

WORK PROGRAMME 2021-2022

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

1. STRENGTHEN THE BILATERAL COOPERATION ON RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES WITH AFRICA: IMPROVING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA

CALL: [Developing, consolidating and optimising the European research infrastructures landscape, maintaining global leadership](#)

Proposals for topics under this destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to one or several of the following impacts: • Disruptive research and breakthrough science and innovation through cutting-edge, interconnected and sustainable Research Infrastructures; • Strengthened scientific excellence and performance and efficiency of the European Research Area, increasing its attractiveness to researchers from all over the world; • Coordinated research infrastructure capacity among countries and regions, also by exploiting possibilities given by the smart specialisation processes; • Reinforced R&I capacities enabling systemic changes needed for a truly transformative societal and economic recovery and a strengthened resilience of critical sectors, as outlined in the Recovery Plan; • Improved European response, in cooperation with international players, to emerging socio-economic and related scientific and technological challenges at global level.

SUBMISSION: 23 September 2021

BUDGET: 1.50 MILLION Euro

TYPE OF ACTION: Coordination and Support

Scope:

This topic aims at fostering EU-Africa cooperation to enhance climate (including Green House Gas and Short Lived Climate Forcers – GHG and SLCF) observation capacity across Africa. EU-Africa cooperation in the field of GHG observation will also include sharing of good practices and experiences to facilitate the development of a strategic approach for structuring R&I capacities at pan-African level. Particular attention should be given to tropical and sub-tropical Africa, which are currently the least covered regions in terms of climate observation. The participation of African partners is mandatory.

Proposals should address all following aspects:

- Establish a concept for a Pan-African climate observation RI including the underlying data infrastructure and the related digital transformation; attention should be paid to open and FAIR principles in data management policies.
- support the exchange of staff between several African countries and European research infrastructures to create expertise for the design, the governance and the operation of an integrated Pan-African RI for climate observation;

Proposals should build on existing cooperation activities between African and European countries and take into account the outcomes of previous and ongoing initiatives. The potential contribution to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) should be taken into account. Proposals are encouraged to take advantage of Copernicus¹¹, its Data and Information Access Services (DIAS), the Integrated Carbon Observation System (ICOS) infrastructure, the European Commission Atmospheric

Observatory for Greenhouse Gases 12 of the Joint Research Centre (JRC), as well as of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) observation systems and networks¹³, or other existing data access solutions to optimise use of resources.