

**AIRBUS** FOUNDATION

# Call for Projects

"Harnessing aerospace capabilities for nature-based climate resilience: enhancing life on land and water"

©CNES 2020, Distribution Airbus DS

**SOLARIMPULSE**  
FOUNDATION

in partnership with

**SPACE4GOOD**

# Table of Contents

<b>Chapter 1 - Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Context	2
1.2 Eligibility criteria	3
1.3 Assessment criteria	3
<b>Chapter 2 - Application process*</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Process overview	4
2.2 Timeline	5
<b>Chapter 3 - Selection process</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1 Evaluation process, criteria and scoring	5
3.2 Jury Members	7
3.3 Benefits for Winners of the Awards	7



# Chapter 1 - Introduction

## 1.1 Context

The Airbus Foundation, supported by the Solar Impulse Foundation and Space4Good, is calling for projects that use aerospace technology to strengthen nature-based climate resilience. The goal is to support innovative projects that use aerospace capabilities, such as satellite imagery and helicopter flight hours, to protect biodiversity, restore ecosystems, and reduce the risk of natural disasters while also tackling climate change adaptation.

### **About the organisations:**

**Airbus Foundation:** The Airbus Foundation is a non-profit legal entity of general interest founded under French law by Airbus SAS, Airbus Defence and Space SAS and Airbus Helicopters SAS. It unlocks access to Airbus products, services and expertise to non-profit partners to help address some of the most important challenges facing society today.

**Solar Impulse Foundation:** Solar Impulse Foundation is a Swiss non-profit foundation, recognised as serving the public interest. It inspires positive climate action by promoting – through labelling, advocacy, and facilitated access to finance – the multitude of clean and profitable solutions currently available worldwide.

**Space4Good:** Space4Good is a social enterprise utilising space technology for social and environmental good. Using remote sensing, GIS and artificial intelligence, they map, analyse and model complex ecosystems and support leading organisations and institutions on topics such as forest protection and restoration, regenerative agriculture and agroforestry as well as peace and justice.

The overarching theme of the call for projects is:

**“Harnessing aerospace capabilities for nature-based climate resilience: enhancing life on land and water.”**

Based on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) guidance, nature-based solutions are defined as “actions to protect, sustainably manage,

and restore natural and modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.”

**We are therefore seeking projects that address multiple societal challenges in the context of this overarching theme. Such societal challenges could include:**

- **Climate change mitigation and adaptation** (e.g. reforestation, afforestation, protecting and restoring coastal wetlands, mangroves etc.)
- **Disaster risk reduction** (e.g. forest conservation and restoration to stabilise slopes and reduce landslide risks, wetland conservation and restoration to regulate floods)
- **Economic and social development** (e.g. sustainable fisheries, eco-tourism in protected areas)
- **Human health** (e.g. creating urban green spaces, wetland restoration to control disease vectors)
- **Food security:** (e.g. supporting economic livelihoods via sustainable fisheries)
- **Water security** (e.g. restoration of watersheds to improve water quality and regulate water flow, construction of artificial wetlands for water purification)
- **Reversing environmental degradation and biodiversity loss**

## 1.2 Eligibility criteria

While we encourage broad participation, please note that in order to be eligible for this call for projects, the following criteria must be met:

- Applicants are registered nonprofit organisations.
- Applicants must be willing to make the results of the project available on an open-access basis, increasing the scope for the approach to be replicated or scaled.
- While we will offer seed funding to the selected projects, the Airbus Foundation’s primary role is to provide access to Airbus products and services. Therefore applications must include the use of Airbus offered capabilities for the completion of the project.
- Applicants have a certain level of technical experience and capacity through their team to conduct GIS related activities.

## 1.3 Assessment criteria

- **Theme:** The projects should be aligned with the stated theme: “Harnessing aerospace capabilities for nature-based climate resilience: enhancing life on land and water”.
- **Environmental and social impact:** We will invite applicants to provide measurable and significant impact indicators to demonstrate that the project will have a tangible positive environmental and social impact once operational.
- **Scalability potential:** Applicants will be invited to provide information on how their project’s approach and conclusion can be adapted to other contexts.
- **Capacity:** While we will be providing access to technical expertise for the implementation of selected projects, we will consider participants’ levels of experience and capacity to conduct GIS-related activities.
- **Background:** Applicants will be invited to demonstrate their track record of deploying impact projects.
- **Project advancement and readiness:** Applicants will be invited to demonstrate the maturity of their project by showing how the offered capabilities will directly contribute to their successful implementation.
- **Youth involvement:** We will invite applicants to provide information on how their project not only serves youth as beneficiaries but also provides meaningful opportunities for them to contribute, co-create or lead project initiatives. For this criteria, youth is defined as individuals between the ages of 16 to 25 years, recognising their diverse roles as students, community leaders, and early career professionals. Elements such as capacity building and empowerment will be assessed as factors of support and engagement.
- **Innovation:** We welcome applications that leverage technology and innovation in a novel and creative approach.

## Chapter 2 - Application process\*

\*Applicants should be aware that their application forms will be shared with the jury members. Therefore, the information provided will not be treated as confidential.

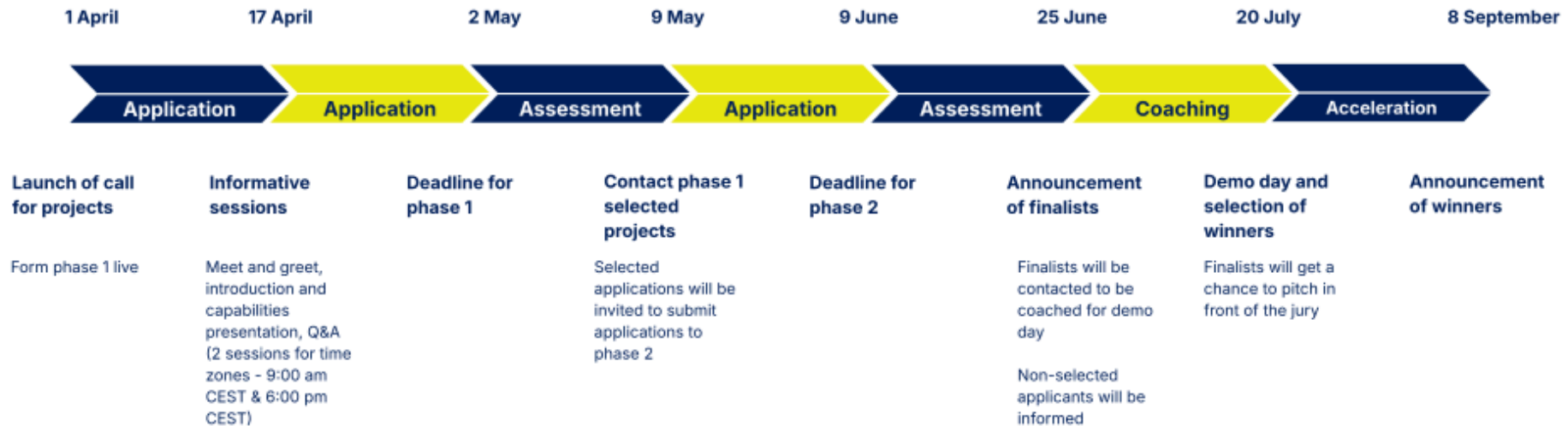
## 2.1 Process Overview

The review process will proceed through the following steps:

- **Step 1:** A brief [submission form](#) where applications should describe their project and its motivation. Applications will be reviewed to ensure alignment with the stated eligibility criteria before proceeding to the next stage.  
During this phase, weblive sessions will be proposed to introduce potential applicants to offered capabilities and Q&A.
- **Step 2:** Successful Step 1 applications which are aligned with the eligibility criteria will be invited to complete a more detailed questionnaire describing the concept, methodology, expected impact, and technical requirements of the project.
- **Step 3:** An expert review of Step 2 projects will be followed by the selection of 10 finalists.
- **Step 4:** The finalists will be invited to present a pitch at a demo day event, where the winners will be selected.

## 2.2 Timeline

- **Launch of call for projects:** 1 April
- **Deadline for phase 1 applications:** 2 May
- **Selected applications will be invited to submit applications to phase 2:** 9 May
- **Deadline for phase 2 applications:** 9 June
- **Announcement of finalists:** 25 June
- **Demo day and selection of winners:** 20 July
- **Announcement of winners:** 8 September



# Chapter 3 - Selection process

## 3.1 Evaluation process, criteria and scoring

The phase 1 applications will be reviewed to ensure they meet the mandatory requirements, are thematically relevant and are of sufficient quality. This screening will be conducted by the teams leading the projects from the Airbus Foundation, Solar Impulse Foundation and Space4Good. This phase will limit the number of projects advancing to phase 2 to 50.

The phase 2 applications will be evaluated by a jury who will assess the projects against the criteria listed below:

- **Alignment with the theme of the call and project credibility:** Assess the relevance and technical credibility of the project. **(10 points)**
- **Impact measurement:** Assess the capability to quantify and evaluate both environmental and social impacts, including the potential impact if the solution is replicated or scaled. **(10 points)**
- **Scalability potential:** Assess the potential for replication or scaling to amplify the reach and effectiveness. **(10 points)**
- **Team capacity:** Evaluate the internal knowledge and experience of the team to ensure the successful development of the project. **(5 points)**
- **Project advancement and readiness:** Evaluate the maturity and readiness of the project. **(5 points)**
- **Youth involvement:** Assess the organisation's ability to provide meaningful opportunities to youth for them to contribute, co-create parts or lead initiatives within the project. **(5 points)**

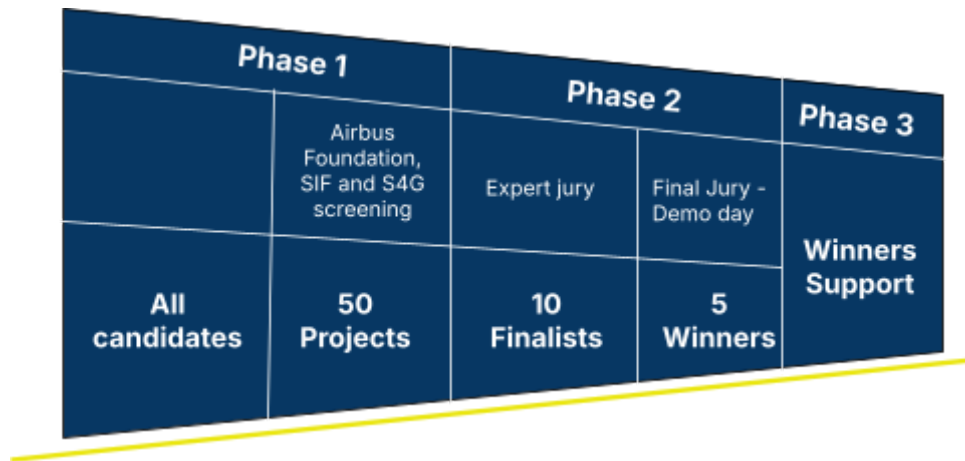
**Bonus criteria - applicants are highly encouraged to actively seek the following criteria:**

- **Community engagement:** Involvement of affected communities and marginalised groups. **(+3 points)**



- **Innovation:** Use of cutting-edge technology or novel approaches. (+3 points)

The top 10 highest-scoring projects will then pitch to the jury during the demo day, who will select the final 5 winners of this call for projects.



### 3.2 Jury members

The jury for this call for projects will consist of experts from various fields to ensure a comprehensive evaluation of the projects. The jury will include aerospace and technology experts with expertise in satellite imagery, remote sensing and aerospace applications, as well as environmental and climate experts with expertise in biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and climate resilience.

### 3.3 Benefits for winners of the awards

Winning projects will receive the following benefits:

- **Access to Airbus capabilities:** Access to Airbus products and services based on the following estimations:
  - Satellite imagery: An imagery tasking budget to use Pléiades Neo 15 cm\* (up to 5,000 km<sup>2</sup> per project), 30 cm (up to 5,000 km<sup>2</sup> per

project), Pléiades 50 cm Data (up to 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> per project) and SPOT 1.5 m data (up to 50 000 km<sup>2</sup> per project).

These Km<sup>2</sup> ranges are guidelines and proposals over this will still be considered.

\*15 cm is a reproduction of already captured 30cm imagery

and/or

- Helicopter flight hours: up to 8h per project.

- **Financial support:** €10,000 per project
  
- **Expert guidance:** Gain exclusive technical support and guidance from Space4Good on remote sensing, GIS and artificial intelligence.
  
- **Visibility and networking:** Promotion through the Airbus Foundation, Solar Impulse Foundation and Space4Good networks.
  
- **Testing and validation:** Showcase and test the project with experts and industry leaders.
  
- **Open-source knowledge sharing:** Access to platforms for data dissemination and collaboration.
  
- **Fast-track to Solar Impulse Foundation's Efficient Solution Label**  
**benefits:** Support for submitting the project to the Solar Impulse Foundation's Efficient Solution Label, unlocking additional resources and guidance.
  - **Access to market:** Providing entrepreneurs with access to new market opportunities and customers to help their organisations grow.
  - **Access to capital:** Helping entrepreneurs secure the funding they need to get their organisations off the ground or expand.
  - **Environmental advocacy:** Advocating for policies and initiatives that modernise the legislative framework to benefit the adoption of Labeled Solutions.
  - **Best-practice sharing from industry experts and peers:** Offering entrepreneurs the opportunity to learn from experts and peers in their industry and adopt best practices.
  - **Credibility:** Establishing credibility through an independent expert assessment and globally-recognised Label.
  - **Visibility:** Providing entrepreneurs with visibility and exposure to help them reach new customers and build their brand (e.g. be featured on the Solar Impulse Foundation's open data Solution explorer) (<https://solarimpulse.com/solutions-explorer>).

## **Further information**

Two identical informative sessions for prospective applications will be held on 17 April, scheduled at different times to ensure accessibility across time zones. These sessions permit prospective applicants to meet the organisations responsible for this call for projects, better understand the capabilities and benefits on offer, and answer any questions.

**17 April      9:00 AM CEST or 6:00 PM CEST.**

Both sessions cover the same content.