

## ***Preamble - pilots for the NFDI4Earth***

# **3rd Call (May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024)**

# **Submission deadline: June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

In a nationwide effort, the NFDI4Earth consortium supports a FAIR and Open research data management (RDM) environment for the full range of Earth system data. Pilot projects take up the specific needs of researchers in multiple Earth system science (ESS) subdomains, and shape future developments in the consortium. The extent of a pilot should not exceed 1 full-time year.

- 1) Pilot proposals will be evaluated by reviewers from different ESS disciplines 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) The pilot evaluation criteria will be in equal parts:
  - a. *Alignment with the selected track (see call announcements) and NFDI4Earth goals*
  - b. *Quality and innovation*
  - c. *Feasibility*
  - d. *Transferability to other domains and potential for engaging a broad user community*

*Note:* For each criterion, several questions will be scored on a 5-point scale (1 = not competitive, 5 = excellent).

- 3) 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.
- 4) Submissions should follow the template below.
- 5) Pilots should be described as briefly as possible; proposals should not exceed 4 pages.

*Note:* If your institution is not yet a participant of NFDI4Earth please reach out to the pilot coordinator ([kolja.nenoff@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:kolja.nenoff@uni-leipzig.de)) before submitting a proposal. The submission is subject to a review process and does not guarantee any funding.

PILOT TITLE - NOT LONGER THAN ONE LINE

Name Lastname<sup>1</sup>, Name Lastname<sup>1</sup>, Name Lastname<sup>1</sup>, and Name Lastname<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Affiliation

Date of submission

Abstract: 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)
  - 1.1. Which of the track(s) are you applying to?
  - 1.2. What is the data-challenge you face and what is the current state?
  - 1.3. What is your vision for your community and their RDM workflows if your challenge would be solved?
2. Pilot description (describes the pilot. Can also include a flow-chart.)
  - 2.1. What is the proposed solution to your thematic track?
  - 2.2. What is the technological backbone you rely upon?
  - 2.3. What are the standards and interoperability approaches used in the pilot's context?
  - 2.4. How will your pilot produce impactful showcases of usability within the German Earth System Science community?
3. Relevance for the NFDI4Earth (Explains integration and uptake potential.)
  - 3.1. 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)?
  - 3.2. What measures are planned to support the uptake of your solution in your community, and to engage with prospective users?
  - 3.3. What is the potential for other ESS subdomains??
  - 3.4. How does your pilot enact FAIR principles?
  - 3.5. What challenges in managing earth system research data does your pilot address?
  - 3.6. Are there particular contributions that help the NFDI4Earth to engage with e.g., analysis methods, education material, advancing interoperability, or new platforms, ...?
4. Deliverables (*List the names and specifications of the deliverables. These should include:*)
  - 4.1. Technical operability of the pilot (e.g., software shared, developed interface, implementation)



- 4.2. Material or actions for dissemination of knowledge/data (e.g., application cases, documentation, tutorials, community events)
- 4.3. Roadmap document for the community, including project evaluation and future directions after the pilot ends (we expect a title of the roadmap you plan to deliver).
5. Work plan & requested funding
  - 5.1. Provide a milestone plan (or Gantt chart) for the planned (up to) one-year implementation phase.
  - 5.2. Write how much money and what position you are applying for.

Funding totalling EUR 500.000,00 is available for the call - therefore, you are invited to apply for a designated budget of up to 20 PM (person-month), in total between EUR 100.000,00 and 125.000,00 per project (depending on the final number of selected projects), which has to be utilized over the course of one year.

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 the pilot coordinator if you plan such investments. (German only: DFG-Verwendungsrichtlinien für die NFDI-Konsortien [https://www.dfg.de/formulare/nfdi300/v/dfg\\_nfdi300\\_de\\_v0123.pdf](https://www.dfg.de/formulare/nfdi300/v/dfg_nfdi300_de_v0123.pdf))