

TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

I. General information

Assignment name	Supporting the design of an action plan promoting earth observation data use among public stakeholders, universities, incubators/accelerators and small and medium-sized companies in Kenya
Beneficiary	Expertise France
Country	Kenya
Total estimated number of days	Max. 35 days

II. Context and justification of the need

Many of today's challenges, including the fight against poverty require reliable, complete and up-to-date information to inform, plan, implement and adjust appropriate responses and policies. Geospatial data, whether acquired by space (satellites) or terrestrial technologies (drones or IoT data), represent an increasingly valuable source of information. Indeed, technological changes and the massive deployment of earth observation satellites generate a phenomenal amount of earth observation data. Ever more precise and less and less expensive (freely and openly accessible for data from the European Copernicus programme), geospatial data can be used in many sectors, namely maritime safety and security, agriculture and land use, urban planning, monitoring of vegetation and biodiversity, adaptation to change climate, geographic economy etc. Geospatial data represents a two-fold opportunity: Beyond enabling decision-makers to increase the effectiveness of their public policies, especially for marginalised territories and communities, data-based solutions may also be important levers to create value and advance socio-institutional development.

The Multi-Donor Action "Data Governance in Africa" is a Team Europe Initiative (TEI) jointly financed by the European Union (EU) and five EU Member States (namely Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France and Germany), and implemented in collaboration with the African Union. The Action aims to promote a "Development-oriented and human-centric data economy and society in Africa supported, in line with the AU Data Policy Framework".

One of the specific objectives of the Action, Specific Objective 2, is to promote data use and cross-border data flows leveraged on to create value and inform regulations in selected sectors. In accordance with this specific objective, Expertise France (EF) will implement capacity-building activities aiming to increase the ability of regional and national institutions, CSOs and Private Sector entities to

access, analyse, use and share data for value creation, by **supporting access and use of geospatial data**.

Today, for example, the European Copernicus Programme offers a wide range of continuously updated Earth observation (EO) data from the Copernicus Sentinel missions. Despite the data being openly and freely accessible, few institutions, CSOs and private sector entities access, use and share this data for value creation. Barriers include lacking awareness within organisations, limited technical capacities, lacking infrastructure, and few experimentation opportunities with potential use cases. In order to contribute to overcome these barriers, improve access and develop use cases in two countries, Kenya and Senegal, EF has begun with consulting national stakeholders to identify geospatial and space data access issues, actual use and potential scale up. As part of the “Data Governance in Africa” Action, EF prepares to establish one or more EO Data Labs. An EO data lab is conceptualised as an open learning space that offers access to geospatial data (and potentially other types of data), relevant tools and support for learning, analytics and prototyping purposes. At a later stage of the project, and according to needs expressed by its partners, EF may organise activities aiming to upskill business support structures for geospatial data-driven entrepreneurship with a focus on sustainable development use cases and facilitate further uptake of geospatial data by local ecosystem building on existing national initiatives.

To support this mission, we seek a qualified consultant to support the identification of local stakeholders potentially interested in hosting an EO Data Lab, and design an action plan including the takeover phase, training of trainers (ToT), capacity-building and ideation activities which addresses pre-identified local stakeholders’ needs.

Objectives and desired results

1) General objective

The objective of the assignment is **support the identification of local stakeholders potentially interested in hosting an EO data Lab and design an action plan including takeover, capacity-building and ideation activities**.

2) Specific objectives

- i. Identify and benchmark local stakeholders interested in hosting an EO Data Lab
- ii. Support the design and dissemination of a call for interest to identify the future EO Data Lab host(s)
- iii. Facilitate the design of an action plan promoting the use of earth observation data among public stakeholders, universities, incubators/accelerators, and SMEs in Kenya

3) Anticipated results

- i. The benchmark of local stakeholders is produced and presented in a report.
- ii. A call for interest taking into account conditions and needs of potential pre-identified types of stakeholders as well as technical requirements (in accordance with elements provided by a

technical expert) is drafted and finalised with EF and its partners, then disseminated among relevant interested stakeholders.

- iii. An action plan covering the takeover phase as well as training of trainers (ToT), capacity-building and ideation activities for pre-identified local stakeholders' needs is designed, discussed with EF and its partners, and finalised.

III. Description of the assignment

The service provider shall support EF to perform the following activities:

Conduct benchmark of local stakeholders (10 days)

- Consult local stakeholders from various sectors to refine the needs and interest assessment
- Facilitate the consultation between EF's technical expert and local stakeholders to inform technical specifications of the EO Data Lab
- Assess potential pre-identified types of stakeholders' EO Data Lab hosting, management and governance capacities and expectations as well as capacity-building needs
- Draft a report

Design and draft a call for interest (10 days)

- Draft call for interest document describing the context and objectives of the call, defining necessary and further qualifying conditions to host and manage an EO Data Lab including:
 1. eligibility criteria (minimum criteria to respond to a call for interest, e.g. type and number of organisation(s), minimum contributions and commitments, etc.)
 2. selection criteria (prior innovation experience, existing relations with the innovation and/or private sector, capacity to use and promote the EO Data Lab, etc.)
- Provide an application form and evaluation grid
- Discuss and finalise call for interest and appendices with EF and its partners
- Participate in the selection process

Design and draft an action plan (15 days)

- Suggest activities for Q1/2025 until Q1/2026 covering the EO Data Lab takeover phase as well as training of trainers (ToT), capacity-building and ideation activities for EO Data Lab hosting institutions and direct beneficiaries from academia and the private sector
- Organise/participate in events allowing to consult partners on activities' relevance and priority
- Discuss and finalise action plan with EF and its partners

Anticipated deliverables and indicative delivery dates

Deliverables	Indicative delivery date
1. Draft benchmark report	20.09.2024
2. Finalised benchmark report	27.09.2024
3. Finalised call for interest	14.10.2024
4. Draft action plan	18.11.2024
5. Finalised action plan	06.01.2025

Coordination

Close collaboration must take place with the EF team and EF's partners. A kick-off meeting and regular follow-up meeting will be organised.

IV. Place, duration and terms of performance

- 1) Implementation period: September 2024 – January 2025
- 2) Start date: 9th of September 2024
- 3) End date: 13th of January 2025
- 4) Effective duration per assignment: 4 months
- 5) Schedule/programme

Phase	Place	Period	Max. duration (person/days)
Benchmark	Nairobi, Kenya	September 2024	10 days
Call for interest	Nairobi, Kenya	October - November 2024	10 days
Action plan	Nairobi, Kenya	December 2024 – January 2025	15 days

V. Required expertise and profile

- 1) Number of experts: 1
- 2) Profile of the designated expert(s) responsible for contract execution

A. Qualifications and skills:

- Postgraduate university degree.
- Excellent project design and management skills.
- Excellent organisational and communication skills.
- Professional proficiency in written and spoken English.

B. General professional experience

- Overall professional experience of at least 5 years in multi-stakeholder consultation and cooperation projects.

C. Specific professional experience

- Experience in the innovation sector, experience with universities or SMEs desirable.
- Experience in the private sector, and space/earth observation sector in particular, desirable.
- Experience in international cooperation desirable.

VI. Assignment reports

In addition to the deliverables mentioned above, the consultant shall provide a brief weekly progress update with to EF.

VII. Practical information

Interested and qualified consultants are invited to submit the following documents:

- a CV,
- a technical offer,
- a financial offer.

The technical offer shall present the candidate's understanding of the present terms of reference, outline a potential action plan and suggest a list of stakeholders to be included in the benchmark. The technical offer shall not exceed 5 pages.

The financial offer shall only present the consultant's daily rates and state the applicable invoicing and account details.

The assignment requires to be in Nairobi, Kenya. Travel and other incidental expenses are not covered unless explicitly agreed upon with EF.