

Copernicus Incubation Programme

Supporting the growth of Copernicus data and services based start-ups in Europe



Pitch & business design tools



Network via programme activities



50k per start up
Max. 85% co-funding



20 start-ups per year



New data application brainstorming tools



START-UPS



SUPPORT PROGRAMMES
(ACCELERATORS & INCUBATORS)



Earth observation and big data from the Copernicus programme **offer unique insights into life on Earth, its environment and people.**

The Copernicus Incubation Programme launched by the European Commission supports European entrepreneurs and start-ups working with this data to create innovative, commercially viable products and services. This initiative is part of the Copernicus Start-up Programme.

The programme will award **50,000 EUR to 20 European start-ups** every year, to finance equity free their new venture in an incubation organisation of their choice.

WHY SHOULD YOU APPLY?

- Equity-free funding to support start-up incubation and access new networks, tools and promotion opportunities.
- Start-up in early incubation stage? This support can help you to achieve a first working product.
- Later incubation stage? The programme can be used to accelerate a business launch, improve an existing Copernicus-based product or service or increase its competitive advantage.

Application requirements & conditions

KEY PRECONDITIONS

- Innovative and commercially promising business propositions **based on Copernicus data or services** with international growth potential.
- Maximum **5 years of operational history**.
- Legal company presence in **EU, Iceland or Norway**.
- **Preliminary agreement** between start-up & an incubation support programme (business incubator, accelerator...).

FUNDING SUPPORT

- **Maximum funding per start-up:** 50.000 EUR, 85% of total costs presented in application.
- **Co-funding requirement:** at least 15% of total costs; any co-funding source is eligible.
- **Maximum duration:** 1 year.
- **Payment scheme:** pre-financing 50%; final payment based on cost proving accountancy statements.
- **Lead time for the incubation support:** about 4 weeks after selection results.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

This programme accepts joint applications: the start-up is required to apply together with a support programme that agrees to incubate the start-up if it receives the funding. The start-up must be the lead applicant and sole beneficiary.

Eligible start-ups

- Teams of entrepreneurs² (at least 2 complementary profiles).
- Legally established start-ups.
- University and research institute spin-outs.
- Corporate spin-outs.
- Venturing teams within corporate venture programs with an intention to spin out.

Eligible support programs

- Governmental business incubators and accelerators.
- University incubators and accelerators.
- Incubators and accelerators at private and governmental research institutes.
- Corporate business incubators.
- Corporate venturing programmes.
- Other support programmes aimed at providing support to start-ups.

² Applications from start-ups with the commitment to register the company after being granted Copernicus funding will be accepted.

Application deadlines and selection board meetings

The programme runs until 2020 and will evaluate applications 3-4 times a year.

2018			2019				2020			
ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 5	ROUND 6	ROUND 7	ROUND 8	ROUND 9	ROUND 10	ROUND 11
Appl. deadline 15/03/2018	Appl. deadline 17/08/2018	Appl. deadline 16/11/2018	Appl. deadline 15/02/2019	Appl. deadline 17/05/2019	Appl. deadline 19/08/2019	Appl. deadline 15/11/2019	Appl. deadline 14/02/2020	Appl. deadline 15/05/2020	Appl. deadline 18/08/2020	Appl. deadline 17/11/2020
Selection 12/04/2018	Selection 14/09/2018	Selection 14/12/2018	Selection 15/03/2019	Selection 14/06/2019	Selection 16/09/2019	Selection 13/12/2019	Selection 13/03/2020	Selection 12/06/2020	Selection 15/09/2020	Selection 15/12/2020

How to apply? Upload your application on copernicus-incubation.eu

PROGRAMME ADVANTAGES

- Equity free funding
- Lean application procedure
- Rapid evaluation and contract procedure
- Attractive payment scheme
- Eligible salary costs
- Complimentary with other support programmes

All applications have to be uploaded in an electronic format. For more information contact us by mail via copernicus-incubation@verhaert.com.

Implemented by

