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Frascati, 30 August 2019

Our ref: EOP-S-LE-0040

Subject: The Living Planet Fellowship: Call for Research Proposals 2019

Dear Colleagues

On behalf of the European Space Agency (ESA), I am pleased to invite you to participate to the Call for Research Proposals of the Living Planet Fellowship 2019.

The main objective of this initiative is to provide support to young researchers who have a doctoral degree and who would like to initiate a scientific career in the context of Earth Observation and Earth System Science.

Candidate researchers shall submit research proposals responding to one of following Research Areas:

A. Advancing Novel Methods and Techniques

Targeted research projects aimed at developing innovative methods, novel algorithms and new EO products and datasets expanding the scientific use of the Sentinel missions, the Earth Explorers or the ESA long-term data archives into new scientific areas and application domains. Activities shall establish a solid basis to expand the missions product portfolio and stimulate novel science results and innovative applications. Priority will be given to develop and validate novel algorithms, data processing techniques, advanced methodologies and new EO-based products that may maximise the novel capabilities offered by the Sentinel missions, the unique data offered by the Earth Explorers, the long-term series of ESA data archives, and its synergies also in combination with meteorological and non-ESA missions.

B. Advancing Earth System Science

Cutting-edge scientific activities aimed at maximizing the scientific impact of ESA and European missions in terms of new discoveries and advances in Earth system science addressing the new challenges of the ESA EO Science Strategy. Projects shall contribute to answer major open questions in Earth system science, address global scientific challenges and community priorities posed by international Earth System Science communities and international science groups (e.g., WCRP, SOLAS, GCP, etc...). Priority will be given to activities that maximise the scientific return of ESA and European EO assets including Sentinel, Earth Explorers and Meteo mission data, the long-term ESA archive and existing EO-based long-term datasets (e.g., ESA project results).



1. Call for Research Proposals Package

Please note that this Call for Research Proposals package was published on the Living Planet Fellowship Web Page (accessible from <https://eo4society.esa.int/2019/01/12/living-planet-fellowship-call/>) on the date of this letter. The Call for Research Proposals package includes the following documents:

- Call for Research Proposals 2019
- Annex A: Proposal Template
- Annex B: PSS form
- Annex C: Draft Partnership Agreement

In order to respond to this Call, you must submit all of the documents described at Section 2.3 of the Call for Research Proposals.

Your attention is drawn in particular to the requirement to submit with your proposal a specific statement from the Host Institution confirming acceptance of the draft Partnership Agreement (Annex C). Offers which include reservations to the Partnership Agreement will not be considered for evaluation.

Only in case national laws do not allow to accept conditions in the partnership agreement, this should be clearly pointed out in the required letter from the Host Institution and proposal template.

2. Institutions Entitled to Participate in the Call

Projects will be funded under the 5th period of ESA's Earth Observation Envelope Programme (EOEP-5). EOEP-5 is an optional programme of the Agency, and participation is restricted to institutions which have their registered office in one of the following Participating States: **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Slovenia and Canada.**

3. Closing Date

Your proposal and all supporting documents must be sent by e-mail to: EOScience@esa.int by no later than **1 November 2019 (the Closing Date)**.

Any questions relating to this Call must be sent, by e-mail to EOScience@esa.int, **not later than two (2) weeks before the Closing Date.**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Borgeaud'.

Maurice Borgeaud
Head of Science, Applications & Climate Department
Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes