

EO Mission Capability Review 2018: Call for Panel Members

Closing date: 08:59 on the 3rd April 2018

The UK Space Agency is undertaking a UK EO Mission Capability Review (EOMCR). The outcome of this process will be a catalogue of credible Earth Observation missions that could be considered for “opportunistic” or strategic support - should funding become available. This funding could come from a variety of sources and could be best placed to fund science, commercial, or public sector orientated missions).

The review is being conducted by the CEOI on behalf of the Earth Observation Advisory Committee (EOAC) who will review the outcomes and provide advice to UKSA at their 10th May meeting.

An initial workshop was held on 2nd March 2018 and short proposals have been sought from the UK entities with mission ideas. A review panel is being formed which will judge each mission proposal against the set of criteria outlined in the call – see Box 1. The panel will be chaired by EOAC ad hominem (Richard Lowe), and will include representatives from UKSA, CEOI, and ESA.

We are seeking up to four additional members for the panel. These members will operate in a personal capacity and will be encouraged to have the freedom to challenge, debate, and provide alternative views. If you feel you have the skills, experience and time in April please send us your application by 3rd April 2018.

Panel Member Specification

The successful applicants will complement the ex officio members of the Panel by bringing specific expertise or experience in one or more of the following Earth Observation-relevant areas including end users and requirements, New Space, or science & academia.

Applicants should have the time to evaluate short proposals from UK industry and academia in April 2018. The time commitment will vary depending on the number and distribution of proposals; UKSA expects approximately 25-30 proposals limited to 5 pages each. The provisional schedule for the review process is as follows:

- w/c 9th April: Reviewers receive proposals
- 20th April (TBC): initial review meeting in London – this is expected to last the full day
- 30th April (TBC): Workshop with presentations in morning, final review meeting in afternoon.

There is no funding available for panel members’ time; reasonable expenses may be claimed for the meetings.

Selection procedure

The UK Space Agency will seek the best members possible for it but also seeks to ensure and encourages that membership reflects the diversity within the relevant communities.

Applications should include a covering letter and a short CV .

The covering letter should be a maximum of two pages and should include:

- Your motivation for serving on the Panel
- Your area(s) of expertise and current activity and seniority
- appropriate qualities including knowledge of the subject area,
- what you would bring/ add to the Panel
- any possible conflicts of interest or steps to ensure a neutral position

Please send your application to UKSAEOT@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk by 08:59 on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at the latest. Please mark the email as CONFIDENTIAL EOMCR Panel Application: Your surname

For further information please contact:

The EOMCR chair Richard Lowe (Richard.Lowe@telespazio.com) or UKSA Industrial Sector Lead (Earth Observation) Alasdair Gow (Alasdair.Gow@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk)

BOX 1

Key criteria as well as the general characteristics of the proposed mission:

- Describe the principal user need for the mission and any existing collaboration with the end user
- Show how the project aligns with UK EO, national space policy or other UK industrial objectives (e.g. climate science, UK EO Technology Strategy, UK Industrial Strategy)
- Describe the principal benefits that will result (e.g. leading science position; job creation; export growth; national prestige; etc.)
- Describe the principal innovative/ unique aspects of this project (science / technology / products / services)
- Why is this mission / instrument achievable, realistic and cost-effective? (e.g. by comparison to previous missions)