom the EEA will enter into a Framework Partnership Agreement will be required, prior to the signature of the agreement, to provide the evidence specified in the penultimate paragraph of the declaration of honour mentioned above (see paragraph VI of annex 2).

2.2.2 Selection criteria

The selection criteria will be assessed as a first step by the evaluation committee. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the proposal not being evaluated further by the evaluation committee. Applicants may be asked to provide additional proof, or to clarify the supporting documents, related to the selection criteria within a specific time frame.

2.2.2.1 Legal capacity

- **Requirement:**

Any consortium is required to prove that all its members are authorised to perform the FPA under national law.

¹¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18.7.2018, OJEU L 193/1 of 30.7.2018.

- **Evidence to be provided:**

Each consortium partner shall submit a legal entity form (see annex 3 for the link to the form and instructions) duly filled out and signed, accompanied by either a copy of inscription in a trade register and/or VAT register, or a sworn declaration, or a certificate, or membership of a specific organisation, or express authorisation, or any other statutory document allowing verification of the partner's legal status.

2.2.2.2 Economic and financial capacity

- **Requirements:**

- The consortium must be in a stable financial position and have the economic and financial capacity to perform the FPA.
- In accordance with Article 190 of the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the European Union, implementation of the FPA shall involve co-financing from the consortium.

- **Evidence to be provided:**

- The partner assuming the role of coordinator of the consortium shall provide a financial identification form (see annex 4 for link to the form and instructions) duly filled out and signed;
- Each consortium partner shall provide a duly completed and signed simplified Financial Statement in accordance with the template provided as annex 6;
- For private partners: profit and loss accounts, balance sheet for the last financial year for which the accounts were closed (and audit reports by an approved external auditor certifying the accounts for the last available financial year¹²);
- Letters of intent of all consortium partners to participate and provide co-financing up to at least 10% of the total eligible cost of the jointly agreed annual action plans¹³;

2.2.2.3 Technical and professional capacity

- **Requirements:**

1. Relevant experience in terms of human resources;
2. Relevant experience in the provision of similar services;
3. Application of adequate quality standard;
4. Application of environmental management measures.

¹² Having regard to Article 196(1)(d) FR and the fact that all *consortium* partners will assume joint and several liability in accordance with the FPA, such audit reports are not required if *consortia* include any public bodies.

¹³ The 10%-rule of minimum co-financing is applied towards the *ETC* as a whole. To what extent partners contribute to this co-financing is an internal *ETC* matter.

○ **Evidence to be provided:**

1. Human resources:

a) CVs detailing the educational and professional qualifications of the partner's managerial staff as well as those of the staff designated to perform the tasks listed under section 1.3, indicating language skills and the required professional experience as follows:

- Managerial staff: Minimum 3 CVs, each documenting a minimum of 10 years' relevant experience
- Experts responsible for performing the tasks:
 - Minimum 10 CVs of senior experts, each documenting at least 5 years' relevant experience
 - Minimum 10 CVs of Junior experts, each documenting at least 3 years' relevant experience

b) Signed letters of intent of:

- the ETC Manager and core staff of the consortium's coordinator; as well as
- all the key experts¹⁴ of each consortium partner,

proving that the consortium as a whole has sufficient technical, scientific and management (including financial) experience to assume the role of an ETC;

2. Past experience:

A list and brief account of work considered relevant and carried out by the partners forming the consortium in the past five years, with the sums, dates and recipients (public or private);

3. Quality standards:

For each consortium partner, proof and description of their Quality Assurance and Quality Control systems;

4. Environmental management measures:

For each consortium partner, proof and description of their environmental policy specifying the status of implementation.

2.2.3 Award criteria

The Framework Partnership Agreement will be concluded with the consortium whose proposal guarantees best that the EEA requirements as described above are met. Proposals will be evaluated based on the award criteria and allocation of points as outlined below, producing a maximum total score of 100 points:

¹⁴ i.e. experts from the partners in the consortium who would be entrusted with the performance of activities in the main work areas should dedicate between 50 to 75% of their time for that purpose.

No	Award criteria	Max. points
1	<p>General understanding Demonstrated knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EEA’s role in supporting policy implementation and developing knowledge to support Europe’s sustainability objectives. • the stakeholders that the EEA and the Eionet are supporting and cooperating with within the topic area . • the tasks requested across all work packages, the respective roles of data, indicators and assessment/information products and systems in delivering these, and the technical methodologies and frameworks necessary for their development. • how the different dimensions of the topic area are interconnected, and how they relate to thematic and cross-cutting issues outside the topic area of this ETC • how different dimensions of the topic area differ or connect across global, EU, national, and sub-national scales. • EU environment and climate policy initiatives and objectives in the topic area, as well as impacts and variability of their implementation in countries. 	20
2	<p>Data and information systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated broad knowledge of data and dataflows across thematic area in Europe, including INSPIRE requirements and specifically to reporting dataflows from official and non-official sources. • Knowledge of other relevant official and non-official data sources, such as statistics, expert surveys, research, earth observation (Copernicus) and citizen science, and the different processing requirements associated with these. • Experience and expertise in supporting the design, quality control and evaluation, analytics, and management of data and information systems, including proposals for internal quality control procedures to support data product development and assessment activities. • Demonstrated knowledge of national specificities in data management across Eionet and need for support through helpdesk type functions. • Capabilities to provide training on data management and technical data support to EEA and experts across multiple thematic areas in other ETCs and in Eionet organisations. • Demonstrated experience and skills in advanced data analytics, data mining, data cubes, artificial intelligence, data integration and geospatial analysis and visualisation. 	30
3	Assessments	10

	Experience and expertise in supporting the definition, production, management and use of data and information products to contribute to environment and climate thematic, sectoral and/or cross-cutting assessments.	
4	Policy support Demonstrated experience and expertise in providing technical data and information products and/or services to support the development, integration and implementation of policy processes.	15
5	Cooperation and networking Sound and innovative approaches to cooperating, sharing knowledge and supporting Eionet member organisations in member countries. Proposals for approaches and opportunities for collaborating with other ETCs on joint activities and how these will add value to the work of this ETC. Experience and expertise in accessing and working together with relevant expert networks and institutes external to the Eionet, including relevant communities of practice and the scientific community.	15
6	Consortium management Sound arrangements for implementing transparent, effective, and quality-assured management of the ETC consortium, including financial management. Sound approach to managing different thematic and regional dimensions of the topic area individually and as a coherent whole. Adequate level of manpower, resources and output corresponding to the indicative budget. Arrangements to allow the consortium to respond to specific requests at short notice.	10
Total		100

Proposal which do not obtain at least 50% of the maximum score for each award criterion and at least 70% of the overall score for all criteria, will be deemed of insufficient quality and therefore not considered for the award of the FPA.

Should proposals obtain the same final score and tie for first place, the winning proposal will be decided based on the highest score achieved for award criterion No 1 (general understanding of the tasks), and if these scores are equal, on the highest score achieved for award criterion No 3 (assessment). If necessary, any further prioritisation will be based on the highest score achieved for award criterion No 6 (ETC management), then the remaining award criteria taken in numerical order.

3 Submission of proposals and additional information

3.1 Submission of proposals

Proposals must be submitted through the electronic submission system ETHICS at [European Environment Agency](#) (the Contracting authority page), in one of the official languages of the European Union, preferably in English (supporting evidence does not need to be translated). Proposals submitted in any other way (e.g. e-mail or mail) will be disregarded.

Make sure you submit your proposal on time: the time limit for submission of proposals is **Thursday 29 April 2021 at 14:00** (UTC + 1). You are advised to start completing your proposal early. To avoid any complications with regard to late receipt/non-receipt of proposals within the deadline, please ensure that you submit your proposal several hours before the deadline. A proposal received after the deadline indicated in the call for proposal documents will be rejected.

For detailed instructions on how to submit a proposal, please consult [ETHICS for economic operators](#) (see section 7 for English).

The submission receipt provided by ETHICS with the official date and time or receipt of the submission (timestamp) constitutes proof of compliance with the time limit of proposals.

In case of technical problems, please contact the ETHICS Technical support (button available on the main page of the platform).

3.2 Legal effects of the call for proposals

This call for proposals is in no way binding on the EEA. The EEA's contractual obligation commences only when the FPA with the successful consortium is signed by both parties. Up to the signature of the FPA, the EEA may cancel the award procedure without applicants being entitled to claim any compensation. Any such decision must be substantiated, and applicants notified.

The period of validity of the proposal, during which the consortium partners may not modify the terms of their proposals in any respect, is 6 months from the deadline for the submission of proposals.

Submitting a proposal implies acceptance by the consortium of all terms and conditions of the standard FPA and its annexes, attached as annex 5 to these terms of reference, in particular those on performance of the agreement, confidentiality, eligible costs, justification of costs, cost statements, payments, checks

and audits, and processing of personal data. Any limitation, amendment, or denial of the terms of the agreement will lead to the automatic exclusion from the award procedure. The submitted proposal is binding on the consortium to whom the agreement is awarded for the duration of the FPA.

3.3 Contacts during the award procedure

Contacts between the EEA and interested applicants (consortia/partners) are prohibited throughout the award procedure save in exceptional circumstances and under the following conditions only:

3.3.1 Submission phase (before the time limit for submission)

Upon request, the EEA may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the call for proposals documents.

Any request for additional information must be made in writing only through the above-mentioned ETHICS website in the “Communication” tab by clicking “Send question”. The EEA is not bound to reply to requests for additional information received less than 6 working days before the time limit for submission of proposals.

The EEA may, on its own initiative, inform interested parties of any error, inaccuracy, omission or any other type of clerical error in the context of the call for proposals documents. Any additional information will be published on the above-mentioned ETHICS website. The website will be updated regularly, and it is the applicants’ responsibility to check for updates and notifications during the submission period.

3.3.2 Opening of proposals

Proposals will be opened in public, remotely, at the time and place indicated in paragraph 3.4 below. A maximum of one representative per applicant may attend the remote opening session. For organisational reasons, applicants are requested to inform the EEA in advance (at least 2 working days before the date of the opening session) by e-mail to procurement@eea.europa.eu.

The public part of the opening session will be strictly limited to the following aspects:

- Verification that each proposal has been submitted in accordance with the submission requirements of this call for proposals;
- Announcement of the proposals received: the names of the consortium partners will be announced.

Applicants not present at the opening session may be informed of the outcome of the process by visiting the EEA website (<https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/tenders>).

3.3.3 Evaluation phase (after opening of the proposals)

Except in duly justified cases, applicants who have failed to submit evidence or to make statements as required in the call for proposals documents, shall be contacted by the EEA to provide the missing information or clarify supporting documents.

The EEA may correct obvious clerical errors in the proposal after confirmation of the correction by the applicant.

Such information, clarification or correction shall not substantially alter the proposal.

3.3.4 Award phase

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the award procedure by e-mail. The notification will be sent to the e-mail address of the consortium's coordinator provided in the proposal submission form. The same e-mail address will be used by the EEA for all other communications with the applicant. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide a valid e-mail address and check it regularly.

3.4 Timetable

	Date	Comments
Call for proposals launch date	1 February 2021	On the EEA website
Last date for submission of clarifications to which the EEA is bound to reply	23 April 2021	
Time limit for submission of proposals	29 April 2021	At 14:00 (UTC+1)
Opening session	3 May 2021	At 10:00 (UTC+1)
Evaluation of proposals	From 5 May to 28 May 2021	Estimated
Designation by the EEA Management Board of the successful consortium	17 June 2021	Estimated
Award decision and notification of evaluation results	24 June 2021	Estimated
Framework partnership agreement signature	30 September 2021	Estimated
Approval of the annual action plan for the 1 st specific grant agreement	15 November 2021	At the latest

Signature and implementation of the 1 st specific agreement	January 2022	
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3.5 Protection of personal data

Processing replies to this call for proposals will involve the recording and processing of personal data (such as name, address and CVs). Such data will be processed pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725¹⁵ on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data. Unless indicated otherwise, applicants' replies to the questions and any personal data requested are required to evaluate their proposal in accordance with the specifications of the call for proposals and will be processed solely for that purpose by the EEA. Under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, applicants are entitled to obtain access to their personal data on request and to rectify any such data that is inaccurate or incomplete. Further details concerning the processing of personal data can be found in the privacy statement available on the EEA website: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/tenders>.

Applicants have the right of recourse at any time to the European Data Protection Supervisor (<https://edps.europa.eu>; edps@edps.europa.eu) for matters relating to the processing of their personal data.

Applicants' personal data may be registered in the Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES), if they are in one of the situations mentioned in Article 136 of the Financial Regulation. For more information, see the privacy statement at [privacy statement edes en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#).

3.6 Means of redress

Applicants may submit any observations concerning the award procedure to the EEA using the e-mail address procurement@eea.europa.eu. If applicants believe that there is maladministration, they may lodge a complaint to the European Ombudsman within two years of the date from which they become aware of the facts which form the basis for the complaint (see <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu; eo@ombudsman.europa.eu>).

Within two months of notification of the outcome of the procedure (award decision), applicants may launch an action for its annulment. Any request applicants may have and any reply from the EEA, or any complaint for maladministration, will have neither the purpose nor the effect of suspending the time limit for launching an action for annulment nor open a new period for launching an action for annulment. The body responsible for hearing annulment procedures is the General Court of the European Union (<https://curia.europa.eu; generalcourt.registry@curia.europa.eu>).

¹⁵ OJEU L 295 of 21.11.2018, p. 39-98.

3.7 Annexes

Annex 1 – Proposal submission form

Annex 2 – Declaration on exclusion criteria

Annex 3 – Legal entity form

Annex 4 – Financial Identification Form

Annex 5 – Draft Framework Partnership Agreement (including annexes)

Annex 6 – Simplified financial statement

Annex 7 – Power of attorney template

Annex 8 – Corporate standards

Annex 9 – List of abbreviations and acronyms

Annex 10 – Proposal executive summary template