



Guide

1st Earth Observation Funding Call

Wave 2 & Wave 3

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1. Introduction

The OCRE project organises 3 open calls for projects to stimulate the adoption of commercial Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data, as can be made by OCRE through the EOSC portfolio of commercial services. These services will be procured by the OCRE project through a Dynamic Purchasing System, to be published in December 2020.

OCREs adoption funding will be made available in three waves:

- Wave 1 targeting individual researchers
- Wave 2 targeting research projects at individual institutions
- Wave 3 targeting research projects with groups of institutions represented by a lead buyer

This document describes important guidelines governing this call.

2. Submitting your proposal

Please submit your proposal through the online form:

[OCRE Earth Observation Services adoption project submission form](#)

The submission URL is also available through the OCRE website:

<https://www.ocre-project.eu/funding-opportunities/earth-observation>

3. Contacting the OCRE funding team

The OCRE funding team can be reached for Q&A through this email address:

funding@ocre-project.eu

4. Important dates for this call

Call open: Wednesday 14 October
Deadline to submit proposals: Monday 30 November 2020 09:00 CET
Evaluation results communicated: Friday 29 January 2021 (or earlier)

5. Target group for this call

This is the 1st open call for adoption of Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data for both Wave 2 and Wave 3 projects:

- **Wave 2 proposals:** targets individual institutions to submit proposals for research projects that would benefit by consuming Earth Observations services.
- **Wave 3 proposals:** co-funding for institutional research projects referred or supported by national/multi-national research (support) agencies. These agencies could be ESFRIs, ERICs, NRENs, national/regional infrastructure organisations, large European / national research agencies, etc. To put it in other words: proposals which include entities which can amplify adoption funding towards continued adoption of EO services in a wider community.

6. What can OCRE fund?

OCRE's adoption funding is for purchases from suppliers (to be) listed on the OCRE Earth Observation Dynamic Procurement System IaaS+ framework agreements:

- Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data
- Consulting services in support of using these EO services
 - On-boarding, assist with solution architecting etc.
- Commercial infra-structure cloud services in support of using these EO services
 - As available from the OCRE IaaS+ framework agreements per 1.1.2021

For Wave 2 proposals, OCRE can fund 100% of the consumption (use) of the services mentioned above

For Wave 3 proposals, OCRE can co-fund 50% of the consumption (use) of the services mentioned above

The OCRE Earth Observation Dynamic Procurement System (DPS) is expected to open in December 2020 for suppliers to list themselves.

Important to note: Whereas the list of available providers on the OCRE IaaS+ Framework Agreement is static for the next 4 years; **the list of available suppliers on the OCRE EO DPS is dynamic: new providers can be added at any time.**

7. What is not covered by OCRE funding?

Your project's person-hours are not eligible for OCRE funding.

OCRE's underlying assumption is that the use of commercial digital services will have a positive impact on your research project and/or the execution of the project (less time, lower cost, better quality). OCRE adoption funding is meant to stimulate the use of commercial digital services in your research, not to fund the research itself.

8. Eligible institutions

Any institution eligible to procure services from the OCRE Earth Observation Dynamic Purchasing System is eligible for OCRE adoption funding. In practice this means if your institution is a member organisation of one of the 39 NRENs (National Research and Education Network) listed in the table below, you can

assume to be eligible. Please note that we are aware of some exceptions to this rule, so if in doubt please contact your local NREN, or contact the OCRE funding call helpdesk.

Country	NREN	Country	NREN
Albania	RASH	Lithuania	LITNET
Armenia	Asnet	Luxemburg	RESTENA
Austria	ACOnet	North Macedonia	MARnet
Belgium	Belnet	Malta	RicerkaNET
Bulgaria	BREN	Moldova	RENAM
Croatia	CARNET	Montenegro	MREN
Cyprus	CYNET	Netherlands	SURF
Czech Republic	CESNET	Norway	Unit/Uninett
Denmark	DeIC	Poland	PSNC/POZNAN
Estonia	EENet/HITSA	Portugal	FCCT
Finland	CSC	Romania	RoEduNet
France	RENATER	Serbia	AMRES
Georgia	GRENA	Slovenia	ARNES
Germany	DFN	Spain	RedIRIS
Greece	GRNET	Sweden	SUNET
Hungary	KIFU	Switzerland	SWITCH
Iceland	Rhnet	Turkey	TUBITAK ULAKBIM
Ireland	HEAnet	Ukraine	URAN Association
Israel	IUCC	United Kingdom	JISC
Italy	GARR		

In addition the following Slovakian institution is eligible:

Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences

9. What is OCRE looking for?

OCRE wants to demonstrate the benefits of using Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data in research. To achieve this, OCRE looks for research-relevant projects that really show the research community how OCRE's portfolio of services can help to achieve great research outcomes, e.g.

- new outcomes enabled by services
- improved execution: time, money, quality
- impact amplifier - allow nimble groups to do large undertakings
- allow for small budgets to achieve great things

Please note that your research can be in ANY field, as long as it benefits from taking a good look on our planet: from using the Copernicus data.

These projects should, besides generating good research outcomes, allow OCRE to create **inspiring showcases; case studies which inspire other researchers to adopt Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data for their research.**

10. Evaluation

After an eligibility check, OCRE will prioritise the following in its evaluation of proposals:

- The show case effect
 - Of your research
 - Impact of commercial Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data on your research
- Timely use of services and achieve impact on your research
 - Months, not years. Sooner = better
- Ability to execute

For Wave 3 projects OCRE will prioritise projects in which there is a clear (future) adoption amplification effect created by the inclusion of the referring/supporting organisation. To put it in other terms, we favour applications where we can expect the adoption funding to lead to an amplification effect towards continued adoption of EO services in a wider (existing) community.

Proposals will be evaluated based on their potential to clearly illustrate the benefits of consuming commercial Earth Observation (platform) services based on Copernicus data. This means that only proposals that successfully address the this will have a chance of being funded.

Please take advantage of the different communication instruments offered by the OCRE Consortium (i.e. info sessions, Q&A helpdesk at funding@ocre-project.eu) to receive direct feedback on any questions you may have before submitting your proposal

Decisions pertaining to the evaluation, awarding and funding of successful proposals are made at the discretion of the OCRE funding team and the OCRE EAB (External Advisory Board) and will be final.

Successful research projects will agree to interviews with the OCRE team responsible for developing related case studies.

You submit your proposal through the [OCRE online submission form for Earth Observation](#) adoption funding project proposals

For questions please contact funding@ocre-project.eu