

H2020-INFRAIA-2019-1



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# EPN 2024 RI

## EUROPLANET 2024 Research Infrastructure

H2020-INFRAIA-2019-1

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### Deliverable D1.1 1st call TA proposals

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Project Co-ordinator: Prof Nigel Mason, University of Kent

1. **Nature:** R = Report, P = Prototype, D = Demonstrator, O = Other

2. **Dissemination level:**

PU	PP	RE	CO
Public	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Service)	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (excluding the Commission Services)

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## Deliverable

### 1 TA 2020 call - Timetable

TASKS	START	END
Call for Proposals		
Call preparation (documents, submission form, timeline)	20 Jan 20	25 Feb 20
<b>Open Call for Applicants</b>		<b>25 Feb 20</b>
Set-up SmartSimple platform	10 Feb 20	23 Mar 20
<b>SmartSimple platform online</b>		<b>23 Mar 20</b>
Application submission on the platform	23 Mar 20	05 May 20
<b>Close Call for Proposals</b>		<b>05 May 20</b>
Feasibility check		
Identify Site Operators (TA Facilities)	23 Mar 20	06 Apr 20
<b>Assign Site Operators to applications</b>		<b>05 May 20</b>
Feasibility check by Site Operators	05 May 20	11 May 20
<b>Deadline Feasibility check</b>		<b>11 May 20</b>
Scientific Assessment		
Identify Panel Members	23 Mar 20	04 May 20
Invite Panel Members	23 Mar 20	04 May 20
Allocate application to Panel Members (1 lead + 1 deputy)	05 May 20	11 May 20
<b>Confirmation Panel Members</b>		<b>11 May 20</b>
Panel Members assessment (SmartSimple)	11 May 20	05 Jun 20
<b>Deadline Scientific Assessment</b>		<b>05 Jun 20</b>
Evaluation Wrap-up		
Panel Meetings (webex)	10 Jun 20	12 Jun 20
Normalisation between Panel Chairs	16 Jun 20	18 Jun 20
<b>Deadline Panel Evaluation</b>		<b>19 Jun 20</b>
Evaluation Report	22 Jun 20	30 Jun 20
<b>Results to Europlanet TA Facilities</b>		<b>30 Jun 20</b>

### 2 2020 Call Text

Open call: **25 February 2020**

Submission Platform Online: **23 March 2020**

Submission deadline: **05 May 2020** at 14.00 (2pm) CEST (Brussels, Paris time)

Results: **30 June 2020**

#### 2.1 Deadline

Application to the TA call should be filled in using the template available on the call page and submitted before **05 May 2020 at 14:00 (2pm) CEST (Brussels, Paris time)**.

#### 2.2 Background: Europlanet 2024 RI Programme & Transnational Access (TA)

The Europlanet 2024 Research Infrastructure (<http://www.europlanet-2024-ri.eu>) is funded by Horizon 2020 to support the research activities of the European planetary science community and foster international collaborations.

The programme enables European researchers to visit planetary analogue field sites, use planetary simulators and perform analyses in distributed sample analysis facilities through its **Transnational Access (TA)** programme.

The TA programme supports all travel and local accommodation costs of European and international researchers in order to conduct their research in accredited facilities and field sites. Applicants can submit proposals to the TA programme through annual calls. Anonymised proposals will be evaluated by a peer review process managed by the European Science Foundation independent of the Europlanet-2024 RI participants. In order to qualify for “transnational access”, the applicants should only apply for access to facilities outside of the country in which they are employed. The TA programme can support up to two researchers for each visit and covering a time-period ranging from a few days to several weeks.

While the Europlanet 2024 RI TA programme is designed to primarily support planetary science, applications from other research disciplines will also be considered based on innovation and potential scientific and technological impact.

Transnational Access calls are divided in two subcategories (detailed list of sites and facilities as well as contact details are provided on the Europlanet-RI website, <http://www.europlanet-2024-ri.eu>).

### 2.2.1 *TA1 - Planetary Field Analogues (PFA)*

Access to 5 field sites featuring a unique suite of natural environments presenting distinctive chemo-physical characteristics that make them unparalleled analogues of planetary bodies (e.g., Mars, Icy Moons, etc.). These comprehensively characterized, highly diverse Planetary Field Analogue (PFA) sites will provide researchers the capability to undertake multi-disciplinary research programmes that are needed to support planetary missions.

Details on the planetary analogue sites are available on the Europlanet-RI website: <http://www.europlanet-2024-ri.eu>. **Note: the timing of field campaigns means that visits to Greenland will occur in 2021 and this may also be the case for some visits to Iceland.**

### 2.2.2 *TA2 - Distributed Planetary Simulation Facility (DPSF)*

Access to 13 internationally renowned research centres and 24 facilities for the simulation or characterisation of planetary conditions and materials. There is urgent need for access to these facilities because Europe is operating, preparing and planning a fleet of spacecraft to investigate the surface and atmospheric environments and compositions of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Titan, Europa, Uranus, Neptune, comets, asteroids and the Moon. Access to these laboratory simulation and analytical facilities will enable the validation of instrument design and performance, the study of physical and geological processes that form specific planetary environments, and the evaluation of biogeochemical processes that control whether life could evolve or survive.

Details on the Distributed Planetary Simulation Facilities are available on the Europlanet-RI website: <http://www.europlanet-2024-ri.eu>.

## 2.3 Rules for participation

### 2.3.1 *Maximum number of applicants funded per project*

The expenses of **up to two** researchers will be covered per access visit. Upon agreement with the host facility, additional researchers will be allowed to visit the facility, but their expenses will not be covered.

Additional funding from other sources can be used to extend the duration of a TA visit or to arrange a follow up visit for data interpretation and preparation of a publication (subject to approval from the concerned facility).

### 2.3.2 *Maximum number of grants per applicant*

It is recommended that separate applications are made so that sample characterisation and the results from an initial visit are fully evaluated before any follow up work. Sequential applications are encouraged; for example, a field visit followed by analyses elsewhere. However, during the life span of the Europlanet project, **applicants will not be supported more than four times** (continued from Europlanet RI 2020).

### 2.3.3 *Projects duration*

The unit of access to a TA facility or field site is a working day. The maximum duration of the visit depends on the category of the TA:

- For TA1 (PFA), the maximum duration for a visit is ten working days
- For TA2 (DPSF), the maximum duration for a visit is ten working days except under exceptional circumstances

### 2.3.4 *Funding principles*

Finances to cover TA visits are limited, so applicants are expected to make efficient use of the funds by using economy travel and hotels suggested by the host facility. Living expenses will depend upon the host city.

The eligible expenses covered by the call are:

- Travel (economy class)
- Accommodation (up to 100 Euros/night)
- Contribution to living expenses (up to 50 Euros/day)

Travel tickets and accommodation costs will only be reimbursed on production of receipts and the final visit report. Generally, accommodation will be arranged by the host facility. Travel tickets can be booked by the host facility following consultation. Expenses will only be transferred to the applicant's bank account on production of receipts and the final visit report.

## 2.4 **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible and considered:

- Application should be submitted by **05 May 2020** at 14.00 (2pm) CEST (Brussels, Paris time)
- Applications should be written in **English**, using the **font Arial – size 11 minimum**, and should be filled in using the template available on the call and submission page.
- The core of the application (all parts provided and uploaded as **one** pdf document) should respect the page limit (**3 pages maximum** all included, i.e. figures, tables, charts, etc.). All page limits indicated in the template are mandatory.
- Generally, the Project Leader of the application should work for an organisation based in an EU Member State or a Horizon 2020 affiliated country. Under Horizon 2020, up to 20% of the funds can be allocated to non-EU researchers.

- None of the Project Leader and co-applicant(s) should apply for a facility/site located in the country in which they are employed.
- The core of the application (all parts provided and uploaded as pdf document) are anonymous and therefore should not contain any information (name of the Project Leader and co-applicant, affiliation, publications, etc.) that allows identification of the applicant(s).
- The Project Leader and co-applicant(s) should be researchers involved in the visit (i.e. application on behalf of another person is not allowed).
- Maximum one application per applicant per each TA is allowed for each call.

Proposals that do not respect any of the points above will be considered ineligible and will not go through the technical feasibility validation process and the scientific assessment.

## 2.5 Technical feasibility

All applications submitted will be forwarded to the designated operators of the TA sites, laboratories and facilities who will check and validate the **technical feasibility** of the investigations proposed. Applicants are **strongly advised** to conduct detailed discussions with the host institute before making an application.

**The technical feasibility validation process is not a scientific assessment**, it will not consider the application from a scientific point of view, but rather from an operational and technical implementation perspective.

If an application is considered not feasible, it will not undergo scientific assessment, and the applicant will be informed of the outcome of the validation process and why his/her application failed.