



1 Organiser of The Copernicus Masters

The Copernicus Masters is organised under an ESA contract by Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen (“the Organiser”) and is supported by various prize-awarding partners (“the Partners”).

2 Objective of The Competition

The Copernicus Masters is designed to support the development of Copernicus-related entrepreneurship by eliciting and rewarding projects and business ideas that make use of Earth observation data primarily generated under the Copernicus programme. The Copernicus Masters 2018 is calling for proposals between 1 April and 30 June 2018 in different categories (“the Challenges”).

3 Right to Participate

Enterprises, scientific institutions, and individuals of legal adult age are entitled to participate in the Copernicus Masters 2018. Applications will be accepted from anywhere in the world, **with some exceptions**:

- **participants of the six European Commission (EC) Challenges** have to be either residents or must have established their company in the territory of one of the Copernicus participating countries. Eligible countries are listed hereafter: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom;

4 Challenges and Prizes in 2018

Descriptions of all of the Challenges in the Copernicus Masters 2018 are available at www.copernicus-masters.com. They include the respective prizes to be awarded in each Challenge and the evaluation criteria that will determine the winning proposal. One winner will be selected by the expert panel of each Challenge. In addition, one overall winner of the competition – the Copernicus Master – will be selected from the winners of all Challenges. The Copernicus Masters Overall Winner is selected from among all winners by an international panel of high-ranking experts. This outstanding entrant will be invited to attend a satellite launch in Kourou, which is accompanied by a further cash prize. Moreover, all winners of the Challenges will be selected for the **Copernicus Accelerator Programme** by an international panel of

experts by September 2018. Participants of the Copernicus Accelerator must be either citizens of one of the Copernicus participating countries or have established their company in the territory of one of the participating countries. Furthermore, former Copernicus Accelerator beneficiaries (mentees) cannot be part of the programme if they participate in the Copernicus Masters 2018 with the same idea.

AZO will pay prize money to prize winners or persons authorised by them according to the competition terms and conditions and in the name or for the account of the respective contracting authority. The prize money will be paid in the currency of the contracting authority or organiser using the exchange rate of the bank executing the transfer at the day of payment. Bank charges will be covered by the recipient. Any resulting tax obligations which are caused or affected by the receipt of prize money are to be borne by the recipient himself.

5 Crowd investing Option

By clicking two checkboxes in the user registration, the participant has the chance to be considered for follow up financing via the Crowd investing platform Space Starters. This platform for disruptive space tech is powered by FunderNation GmbH and AZO. Upon actively agreeing to checkbox 1, the contact details of the participant are shared with SpaceStarters (www.spacestarters.com). Upon actively agreeing to checkbox 2, the participant agrees that FunderNation will receive access to the expert's evaluation of his/her idea and that the submitted idea will be shared with FunderNation to investigate the funding potential of his business case. Selected participants will be contacted after the evaluation by the experts. Participation in the competition does not automatically include the execution of the crowdinvesting campaign, which will be governed by a separate crowdinvesting service agreement between the selected winner and FunderNation. Crowdinvesting campaigns depend solely on the willingness of the investors (the "crowd") to invest – FunderNation thus cannot guarantee a certain economic outcome of the crowdinvesting campaign.

6 Submission Period of The Copernicus Masters Competition 2018

Interested participants are requested to submit their ideas electronically between 1 April and 30 June 2018 (please refer to the procedure described below).

7 Procedure

The competition will be organised and carried out exclusively in English via a secure online idea database accessible at www.copernicus-masters.com. Registration at this site is required to create a user account, which may then be used to submit innovative business ideas to any of the Copernicus Masters Challenges. When creating an account, participants will be asked to provide contact details, which the Organiser will use to inform them of all matters related to the Copernicus Masters and any other issues the Organiser deems relevant to participants in the competition. After registering, participants will receive a confirmation link they can use to log in. Participants will be asked to choose an account password that will allow them to edit and save temporary content before submitting their final idea to the server. Upon logging in, participants will be required to choose the Challenge to which they would like to submit a proposal (the available Challenges will be shown accordingly to the country of residence of the applicant) and answer all of the mandatory questions in an online questionnaire.

The following specification clarify the procedure to apply:

- It is mandatory for participants that reside or that have established their company in one of the Copernicus Participating countries (including Iceland and Norway) to **select one Partner challenge AND one European Commission Challenge**
- Participants that do not reside or have an established company in one of the Copernicus Participating countries (including Iceland and Norway) can **ONLY** select one of the Partner Challenges
- It is possible to enter more than one idea using the same personal account, but participants **may not** enter the same idea for different Challenges (except when applying for the EC Challenges)

New Challenges may be added while the competition is underway. Any additional Challenges will be announced on www.copernicus-masters.com, which will always reflect the most current status.

A different questionnaire must be completed for each Challenge. Participants must submit their idea and complete the mandatory sections of the database no later than **11:59am hrs. CET on 30 June**. Only those ideas that contain all the mandatory information will be considered for evaluation. Ideas will automatically enter the evaluation phase once they reach a submission status of 100% in the database. However, participants can still edit their entry at any time until the closing of the database. The idea-specific data will then be submitted to a dedicated panel of experts appointed to the chosen Challenge. Each of the experts tasked with evaluating the ideas submitted will be required to commit to a non-disclosure agreement with the Organiser before the ideas are put forward for evaluation.

The evaluation of the ideas is an anonymous process. Each idea will receive its own identification number. During the evaluation process, the experts will only be able to see this ID. In each Challenge, however, a small number of finalists may be invited to deliver a personal pitch or participate in a phone interview. This will, of course, require disclosure of the participant's name, but he or she will already have been nominated as a finalist at this stage.

By participating, participants acknowledge that their contact details will be passed on to the respective Challenge sponsor after the database has been closed and the winners chosen. This partner may then contact participants to determine whether they are interested in moving forward with the ideas submitted.

The Organiser and the Partners shall assume no liability whatsoever for the outcome of the selection process.

8 Confidentiality

Measures have been taken to ensure the confidentiality of the ideas submitted in the Copernicus Masters 2018. The transmitted ideas will be protected against any access by unauthorised third parties. The experts and all other personnel assigned to organise the competition and evaluate the submissions will also be required by contract to treat all matters as confidential.

During the awards ceremony, the awarded ideas will be made public along with the names and contact details of the prize winners.

By participating in this competition and accepting any of the prizes awarded, all participants acknowledge that the Organiser and initiators may use their names, addresses, comments, likenesses, photos (incl. photos taken of the winners at the Awards Ceremony), and descriptions of their ideas in publicity or advertising concerning the competition or otherwise in any medium now known or hereafter devised

(including the Internet or other interactive networks) at any place or time without further compensation or right of review, and agree to waive their rights with respect to any such publicity and advertising.

Once an idea has been publicly recognised, the Organiser and the Partners shall take no further responsibility regarding the further cooperation of the respective winner with any of the Partners or members of the expert panels. This also includes cases in which no cooperation between a winner and the respective partner materialises despite the award in question.

9 Rights

Participants shall retain the intellectual property rights to their respective ideas. Whether participants realise their ideas themselves or with a partner of their choice is left to their discretion. Participating in the Copernicus Masters 2018 will not grant participants any additional rights to their respective ideas.

Prior to entering the competition, participants are advised to notify their employers (if applicable) of their ideas in case they were developed in connection with said employment. If chosen as the winner of any Challenge, an idea will be made public; any intellectual property protection (if the idea was not previously protected by a patent) may thus be rendered void or otherwise lost. As a result, the idea may become common property. Participants are therefore strongly advised to protect their ideas adequately, such as by applying for a patent, utility model, or another form of intellectual property protection.

Despite all of the efforts made to keep the participants' ideas and information confidential prior to their publication, participants hereby understand and acknowledge that neither the Organiser nor the Partners shall assume any liability for any damages resulting from their ideas or information becoming public.

By entering the competition, participants affirm that they are the sole owners of all rights pertaining to the ideas they submit and that their participation will not violate the rights of any third party. Should any third-party rights nonetheless come to light, participants further affirm that neither the Organiser nor the Partners shall be held liable for any amount of resulting damages or claims. The Organiser and Partners shall thus be exempt from any third-party claims.

10 Miscellaneous

Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen takes no responsibility regarding the provision of the prizes offered by any of the partners. This also includes the payment of cash awards or the conduction of in-kind services. The fulfilment of the services offered is the sole responsibility of the respective challenge partner.

The decisions made concerning the competition's awards shall not be subject to dispute in a court of law. The decisions rendered by the experts involved in the different Challenges shall be final and binding for all participants in all aspects of the competition. Participants shall have no right to be provided with any justification for the experts' decisions.

Each winner shall be responsible for rendering any and all federal, state, local, provisional, and other taxes.

Winners who are to be awarded a cash prize must submit to the Organiser an official document (signed by their employer) stating that they (and not their company) are to receive said prize.

The Organiser reserves the right to modify the present terms, including any of the deadlines set forth herein, at any time.

Participation in this competition shall be subject to German law. Place of jurisdiction shall be Munich, Germany.

11 CONTACT

For more information on the competition, please visit: www.copernicus-masters.com.

If you have any further questions, please send them to team@copernicus-masters.com.