# ***Preamble - Pilots for the NFDI4Earth***

# ***2nd call (February 1, 2023) - Submission Deadline: March 31, 2023***

In a nationwide effort the NFDI4Earth consortium supports the development of a FAIR and Open research data management environment for the full range of Earth System data. Pilot Projects take up the specific needs of researchers in Earth System Science (ESS) subdomains. Outcomes of pilot projects are used to shape the future developments in the consortium. The extent of a pilot should not exceed 1 person-year.

1. Proposals for pilots will be evaluated by reviewers from different disciplines of the ESS with varying degrees of involvement with NFDI4Earth. All applicants will receive their anonymized scores and feedback. By submitting a proposal, you agree that your proposal will be published on the NFDI4Earth website *if successful*.
2. Criteria for the evaluation of the pilots will be in equal parts:
   * *Quality and Innovation*
   * *Feasibility*
   * *Transferability to other domains and potential for engaging a broad user community*
   * *Contribution to FAIR research data management workflows and the goals of NFDI4Earth*

For each criterion several questions will be scored on a 5 points scale (1 = not competitive, 5 = excellent).

1. It is important to note that the funding decision might not only be based on the above-mentioned scores. If numerical scores of reviews do not show a clear picture additional factors will be considered - for example to support institutions without previous funding from NFDI4Earth or a balanced distribution among targeted datatypes. In case, projects rank equally on the above-mentioned criteria and factors, funded projects will be partially selected by random choice.
2. Submissions should follow the template below - text must contain clear and correct references and links where appropriate.
3. Pilots should be described as short as possible and not exceed 4 pages.

*Note:* If your institution is not yet participant of NFDI4Earth please reach out the pilot coordination ([veronika.grupp@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:veronika.grupp@uni-leipzig.de)) before submitting a proposal.

*Also note:* The submission is subject to a review process and does not guarantee any funding.

PILOT TITLE - NOT LONGER THAN ONE LINE

Name Lastname1, Name Lastname2, Name Lastname1, and Name Lastname2

1Affiliation

2Affiliation

Date of submission

Abstract

We expect a summary of the pilot organized as follows (one sentence for each point): 1. General introduction to scientific context, 2. Concrete problem under scrutiny, 3. Objective of the pilot (max. two sentences), 4. Expected results, 5. Prospective users of the pilot 6. Perspective of the pilot - if successful – for advancing RDM workflows and NFDI4Earth efforts (max. two sentences).

1. Introduction

Needs to explain the following questions

* What is the scientific context of your pilot?
* What is the data-challenge you face and what is the state-of-the-art?
* What is your vision for your community and their RDM workflows if your challenge would be solved?

1. Pilot description

Describes the Pilot (can also include a flow-chart).

* What is the proposed solution to your data-challenge?
* What is the technological backbone you rely upon?
* Which are the standards and interoperability approaches used in the pilot’s context?
* Which improvements are made compared to the status quo?

1. Relevance for the NFDI4Earth

Explains integration and uptake potential.

* What are expected users and stakeholders and how do they benefit from your solution (describe them referencing the following general archetypes: scientists, data curator, infrastructure provider, system integrator, university teacher, public authority, decision-maker)?
* What measures are planned to support the uptake of your solution in your community and to engage with prospective users?
* What is the potential for other sub-branches in the Earth System Sciences?
* What elements of FAIR are particularly addressed?
* What aspects of the research data life cycle are particularly addressed?
* Are there particular contributions that help the NFDI4Earth to engage with (e.g., analysis methods, education material, advancing interoperability, new platforms, ...)?

1. Deliverables

List the names and specifications of the deliverables:

* Technical operability of the pilot (e.g., software shared, developed interface, implementation)
* Material or actions for dissemination of knowledge/data (e.g., application cases, documentation, tutorials, community events)
* Roadmap document for the community, including project evaluation and future directions after end of pilot (we expect a title of the roadmap you plan to deliver).

1. Work Plan & Requested funding

* Provide a milestone plan (or Gantt Chart) for the planned (up to) one-year implementation phase
* The maximum threshold for a funding request is a one-year full time equivalent. We have a planned budget of EUR 71.163,36 per pilot, which is approximately 12 months TVL/öD E13. According to DFG funding guidelines you can apply for staff costs and material resources (Sachmittel). The purchase of instruments or software is only possible in exceptional cases. Please contact pilot coordination if you plan such investements. (German only: DFG-Verwendungsrichtlinien für die NFDI-Konsortien <https://www.dfg.de/formulare/nfdi300/v/dfg_nfdi300_de_v0123.pdf>)