

ECMWF Copernicus Grants



Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service

CAMS NCP Call for Proposals

Call ID: 2025_CAMS_G72
ISSUED BY: ECMWF Administration Department Procurement and Grants Section
Date: 29/09/2025
Version: 01



Funded by the European Union

Implemented by



Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Overview	4
1.2 About ECMWF	4
1.3 Legal framework	5
1.4 Definitions and abbreviations	5
2. SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS	6
2.1 Context	6
2.2 Actions overview	8
2.3 Budget overview	9
3. SCOPE OF THE ACTIONS	10
3.1 Action 2025-1 – Transboundary cooperation to address common challenges	10
3.2 Action 2025-2 – Support to National Action Plans	17
3.3 Action 2025-3 – CAMS and Health: A collaborative framework	19
4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ACTIONS	21
4.1 Mandatory Deliverables	22
4.2 Mandatory Milestones	23
5. ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION	25
5.1 Eligible Entities	25
5.2 Roles in the Proposal	25
6. TYPES OF GRANTS	26
6.1 Mono-beneficiary and multi-beneficiary Grants	26
6.2 Transnational and transboundary Grants	27
7. FUNDING PROVISION	27
7.1 Lump Sum Grant	27
7.2 Budget categories	28
7.3 Maximum grant amount	29
8. SELECTION PROCESS	29
8.1 Admissibility criteria	29
8.2 Eligibility criteria	29
8.3 Financial and operational capacity	30
8.4 Exclusion criteria	31
8.5 Award criteria	32
8.6 Evaluation procedure	33
8.7 Debriefing and review procedure	35

9. SUBMISSION PROCESS	35
9.1 Overview of the Call Package.....	35
10. CALL DEADLINE AND TIMELINE	36
11. OVERVIEW OF KEY LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ELEMENTS.....	37
12. CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION	38
13. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS AND CONTACTS.....	39
14. ANNEXES	39

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

Copernicus is the European Union's flagship Earth-observation programme created to achieve operational monitoring of the atmosphere, oceans, and continental surfaces. It aims to provide reliable, validated information services for a range of environmental and security applications.

Copernicus collects environmental information from in situ systems such as ground stations, which deliver data acquired by a multitude of sensors on the ground, at sea or in the air, and is also served by a set of dedicated satellites (the Sentinels) and contributing missions (existing commercial and public satellites).

Copernicus has a user-driven approach and provides six free-of-charge operational services to respond to societal needs: Atmosphere, Marine, Land, Climate Change, Security and Emergency.

The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) implements two of the six Copernicus services on behalf of the European Commission: the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS) and the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) and contributes to the operation of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS).

Since launch, both CAMS and C3S have successfully contributed to Copernicus' mission to deliver freely accessible operational data and services providing users with reliable and up-to-date information related to our planet and its environment. Users range from actors in the national and European policy domain, businesses and industry players, as well as European citizens.

Under CAMS, the National Collaboration Programme (NCP) aims to support the 27 EU Member States and Copernicus participating states, which currently are Norway, Iceland, the United Kingdom, and Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as 'Countries'), leverage CAMS products and services and enhance their capacity to address associated impacts.

This Call for Proposals sets out the terms, conditions, and requirements that proposed Participants must comply with when submitting a project proposal and participating in the ECMWF grant procedure.

1.2 About ECMWF

The European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) is an independent intergovernmental organisation supported by 35 states.

ECMWF is both a research institute and a 24/7 operational service, producing and disseminating numerical weather predictions to its Member States. This data is fully available to the national meteorological services in the Member States. The Centre also offers a catalogue of forecast data that can be purchased by businesses worldwide and other commercial customers. The supercomputer facility (and associated data archive) at ECMWF is one of the largest of its type in Europe and Member States can use 25% of its capacity for their own purposes.

The organisation was established in 1975 and now employs around 500 staff from more than 30 countries.

A description of ECMWF's activities and infrastructure can be found at:

<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about/what-we-do>

1.3 Legal framework

This Call for Proposals is based on the Contribution Agreement between the European Union, represented by the European Commission and ECMWF on the implementation of the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring and Climate Change Monitoring Services, which entered into force on 22 July 2021.

1.4 Definitions and abbreviations

Affiliated Entities	means entities affiliated to a Beneficiary – via legal or capital link – which participate in the Project with similar rights and obligations as the Beneficiaries (obligation to implement Project tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).
Applicants	means all legal entities listed in the Proposal as prospective Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, and Associated Partners.
Application	means the Proposal together with the supporting documents and information, as outlined in Section 9.1 of this Call for Proposals.
Associated Partners	means entities which participate in the Project, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.
Beneficiaries	means entities which are responsible to implement Project tasks and have the right to charge costs and claim contributions and which sign the Grant Agreement (either directly or via an accession form).
C3S	means Copernicus Climate Change Service.
CAMS	means Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service.
Copernicus	refers to the Earth observation component of the European Union's Space Programme, looking at our planet and its environment to benefit all European citizens. It offers information services that draw from satellite Earth Observation and in-situ (non-space) data.
Countries	means EU Member States and Copernicus participating states.
Deliverable	means a Project output that must be produced by the deadline outlined in the Grant Agreement and submitted to ECMWF.
EC	means European Commission.
ECMWF	means European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts.
EU	means European Union.
Grant	means a financial contribution by way of donation by ECMWF under the Copernicus Programme.
Grant Agreement Template	refers to terms and conditions for Copernicus Grants through ECMWF.
Milestone	means a control point in the Project that helps to chart progress.
NCP	means National Collaboration Programme.

Subcontractors	means entities contracted by a Beneficiary for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the Project.
Participants	means all legal entities participating in the Project as Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners, and Subcontractors (see section 5.2 for details on the roles).
Project	means the set of activities, resources, and funding designed to achieve specific objectives and Results in a defined timeframe and presented in the Proposal to this Call and funded as a result of this Call.
Project Implementation	means the phase – following the Grant Agreement signature – when the Project/Grant is executed.
Proposal	means a response to this Call for Proposals, consisting of the technical description, estimated budget and proposed Participants.
Result	means any tangible or intangible effect of the Project, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.
Submission Portal	means the web-based proposal submission portal ProContract that the Applicants are required to use to submit their Proposal

2. SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2.1 Context

The CAMS National Collaboration Programme proposes a dedicated scheme to support the Countries (27 EU Member States and Copernicus participating states Norway, Iceland, the United Kingdom, and Ukraine), in achieving maximum benefit from CAMS products and services ([Data | Copernicus](#)) in the implementation of their mandates. The ambition of CAMS NCP is to enhance the integration of CAMS products into national systems, supporting for example air quality monitoring and forecasting, reporting processes, including air pollutants and greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions verification, use of solar radiation products for health and energy purposes, etc. The programme aims to assess the relevance and quality of CAMS data for addressing national and regional air pollution issues, including transboundary and natural sources, and other applications in the climate, energy and health protection fields. CAMS products and services can support Countries in the development of national tools and assessments to better meet air quality and air pollutants emissions reporting requirements. The initiative also supports the use of CAMS products in climate mitigation strategies, offering reliable data on CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions for improved monitoring and verification of data reported according to international agreements. CAMS NCP supports public engagement by facilitating accessible, localized information on atmospheric conditions in national languages. Additionally, CAMS NCP serves as a collaborative hub, encouraging knowledge exchange among stakeholders through the Atmosphere User Forum, promoting good practices, and strengthening regional cooperation on atmospheric and climate-related issues. More information about the CAMS NCP can be found at [CAMS National Collaboration Programme | Copernicus](#).

ECMWF invites Proposals for the development and implementation of activities designed to strengthen collaboration amongst Countries. The objective to increase the uptake of CAMS products

responding to regulatory needs coming from relevant entities and aligned with CAMS mandate of delivering consistent and quality-controlled information related to atmospheric composition and its impact on air pollution and health, solar energy, and climate forcing.

CAMS has been developed to provide products and information to address environmental concerns aiming at supporting policymakers, business and citizens with enhanced atmospheric environmental information ([Data | Copernicus](#)). CAMS service portfolio consists of the following service elements:

- Daily production of real-time analyses and forecasts of global atmospheric composition;
- Reanalyses providing consistent multi-annual global datasets of atmospheric composition with a stable model/assimilation system;
- Daily production of real-time European air quality analyses and forecasts with a multi-model ensemble system;
- Reanalyses providing consistent annual datasets of European air quality with a frozen model/assimilation system, supporting in particular policy applications;
- Natural sources such as emissions and concentrations of pollutants from wildfires and mineral dust products;
- Products to support policy users in the field of air quality, adding value to “raw” data products in order to deliver information products in a form adapted to policy applications and policy-relevant work;
- Solar and UV radiation products supporting the planning, monitoring, and efficiency improvements of solar energy production and providing quantitative information on UV irradiance for downstream applications related to health and ecosystems;
- Greenhouse gas atmospheric inversions for CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O net surface fluxes, allowing the monitoring of the evolution in time of these fluxes;
- Climate forcing from aerosols and long-lived (CO₂, CH₄) and shorter-lived (stratospheric and tropospheric ozone) agents;
- Anthropogenic and natural emissions, based on inventory data and modelling, for the global and European domains;
- Observation-based anthropogenic emission estimates of CH₄, and in the near future CO₂, for the global domain and emission hotspots.

CAMS provides the expertise and the products that are directly relevant for a number of European and international policies, where Countries have obligations and responsibility such as:

- National emissions reduction commitments of air pollutants and attainment of air quality objectives, including compliance with limit and target values under the [Ambient Air Quality Directives](#);
- National and regional air quality monitoring strategies, combining measurements and modelling to analyze the main drivers of pollution episodes, including transboundary transport, natural contributions, and sectoral emissions;
- The [Paris Agreement and Nationally Determined Contributions](#) (NDCs), through improved monitoring and modelling of short-lived climate forcers like methane and ozone;
- The [European Green Deal](#) and its ambition to align climate neutrality goals with industrial transformation, particularly in sectors like energy, transport, and manufacturing;
- The [Zero Pollution Action Plan](#), which calls for enhanced monitoring and modelling tools to ensure cleaner air, especially in urban and industrial hotspots;
- The Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) revision, which strengthens the role of emissions modelling and monitoring in permitting and compliance processes;

- The Net-Zero Industry Act and EU Industrial Strategy, which aim to foster innovation and competitiveness while ensuring environmental responsibility across value chains;
- The [EU Methane Strategy](#), where CAMS plays a key role in tracking and assessing methane emissions across sectors, including fossil fuels, agriculture, and waste;
- The regulation on serious [cross-border threats to health](#).

and others.

By enhancing the availability of high-quality atmospheric data, fostering collaboration, and promoting dialogue, CAMS can help Countries address health and environmental challenges in a more coordinated and effective manner. The collaborative use of CAMS products has the potential to not only enhance air quality assessments or the support to national objectives with respect to emissions reduction, public health and renewable energy transition but also stimulate transboundary and transnational cooperation. As such, CAMS contributes to the development of region-specific solutions for mitigating the impact of anthropogenic emissions on air quality, human health, ecosystems and the climate.

2.2 Actions overview

The CAMS NCP Call for Proposals 2025 is implemented as 'Actions', oriented around key priorities as identified by past and ongoing NCP activities. The Actions of the Call for Proposals are:

Action-2025-1: Transboundary cooperation to address common challenges

Action-2025-2: Support of National Action Plans on Air Pollution

Action-2025-3: CAMS and Health: A collaborative framework

In April 2025, Ukraine officially joined the Copernicus Programme. Proposals that include Applicants based in Ukraine are strongly encouraged. Proposals are also encouraged from Applicants based in Countries that have not yet been awarded an ECMWF CAMS NCP-related contract or Grant (cf. [CAMS NCP](#) for the list of ongoing collaborations).

Common implementation principles

There are common implementation principles across all Actions and topics under this Call for Proposals. Applicants need to ensure that the Proposal is fully aligned with the aims and objectives outlined in this Call for Proposals and that of the broader CAMS National Collaboration Programme.

In the Proposals, Applicants need to clearly indicate **how the funding is used, the aims, objectives, outcomes and expected impact that the activities have** on 1) uptake of CAMS products and services; 2) communication and user outreach potential; 3) how the activity is improved or maintained after the end of the Project Implementation.

Uptake of CAMS products: The use of CAMS products is mandatory across all Actions. The overarching objective of the Call for Proposals is to promote the uptake of CAMS products at the sub-national, national and transnational level (according to the relevant Action), enhancing the capacity of authorities and organisations to integrate CAMS products and services into new or existing workflows and national activities addressing key environmental challenges related to air quality, emissions of air pollutants and GHG, solar radiation and others. Proposals should clearly demonstrate the fit-for-purpose selection of data, articulate how it will be appropriately applied, and outline the intended benefits of its integration.

Communication and user outreach potential: The Projects should have strong visibility and the ability to engage a wide audience, including national and regional public and private sectors. It must include effective communication strategies to reach and interact with relevant stakeholders (targeted stakeholders) within the Countries and, as well as put into the picture the added value of CAMS to cover existing and emerging needs. This could include national policymakers and the public. Applicants are required to develop a ‘Communication and user outreach plan’, which should consider leverage of multiple channels, such as media, reports, and stakeholder events, to maximise outreach, as well as working with ECMWF to co-develop content for broader outreach. This is mandatory for all the Actions. Applicants shall include a practical pilot use case, within the communication and user outreach activities, that illustrates how their cooperation will lead to actionable outcomes; the specific features of the pilot use case are detailed in each Action. A user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use cases, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quote and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage. The Projects are encouraged, where pertinent as per each Action, to develop communication materials in the different national languages of the proposed Participants (in addition to English) to increase awareness of the undertaken activities, the role of CAMS and the Project achievements.

Sustainability of activities and post-project continuation: The Call for Proposals seeks to support the development of activities which are aligned to priorities at national, transnational and regional level (i.e., promoting issues associated with air pollution, anthropogenic emissions etc; including regulatory reporting, impact assessment, adaptation policies and sectorial plans, and clear communication of the associated benefits to the relevant targeted stakeholders). Applicants are requested to state how the Project leads to concrete follow-up activities in support of national/regional political agreements and/or cooperation plans where applicable. Therefore, the Project should plan continuity beyond its initial funding period, either through integration into existing frameworks, securing additional funding, or building long-term capacity into the project planning. The Projects shall result, when relevant, in a pre-operational system or activity or clearly identify how operational incorporation in national regulatory and cooperative status can be achieved after the end of the Project funding. Therefore, there should be a clear strategy for maintaining and scaling the results, ensuring that benefits are sustained in the long run. Partnerships, governance structures, or institutional commitments should be established within the Project to support long-term service delivery.

2.3 Budget overview

The overall indicative amount made available under the CAMS NCP Call for Proposals 2025 is over **5 million Euro**. The Grant will take the form of one single fixed amount (single lump sum), covering all costs of eligible activities linked to the Project Implementation.

Please note that the table below is intended solely to provide an indicative overview for each Action. For complete and accurate information on the elements required in each Action, you must refer to the relevant sub-sections below.

Action 2025-1: Transboundary cooperation to address common challenges	Indicative ECMWF financing amount for each Project: between Euro 600 000 (minimum) and Euro 800 000 (maximum). Indicative number of funded Proposals: 4
--	---

Action 2025-2: Support to National Action Plans on Air Pollution	Indicative ECMWF financing amount for each Project: between Euro 150 000 (minimum) and Euro 250 000 (maximum). Indicative number of funded Proposals: 5
Action 2025-3: CAMS and Health: A collaborative framework	Indicative ECMWF financing amount for each Project: between Euro 200 000 (minimum) and Euro 300 000 (maximum). Indicative number of funded Proposals: 2

3 SCOPE OF THE ACTIONS

3.1 Action 2025-1 – Transboundary cooperation to address common challenges

Overview

The main objective of this Action is to utilise CAMS products and services to address transboundary challenges and promote coordination between Countries, as well as support joint implementation of tailored solutions. Proposals should clearly exhibit shared commitment between Applicants to co-design and co-develop the proposed services and/or tools, through continuous collaborative activities. The Action is organised into three topics: two thematically defined topics and one ‘open’ topic that should address specific and relevant (to the Beneficiaries) transboundary challenges (within Action 2025-1 scope). Each Proposal must address one topic only. Proposals under topic 3 shall not address thematic areas specifically covered under topics 1 and 2. The topics reflect common priorities of the Countries, which could also leverage or support assessment and implementation of existing and emerging EU legislation, strategies and policies or specific regional agreements between countries in Europe.

Action-specific requirements (applicable to all topics within Action 2025-1)

- Only multi-beneficiary Grants are allowed (see section ‘6. Types of Grants’).
- The Proposal must be transboundary (see section ‘6. Types of Grants’). For the multi-beneficiary Proposals to be eligible, the Application shall include at least two Beneficiaries established in two different Countries among the 27 EU Member States and the Copernicus participating states (Norway, Iceland, the United Kingdom and Ukraine). The Countries participating in the Proposals need to share a land border, or a natural feature such as a river, lake, sea, mountain range, or coastal zone.

While the minimum requirement for a transboundary Grant is participation by at least two Beneficiaries, each established in a different eligible Country, Applicants are strongly encouraged to form consortia involving three or more Beneficiaries established in three or more Countries.

- The relevant end users - i.e., the competent national authority, agency, or administration - shall always be involved in the Proposal, either as Beneficiary, Affiliated Entity or Associated Partner; or by providing a letter of support confirming their involvement in the Proposal, to ensure relevance of Project outcomes.
- Applicants must include in their Proposal a clear reference to the relevant policy frameworks behind their proposed activities.
- Applicants must include in their Proposal all mandatory Deliverables and Milestones as specified in section ‘4. General requirements for the Actions’.

- In addition, only for Proposals submitted under Action 2025-1, participation with no funding – if justified in the Proposal and approved by the European Commission – is allowed for legal entities from the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Switzerland and Türkiye. **Their participation should be justified according to ALL the following three criteria:**
- Thematic relevance: the country is directly relevant, and geographically within the transboundary area of interest. The inclusion is justified for the implementation of a regional solution.
- Capacity and cooperation: the entities legally established in those countries should have the capacity to meaningfully contribute to and add value to the Project outcomes.
- Environmental and/or climate policy representation: the country participates in, or aligns with, regional and/or European policy frameworks and facilitates its implementation.

Their participation could be either as observers or directly enhance Project impact through activities such as data sharing, scientific collaboration, and stakeholder engagement. Other countries not listed above may be considered under exceptional circumstances, provided that strong justification is given and ALL three eligibility criteria outlined above are fulfilled.

Project duration: between 18 and 24 months.

Indicative ECMWF funding amount for each Project: between Euro 600 000 (minimum) and Euro 800 000 (maximum).

Indicative number of funded Proposals: 4.

Topic 1: Tropospheric ozone and precursors

Despite national mitigation strategies aimed at reducing O₃ precursors emissions, tropospheric ozone concentrations have not decreased proportionally in many parts of Europe. The question ECMWF aims to cover in this topic is how the use of CAMS products can support national policies and cross-border dialogues to better understand and tackle the issue.

As a secondary pollutant formed through chemical reactions involving nitrogen oxides (NO_x), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), methane (CH₄), and carbon monoxide (CO), ozone frequently affects regions far from the original emission sources. Further, despite local and national reductions in ozone precursors, mainly nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), ozone remains a persistent challenge across Europe due to its complex formation chemistry, climate influences, transboundary transport, and background increases. This spatial and non-linear complexity between emissions, high ozone levels and impacts necessitates effective **transboundary collaboration** to reduce health risks, agricultural losses and ecosystem damage. Addressing tropospheric ozone requires wider cooperation, recognizing that no single country can resolve the issue alone. The goal is to align incentives for cooperation by highlighting mutual benefits, using CAMS products to support national policies and multi-player dialogues to better understand and tackle the issue.

This topic aims to promote activities on tropospheric ozone and its precursors across different environments (background, rural, and urban) with special attention given to periods with extreme behaviour, targeting the assessment of the influence of ozone formation, long-range transport and role of precursors of anthropogenic and natural origin (i.e. natural vs man-made VOC emissions). The proposed activities need to exhibit clear demonstration of transboundary relevance and measurable mutual benefits, strengthened cooperation between country authorities and relevant agencies towards multiscale mitigation strategies, evidence of joint ownership and balanced participation, and

potential for policy uptake. The overarching requirement consists of the core use of CAMS products in these activities, possibly in combination with other ECMWF's freely available open data, data from other Copernicus Services, national meteorological data and additional sectoral, or socio-economic information and data as pertinent.

CAMS provides key datasets and tools for monitoring both ozone and its precursors, VOCs and NO_x and assessing the relative contribution of the various activity sectors (including natural and hemispheric contributions). For example, CAMS regional atmospheric composition analysis offers near-real-time data on NO_x, VOCs, and ozone across Europe, derived from an ensemble of regional models assimilating reported in-situ observations. These datasets are critical for assessing the spatiotemporal distribution of these precursors and understanding their role in regional ozone pollution. In addition, the source-receptor attribution tools developed within the CAMS activities dedicated to policy support, together with the reports analysing air pollution episodes, provide relevant insights about the main drivers that influence ozone levels in Europe.

As part of their Proposal, Applicants must also include a practical **pilot use case** that illustrates how their cooperation will lead to actionable outcomes. This use case should:

- Test and demonstrate concrete applicability of the proposed solution for operational needs during a transboundary ozone event and its mitigation (e.g. coordinated forecast triggers during high ozone episodes based on Copernicus/CAMS and national models, an integrated alert system or response protocol, assessment of source-receptor relationship, specific emission scenarios using CAMS policy tools etc);
- Involve authorities/agencies in all participating Countries contributing technically and /or operationally to the topic;
- Include demonstratable and tangible benefits relevant to policy (e.g. health/agriculture and/or ecosystems protection, alert response times, reduction in exceedances, or air quality improvements);
- Show potential for replication or scale-up in other European regions or under EU frameworks (e.g. NEC Directive implementation, regional clean air plans).

The pilot will serve as a proof of concept for how transboundary and transnational cooperation can lead to timely, effective, and aligned interventions. During the Grant implementation, a user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use case, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quote and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

Proposals must incorporate detailed communication and user outreach activities aimed at promoting the Project's development, outcomes, and impacts, raising awareness about CAMS, CAMS NCP and the transboundary collaboration advancements on the added-values created by CAMS, amongst the relevant national stakeholders and users, taking into consideration national languages and user-oriented terminology.

Expected outcomes

- Demonstrated added-value of CAMS products to tackle and understand the issue related to the monitoring and forecasting of O₃ and its precursors emissions at national level with the goal to support operational aspects of multi-scales challenges aligned with national and regional air quality priorities.

- Enhanced sharing of knowledge, dialogues and demonstratable technical progress versus status quo, between consortium members, as well as towards ECMWF by providing feedback on the quality and applicability of the CAMS data and products for the specific topic.
- Increased visibility and uptake of CAMS and related data sources through targeted dissemination efforts, including the communication of key insights to stakeholders and the general public, and development of an accessible communication and user outreach package, featuring key results, benefits, and practical applications of the Project, serving as a replicable example for other countries or regions.

Targeted stakeholders

The NCP seeks to identify and address national air quality priorities, leading to enhancement of national services and support national implementation of European policies. The Project needs to demonstrate that the identified users and relevant stakeholders are engaged in the Project, participating in co-design of the activities and validating Project outcomes. Indicatively stakeholders can be environmental and health policy authorities, environmental agencies dealing with air quality, national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs), research institutions, civil society and national representatives of regional cooperation platforms.

Topic 2: International Ship Emissions

The maritime transport sector comes with emissions which influence air quality in coastal areas, with subsequent impacts on human health and ecosystems. Neighboring coastal countries are faced with similar challenges to account for these sectorial emissions in Air Quality (AQ) impact assessments. The question ECMWF aims to cover in this topic is how the use of CAMS products and CAMS policy scenarios can enhance joint understanding and stimulate dialogues and exchange of knowledge between Countries concerned.

The international shipping sector, a critical pillar of global trade and transport, generates significant emissions that have considerable effects on air quality degradation in coastal areas. Shipping emissions primarily include nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur oxides (SO_x), particulate matter (PM) and carbon dioxide (CO₂). These emissions are not confined to the regions in which ships operate; instead, they can be transported over vast distances, impacting even the air quality of neighboring coastal zones in other countries. This cross-border nature of shipping emissions poses a challenge for air quality management of adjacent urban conglomerates, particularly in ports, and in regions where shipping traffic is dense.

One of the key challenges for countries situated along coastlines or near major shipping routes is the accuracy of the emissions from this sector, as well as accounting for the air quality impacts of maritime emissions in their national assessments. As a result, neighboring countries often face similar challenges in evaluating and addressing the impacts of shipping on air quality, which may require coordinated efforts to develop effective strategies for mitigation and regulation.

CAMS provides comprehensive, real-time and historical data on a wide range of atmospheric pollutants, including those related to shipping activities. By leveraging the wealth of data provided by CAMS, along with their national information, countries can gain a deeper understanding of shipping emissions and their contribution to local and regional air quality levels. CAMS products offer a range of capabilities that can significantly enhance the joint understanding of shipping emissions and their air quality impacts.

This call aims at fostering collaboration, dialogue and knowledge exchange between neighboring coastal Countries using CAMS data, engage in joint assessments and in the promotion of efficient mitigation strategies, share best practices, and support harmonization of tools related to shipping emissions and assessment of their impact on air quality. This topic focuses on promoting the use of CAMS to encourage unified transboundary approaches to tackling pollution from the maritime sector, such as: regional air quality projects that consider the shared impact of shipping emissions on their populations, use of CAMS products (in combination with national or local data) to align their regulatory frameworks for shipping emissions, and policy scenario assessments. The activities should facilitate cross-border dialogues by providing a transparent and scientifically rigorous basis for decision-making using CAMS products. The Project is expected to demonstrate clear contributions to EU initiatives such as the [Sulphur Directive](#), the [Marine Strategy Framework Directive](#), Emission Control Areas (ECA) frameworks (currently applied in the Baltic and North Sea, with two new ECAs set to be implemented, the Mediterranean Emission Control Area and an upcoming in the Northeast Atlantic), and others.

As part of their Proposal, Applicants must also include a practical **pilot use case** that illustrates how their cooperation will lead to actionable outcomes. This use case should:

- Test and demonstrate concrete applicability of the proposed solution for air quality management in affected cities, emission inventory monitoring and verification or other related transboundary challenges related to air pollution from maritime activities;
- Involve authorities/agencies in all participating Countries contributing technically and /or operationally to the topic;
- Include demonstratable and tangible benefits relevant to policy (e.g. health, ecosystems, emissions verification, reduction in exceedances, or air quality improvements);
- Show potential for replication or scale-up in other European regions or under EU frameworks (e.g. ECAs).

The pilot will serve as proof of concept for how transboundary cooperation can lead to timely, effective and aligned interventions. A user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use case, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quote and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

Proposals must incorporate detailed communication and user outreach activities aimed at promoting the Project's development, outcomes and impacts, raising awareness about CAMS, CAMS NCP and the transboundary collaboration advancements on the added-values created by CAMS, amongst the relevant national stakeholders and users, taking into consideration national languages and user-oriented terminology.

Expected outcomes

- Enhanced regional cooperation between neighboring coastal Countries through joint assessments and joint analysis of the efficiency of mitigation strategies, knowledge exchange, and open dialogue on shipping emissions, demonstrating the added-value of CAMS products for decision-making and policy related aspects.
- Shared and demonstratable technical progress versus status quo, between consortium members, as well as towards ECMWF by providing feedback on the quality and applicability of the CAMS data and products for the specific topic.

- Development of coordinated air quality modelling initiatives and harmonized regulatory assessment approaches that address the transboundary impact of maritime emissions, demonstrating the practical value of CAMS products in supporting evidence-based maritime air pollution control strategies.
- Increased visibility and uptake of CAMS and related data sources through targeted dissemination efforts, including the communication of key insights to stakeholders and the general public, and development of an accessible communication and user outreach package, featuring key results, benefits, and practical applications of the Project, serving as a replicable example for other countries or regions.

Targeted stakeholders

The NCP seeks to identify national priorities and relevant stakeholders that, by leveraging Copernicus data and working together across borders, can transform how countries understand, manage and reduce the impact of international shipping on air quality. This topic targets national and regional authorities responsible for air quality, transport, maritime affairs or environment; port authorities and maritime agencies; research institutions, supporting public and private data providers; and national representatives of regional cooperation bodies or multilateral platforms.

Topic 3: Applicant-led Transboundary Topic

Under this topic, Applicants are invited to submit Proposals around an open topic that demonstrates the added-value of CAMS products in addressing specific, real-world transboundary air quality challenges, including associated components such as airborne emissions, solar radiation, natural pollutants and others.

Proposals should be solution-oriented and showcase how CAMS data and services can enhance collaborative action across borders, whether through improved assessments, operational decision-making, regulatory alignment, or knowledge sharing.

This open topic invites Applicants to identify and address a shared challenge that demonstrates the value of CAMS products in supporting transboundary and transnational air quality management or assessments on atmospheric composition. The challenge may be sectoral, geographical or functional, as long as it illustrates how CAMS can help improve cooperation, regulatory alignment, or technical capacity across countries. Projects should aim to bridge the gap between CAMS products and their needs, by enabling participating Countries to jointly assess, understand, and act on a transboundary air quality issue or atmospheric composition assessments of mutual concern. Proposals may address any relevant challenge where CAMS can provide measurable benefits in a transboundary context.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Transboundary PM pollution episodes (e.g. anthropogenic PM transport, natural events like dispersion of pollen, wildfires, dust storms);
- Sectoral emission management (e.g. agriculture, transport, industry) and emissions linked to wildfires;
- Common (socio-economic) geographic vulnerabilities to poor air quality due to geographic features (e.g. mountains, enclosed valleys and coasts), prevailing regional weather patterns, regional proximity of metropolitan regions and economic and natural pollution sources, etc.;
- Technical challenges in harmonizing air quality assessments and inventories using CAMS as a baseline.

To ensure real-world applicability and operational value, each Proposal must include a concrete **pilot use case** as a core Project component. This use case shall:

- Address a specific, real-world challenge faced by the participating Countries;
- Demonstrate how CAMS products and services (e.g. regional forecasts, source attribution, emission inventories, reanalysis data) are applied to improve understanding, coordination, or action;
- Be developed and implemented jointly by all involved Countries, with clearly defined roles and shared objectives;
- Result in practical outputs, such as an alert protocol, a demo or pre-operational forecasting tool, a shared policy recommendation, or a harmonized compliance approach where applicable;
- Involve relevant key users (e.g. environmental, health, energy and climate policy authorities, national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs), national environmental agencies, public health institutions and regulatory bodies) in the design, testing, or application of the use case;
- Assess the potential for replicability or scale-up in other European regions.

The use case serves as proof of concept for how CAMS can enable better policy coordination and response across borders. A user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use case, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quote and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

The context of the open topic transboundary challenge **should not** be developed along the thematic and/or implementation lines of topic 1 and topic 2.

Expected outcomes

- Demonstrate effective and fitness-for-purpose use of CAMS data and services (e.g. reanalysis, forecasts, sectoral emissions, source attribution tools, policy products etc.) and provide feedback to ECMWF on the quality and applicability of the CAMS data.
- Identify transboundary priorities and stakeholders, and demonstrate how the Project, through the enhanced use of atmospheric CAMS data and information, supports European policy and strategy implementation (*cf.* chapter 2.1) in European transboundary regions.
- Strengthen knowledge and/or technical capabilities in the use of CAMS products in the proposed transboundary challenges and empower national expert users.
- Enhanced cooperation between relevant stakeholders - including public administrations, research institutions, academia, private sector - within the target transboundary region.
- Effective communication of the achieved benefits, outcomes and achievements across the transboundary region and in participating Countries. The development of communication materials in national languages, as well as English for joint communication material, to help fulfil the aims and objectives of the Action is expected.
- Enhanced sharing of knowledge, dialogues and demonstrable technical progress versus status quo, including on communication and user outreach across the transboundary region.
- Promoting and increasing awareness of CAMS data and services at the transboundary level through implementation of a communication plan.

Targeted stakeholders

The NCP seeks to identify and address national priorities, including but not limited to: air quality management; monitoring, reporting and validation of emissions of short-lived pollutant species and greenhouse gases; solar radiation and links with health and energy; and other priorities related to atmospheric and environmental conditions, that address challenges on key societal and economic sectors. The targeted stakeholders are the relevant key users (*cf.* above) and supporting research organisations, public and private data providers. The Proposal needs to demonstrate that the identified stakeholders are engaged in the Project and are participating in the co-design of the activities and validating Project outcomes.

3.2 Action 2025-2 – Support to National Action Plans on Air Pollution

Overview

This Action supports Countries seeking to strengthen their national air quality strategies, national adaptation plans or air pollution control programmes ([NAPCPs](#)) as determined in their National Action Plans (NAPs) through the targeted use of CAMS products and services. Funding is available to support **country-level projects** that demonstrate innovative, practical, and effective integration of CAMS data into their own NAP. This Action specifically encourages Proposals that aim to enhance technical capabilities, build institutional cooperation, and communicate outcomes and benefits at national and sub-national levels, all while providing feedback to ECMWF to further improve the quality and applicability of CAMS products and services.

CAMS provides a wide range of atmospheric composition data and services, including global and regional reanalysis, near-real-time forecasts, location focused model output statistics products, emission services, source attribution tools, and policy support products such as air quality policy assessments and scenario modelling. These products can support multiple aspects of national air quality action plans, such as:

- Baseline assessments and air quality status reporting, using reanalysis data to understand historical pollution levels and trends.
- Short- to medium-term policy planning, using forecast data and scenario tools to evaluate the effectiveness of emission reduction measures.
- Pollution analysis with source attribution tools enabling understanding of local versus transported pollution contributions.
- Support for reporting obligations under European and international regulatory frameworks for both air quality and emissions.
- Assessment of natural contributions to air pollution, including desert dust, wildfires, and pollen, and their health implications—particularly relevant for policy reporting and exemption under the Ambient Air Quality Directive.

Proposals should illustrate how CAMS products are applied by the responsible national entities in their real-world decision-making processes, tailored to national contexts. They should also highlight how this integration strengthens the effectiveness of NAPs. This demonstration shall be supported by the development of a **pilot use case** that will test the usability and effectiveness of CAMS data, actively involve the national public authorities in the development or testing phase, explicitly showcase the benefits of its application and explore its potential for replication from other countries. A user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use cases, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quotes and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

Applicants must clearly demonstrate that the proposed activities do not duplicate work already funded through awarded grants/tenders, particularly CAMS NCP direct contracts supporting various elements of national air quality plans. Proposals may, however, complement ongoing efforts if they target clearly distinct objectives, geographical areas, stakeholders, or added-value components. In such cases, Applicants must provide a clear justification of the added value and differentiation from existing funded work.

Expected outcomes

- Demonstrated, effective and fit-for-purpose use of CAMS data and services, with structured feedback to ECMWF on data quality, accessibility and applicability for air quality governance needs.
- Strengthened institutional knowledge and technical capabilities in the use of CAMS products to support the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of NAPs.
- Improved coordination and communication between relevant national stakeholders, including public administrations, technical agencies, academia and the private sector, contributing to more coherent and informed air quality governance.
- Enhanced knowledge sharing and measurable progress in the integration of CAMS products into national air quality strategies, compared to the pre-project baseline.
- Increased visibility and awareness of CAMS data and services through implementation of a national communication and outreach plan, tailored to local governance and public information needs, including communication materials in national languages, to support national awareness-raising, stakeholder engagement, and dissemination of Project outcomes.

Targeted stakeholders

This Action targets national and, where applicable, local authorities responsible for air quality management, including ministries of environment, national environment and meteorological agencies, and air quality competent bodies. Partnerships with research institutions, academia, civil society organizations and private sector entities are encouraged to ensure knowledge transfer, technical validation and cross-sectoral integration. The Proposal needs to demonstrate that the identified users and relevant stakeholders are engaged in the Project, participating in co-design of the activities and validation of Project outcomes.

Action-specific requirements

- Mono-beneficiary and multi-beneficiary Grants are allowed (see section '6. Types of Grants').
- The relevant end users - i.e., the competent national authority, agency, or administration - shall always be involved in the Proposal, either as Beneficiary, Affiliated Entity or Associated Partner in a mono- or multi-beneficiary Grant. Please note, unlike under Actions 2025-1 and 2025-3, letters of support from relevant end users are not allowed.
- The services and/or tools intended to be implemented under the Project shall be in the Country where the respective competent national authority, agency, or administration, involved in the Proposal, is established.
- Applicants must include in their Proposal all mandatory Deliverables and Milestones as specified in section '4. General requirements for the Actions'.

Project duration: between 18 and 24 months.

Indicative ECMWF funding amount for each Project: between Euro 150 000 (minimum) and Euro 250 000 (maximum)

Indicative number of funded Proposals: 5.

3.3 Action 2025-3 – CAMS and Health: A collaborative framework

Overview

This Action support Countries that aim to enhance the use of CAMS data and services in support of public health applications, contributing to improved health outcomes, building technical and institutional capacity, and increasing understanding of the health impacts of air pollution and atmospheric events. Funding is available for Proposals that demonstrate effective use of CAMS products in health-related domains, including impact assessment, epidemiological research, mitigation strategies and public communication.

According to the WHO, "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". Within this Action, health therefore relates to the three categories as covered by the [Copernicus Health Hub](#):

- **Physical health** is the state of being free from injury or illness. It means living in a body that is strong, capable, and free of physical disease.
- **Mental health** means having a mind that is strong, capable, and free of illness.
- **Wellbeing** is the maintenance of physical, mental, and emotional stability and balance — not just the absence of illness.

CAMS offers a comprehensive suite of atmospheric composition data, including near-real-time forecasts, global and regional reanalysis, natural and anthropogenic pollutants, species composition and source attribution tools ([Atmosphere Data Store](#) and [Datasets | Copernicus Health Hub](#)). These products can support a range of health-related applications, including:

- Air quality and health risk communication, by integrating CAMS forecasts into national or local alert systems that inform the public and vulnerable groups (e.g. children, elderly, people with pre-existing conditions).
- Support for epidemiological research and exposure assessments, using CAMS reanalysis and forecasts to correlate long term pollutant concentrations, of anthropogenic or natural origin, with health outcomes at regional, national or sub-national level.
- Assessment of short-term or seasonal health impacts of intense natural pollution episodes, including desert dust, wildfires, and pollen.
- Support to policy-making in the health sector, enabling evidence-based strategies for pollution mitigation, exposure reduction, and long-term planning in urban and rural settings.

Proposals should demonstrate a clear understanding of key initiatives at the intersection of air pollution, climate and health and demonstrate support for their objectives. These can include, amongst others, initiatives such as:

- European Climate and Health Observatory ([ECHO](#), jointly managed by the European Environmental Agency and the EC), including priority activities as implemented by ECHO's observatory partners¹.

¹ Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER), Copernicus Programme Services, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OCHA), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (EuroFound), International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Lancet Countdown in Europe, WHO Regional Office for Europe, WMO Regional Office for Europe.

- EC DG [SANTE](#) and DG [HERA](#) initiatives related to health adaptation and resilience and health emergency preparedness
- EuroGEO 'Disaster resilience and health' [Action Group](#) and the global GEO [One Health](#) initiative.
- Relevant Horizon Europe and EU4Health projects, as well as relevant [regulations](#) that deal with risks of environmental origin, including those due to the climate, and cross-border threats like wildfires, incidental releases etc.

While Proposals shall not duplicate existing work plans or outputs, they are encouraged to align with, be inspired by, or build upon the objectives and findings of these initiatives. Proposals shall articulate how their activities could contribute to these efforts, for example by filling identified gaps, supporting local, national and regional implementation, or facilitating innovative health applications using CAMS data. Applicants are strongly encouraged to form multi-disciplinary consortia including Beneficiaries having demonstrated expertise in the use and interpretation of CAMS and other Copernicus data and Beneficiaries having demonstrated expertise in public health (e.g. epidemiology, exposure assessments, public health agencies and practitioners, etc.).

A **pilot use case** shall be developed with the aim to demonstrate solutions and empower users within the health community by the integration of CAMS data into existing or new tools and solutions at national or regional level. These demonstration tools or solutions should support decision-making processes, potentially in combination with ECMWF's freely available open data, data from other Copernicus Services, local/national meteorological data and other sectoral, vulnerability, exposure or socio-economic information, as pertinent, and lead to actionable outcomes. This use case should:

- Test and demonstrate concrete applicability of the proposed solution for operational needs within the health sector;
- Involve authorities/agencies in all participating Countries contributing technically and/or operationally to the topic;
- Include demonstratable and tangible benefits relevant to health policy;
- Show potential for replication or scale-up in other European regions or under EU frameworks.

A user story shall be formulated based on information from the pilot use cases, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quotes and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics). ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage. This user story shall be featured in the Copernicus Health Hub website.

Activities and results shall be presented by ECMWF in the Copernicus Health Hub and Applicants shall demonstrate in their Proposal how it supports the Hub's objectives on the following aspects:

- Coordinate: Improve coordination and information flow between CAMS, and other Copernicus components, and above-mentioned initiatives;
- Connect: foster the national or regional user communities by bridging scientific knowledge and technical expertise on CAMS with specific user needs;
- Gain user intelligence: gain insights into the specific health community way of practice and collect user requirements relevant for CAMS and other Copernicus components service evolution;
- Inspire: showcase how data can be integrated with other data and information through the pilot use case, with the aim to inspire other countries or regions;
- Collaborate: leverage the collaboration and interactions with existing and new stakeholders within the health community.

Expected outcomes

- Effective use of CAMS products in health-related applications, supported by structured feedback to ECMWF on data quality, usability, and impact. The combination of these data products with other Copernicus services, amongst others, is strongly stimulated.
- Strengthened national technical and institutional capacity to assess, communicate, and mitigate health risks linked to atmospheric pollution and natural events.
- Improved collaboration and knowledge exchange between environmental and health actors, promoting interdisciplinary approaches to public health challenges.
- Demonstrate support to the Copernicus Health Hub objectives.
- Development of user-focused communication materials, in English and national languages, that clearly present health risks and CAMS-based insights to the public, health professionals, and decision-makers.
- Increased awareness and visibility of CAMS in the health sector, supported by a tailored outreach and communication strategy at the national or sub-national level.

Targeted stakeholders

This Action is intended to include stakeholders from public health institutions, national health ministries, environment and health protection agencies, meteorological and air quality bodies, research institutions, and academia. Cross-sectoral collaboration between environment and health stakeholders is encouraged, as is cooperation with civil society organizations and digital health application providers (e.g. mobile apps). The Proposal needs to demonstrate that the identified users and relevant stakeholders are engaged in the Project, participating in co-design of the activities and validation of Project outcomes.

Action-specific requirements

- Only multi-beneficiary Grants are allowed (see section '6. Types of Grants').
- While the minimum eligibility requirement for multi-beneficiary Grants is that the Proposal includes at least two Beneficiaries, under this Action, Applicants are strongly encouraged to form larger consortia with Beneficiaries established in at least two different Countries among the EU Member States and the Copernicus participating states.
- The relevant end users and/or stakeholders - i.e., the competent national authority, agency, or administration - shall always be involved in the Proposal, either as Beneficiary, Affiliated Entity or Associated Partner; or by providing a letter of support confirming their involvement in the Proposal, to ensure relevance of Project outcomes.
- Applicants must include in their Proposal all mandatory Deliverables and Milestones as specified in section '4. General requirements for the Actions'.

Project duration: between 18 and 24 months.

Indicative ECMWF funding amount for each Project: between Euro 200 000 (minimum) and Euro 300 000 (maximum)

Indicative number of funded Proposals: 2.

4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ACTIONS

Applicants are encouraged to ensure that the work plan remains focused and efficient by limiting Deliverables to the mandatory ones and only those strictly necessary to achieve the expected outcomes of the Action/topic. Additional Deliverables should only be proposed where they clearly add

value or are indispensable for monitoring progress. Where appropriate, Deliverables may be merged or the frequency of updates reduced in order to avoid unnecessary fragmentation and reporting burden. Similarly, the number of Milestones should be restricted to those required and those that are essential for tracking the effective implementation of the Project. This approach strengthens the clarity and relevance of the work plan, ensures proportionality between effort and reporting, and allows resources to be concentrated on achieving substantive results.

4.1 Mandatory Deliverables

The following Deliverables are mandatory and must be included in all Proposals.

Mandatory Deliverable	Submission time
Updated Service Specification and Project Plan	By month 6 of the Project Implementation
Communication and User Outreach Plan	By month 6 of the Project Implementation
Impact and Service Status Report	3 months before the end of the Project Implementation
Pilot Use Case	3 months before the end of the Project Implementation
Quarterly Implementation Reports	Every quarter from the start to end of the Project Implementation

Updated Specification and Project Plan

Building on the initial 'Specification and Project Plan' submitted with the Proposal, the Project will carry out a detailed stakeholder analysis and assess user needs and requirements. This process will lead to the production of the Deliverable: Updated Specification and Project Plan, which will

- Define the requirements, including user, data, service requirements that define the NCP outputs.
- Define technical workflows and service to be developed within the Project.
- Update the assessment of risks.
- Finalise stakeholder and user engagement plans.

This Deliverable is required for all the Actions.

Communication and User Outreach Plan

This Deliverable informs ECMWF on how the Project develops a strategy and materials for awareness raising, including both wide and targeted user outreach and promotion. This Deliverable:

- Details how the Project raises awareness and promotes the use of CAMS products and services at the national level, to a broad audience as well as to specific groups of potential users, e.g. national administrations and agencies and linked local and thematic centres.
- Details how the Project allows ECMWF to communicate the activities and expected impacts arising from the Project (for example how the Projects are supporting EU environmental policy and strategies).

This Deliverable is required for all the Actions.

Impact and National Reporting Incorporation Status Report

The report summarises the developments, assesses the outcomes of the activities in terms of meeting the user needs and requirements and summarises user feedback (including testimonials) and status of the national incorporation at the end of the Project. This Deliverable focuses on the **added value** the Project has had on the user community, and particularly the national, transboundary or transnational priorities and policy. This report provides an outlook on potential follow up actions to continue or operationalise the Project development(s) and must provide ECMWF with feedback arising from the implementation of the Project. Feedback loops are critically important to allow the evolution of CAMS. Therefore, this report should include any lessons learnt and new requirements arising from Project Implementation; including product fitness for purpose and data gaps, which will feed into the CAMS User Requirement Database (URDB) and help inform evolution of CAMS.

This Deliverable is required for all the Actions.

Pilot Use Case

A pilot use case shall be developed that will test the usability and effectiveness of CAMS data, actively involve the national public authorities in the development or testing phase, explicitly showcase the benefits of its application and explore its potential for replication from other countries/in other regions. The use case must be conceptually described in the Proposal, including its objective, methodology, expected outcomes, participating stakeholders, and timeline. A user story shall be formulated based on the use case, including key facts on the user uptake process and benefits, along with a user quotes and graphical information (e.g. photos, infographics), specifically the following elements: the challenge and the key users, the solution, how can CAMS help, key CAMS products used, implementation workflow and benefits, along with a user quote. ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

This Deliverable is required for all the Actions.

Quarterly Implementation Reports

The report is a **brief publishable summary** of progress of each quarter of Project Implementation. ECMWF will provide a template at Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

These Deliverables are required for all the Actions.

4.2 Mandatory Milestones

The following Milestones are mandatory and must be included by default in all Proposals.

Mandatory Milestones	Achievement time
Participation in the ECMWF Grantees' Info-Day	Expected in June 2026
Organise Project Kick-off Meeting with ECMWF	By the end of month 1 of the Project Implementation
Organise Project Interim Review Meeting with ECMWF	Within 60 days after the end of the interim reporting period
Organise Project Final Review Meeting with ECMWF	Within 60 days after the end of the final reporting period
Organise Progress Meetings with ECMWF	Up to 4 Progress meetings during the Project Implementation

Participation in the CAMS NCP AUF (biannually) and CAMS General Assembly (GA) (annually)	AUF takes place twice per calendar year (once in person as a side event of CAMS GA and one online)
Participation and Presentation of the Project Activities at ECMWF/CAMS events	Once per calendar year upon ECMWF request
Participation in Technical/Expert Workshops on an ad-hoc basis	Once per calendar year upon ECMWF request

ECMWF Grantees' Info-Day

The Grantees' Info-Day (online), organised by ECMWF, provides an overview of the legal, financial, administrative, technical, and project management requirements applicable during Project Implementation to support the successful implementation of the Projects and ensure a common understanding of applicable rules and obligations.

Online Project Kick-off Meeting with ECMWF

The Beneficiaries will organise the kick-off meeting to present the overview of Project Implementation to ECMWF stakeholders.

Project Interim Review Meeting with ECMWF

The Beneficiaries will organise the interim review meeting to present the technical and financial progress of the Project.

Project Final Review Meeting with ECMWF

The Beneficiaries will organise the final review meeting to present the technical and financial outcome of the Project.

Progress Meetings with ECMWF

The Beneficiaries will organise up to 4 progress meetings with ECMWF to be held during the Project Implementation. The number of progress meetings and timeline are set in the Grant Agreement signed with ECMWF and depends on the duration of the Project.

Participation in the CAMS NCP Forum and CAMS General Assembly

The Atmosphere User Forum is organized twice a year, either separately or in conjunction with the CAMS General Assembly. Participation in both events (AUFs and CAMS GA) is mandatory for all Projects in every calendar year.

Participation and Presentation of the Project Activities at ECMWF/CAMS events

The participation and presentation of Project activities at other relevant events may be required by ECMWF. In-person or online participation is mandatory for all Projects upon request from ECMWF.

Participation in Technical/Expert Workshops on an ad-hoc basis

Technical/expert workshops are also organized on an ad-hoc basis. Depending on the scope, participation and contributions may be required by ECMWF. Participation is mandatory for all Projects once every calendar year upon request of ECMWF.

Concerning the meetings, events, and workshops listed above, please note that these may be held either online or in-person. Applicants are expected to budget for a total of 5 days per year, with 2 participants per meeting.

5 ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

5.1 Eligible Entities

According to the Contribution Agreement between the European Union and ECMWF referred to in section 1.3 above, participation in the Call for Proposals shall preferably be open to legal entities established in the Countries (namely the Member States of the European Union and Copernicus participating states) in accordance with the conditions laid down in the [EU's Space Programme Regulation](#).

It is currently ECMWF's expectation that, in practice, entities established in other states may exceptionally be eligible and subject to specific scientific or other requirements (as specified in this Call for Proposals under each Action), as well as express prior approval by the European Commission. This applies to Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners, Subcontractors, and any other third party involved in the Project.

ONLY under Action 2025-1 if duly justified in the Proposal (see section 3.1) and upon approval of the European Commission:

- Legal entities from Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Switzerland and Türkiye are also eligible to participate as Associated Partners.

If, at the time of Grant Agreement signature, the European Commission's approval is still pending, the status of the entities above will no longer be of Associated Partners in the Project. They may, however, still potentially support the Project as external stakeholders.

5.2 Roles in the Proposal

The CAMS NCP Call for Proposals 2025 entails different types of participation in the Proposal:

- Beneficiary
- Coordinator
- Affiliated Entity
- Associated Partner
- Subcontractors

A brief overview of the roles is provided below. Please refer to the Grant Agreement Template for detailed information on the rights and obligations of each role in the Project.

Beneficiary

The Beneficiary is legally responsible for the Project Implementation by signing the Grant Agreement with ECMWF. There is always a Beneficiary of the Grant; whereas – if not required for the implementation of the Grant – there can be Grants without other roles such as Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners, and Subcontractors. In case of Grants with multiple Beneficiaries, they are jointly responsible of the Grant implementation. The Beneficiary coordinating the Proposal preparation and

the Grant implementation (Coordinator) signs the Grant Agreement and the other Beneficiaries sign the accession forms to the Grant Agreement with ECMWF.

Coordinator

The Beneficiary coordinating the Proposal preparation and the Grant implementation – on behalf of and mandated by all the other proposed Participants – is defined as Coordinator. If awarded, the Coordinator is responsible for Project monitoring and administration of the financial contribution. The Coordinator is the main point of contact with ECMWF at Proposal preparation stage, at Grant Agreement Preparation stage, and at Grant implementation stage. Even in case of a mono-beneficiary Grant with no other Participants, that Beneficiary is considered the Coordinator.

Affiliated Entities

Affiliated Entities are entities with a legal or capital link to a Beneficiary (which is neither limited to the Project nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation) which participate in the Project with similar rights and obligations to the Beneficiaries, but which do not sign the Grant Agreement and therefore do not become Beneficiaries themselves. Affiliate Entities are eligible for participation and funding.

Associated Partners

Associated Partners are entities which participate in the Project with no funding and without signing the Grant Agreement with ECMWF. They may not charge costs or contributions to the Project, and the costs for their tasks are not eligible. They might be stakeholders with an interest in the Project but limited or no active participation in Project Implementation. They might be entities from third countries not eligible to receive funding from ECMWF, but who can participate with their own funds (see Action 2025-1).

Subcontractors

Subcontracting refers to entities with whom a Beneficiary has concluded a contract for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the Project. Beneficiaries must have the necessary operational capacity to perform the Project themselves, and they remain solely responsible for the implementation of the Project. Subcontracting should be exceptional and not cover core activities. Therefore, subcontracting should be limited to clearly defined parts of the Project and must not exceed 20% of the total eligible costs. Subcontractors can be identified during the preparation of the Proposal, or during the Project Implementation subject to approval by ECMWF in line with the terms and conditions of the signed Grant Agreement.

6. TYPES OF GRANTS

6.1 Mono-beneficiary and multi-beneficiary Grants

The Proposal shall clearly identify the list of proposed Participants in the Project, as well as their roles. Depending on the specific requirements of the Action, two types of Grants are allowed:

- Mono-beneficiary Grants
- Multi-beneficiary Grants

Mono-beneficiary Grant

Mono-beneficiary is when a Proposal, and a Grant if awarded, has a single Beneficiary. The mono-beneficiary Proposal can include one entity as Beneficiary, but it may also include other types of

Participants such as Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and Subcontractors. This is still a mono-beneficiary Proposal as the Beneficiary will be the only one signing the Grant Agreement with ECMWF, and therefore the sole organisation responsible for the Grant implementation. In a mono-beneficiary Grant, the sole Beneficiary assumes the role of Coordinator.

Multi-beneficiary Grant

Multi-beneficiary is when a Proposal, and a Grant if awarded, involves at least two Beneficiaries. Beside the two Beneficiaries, the Proposal can include other type of Participants such as Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and Subcontractors. In multi-beneficiary Grants, the Coordinator needs to be clearly identified, and it is responsible for the submission of the Proposal and is the contact point for ECMWF. In the case of award of a multi-beneficiary Grant, a consortium agreement among the Participants may be required by ECMWF during the Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

Under Action 2025-2 both mono-beneficiary and multi-beneficiary Grants are allowed. Under Action 2025-1 and Action 2025-3 only multi-beneficiary Grants are allowed.

6.2 Transnational and transboundary Grants

Transnational Grant

In order to be considered a transnational Grant, the Proposal must involve the participation of at least two legal entities – participating as Beneficiaries – that must be independent from each other. Each Beneficiary must be legally established in a different Country among the EU Member States and the Copernicus participating states. The Countries involved are not required to be geographically proximate. For example, in the case of a consortium composed of two Beneficiaries, one may be established in a Northern European Country and the other in a Southern European Country. Other types of participation are also allowed (Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and Subcontractors).

Transboundary Grant

In order to be considered a transboundary Grant, the Proposal must involve the participation of at least two legal entities – participating as Beneficiaries – that must be independent from each other. Each Beneficiary must be legally established in a different Country – among the EU Member States and the Copernicus participating states – and the Countries need to be geographically proximate. Geographical proximity means that participating Countries are part of the same continuous cross-border area. This can be based on land border, as well as on shared natural feature such as a river, lake, sea, mountain range, or coastal zone. Other types of participation are also allowed (Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners and Subcontractors).

7 FUNDING PROVISION

The ECMWF financial contribution under the CAMS NCP Call for Proposals will be awarded as a lump sum.

7.1 Lump Sum Grant

For lump sum Grants, the payment of the lump sum contribution will be based on the work carried out and reported. The lump sum contribution will cover the Coordinator's, Beneficiaries' and Affiliated Entities' expected eligible (direct and indirect) costs for the Project. If the Project is duly implemented in accordance with the signed Grant Agreement, the amounts will be paid as agreed. The Grant amount is fixed, and the contribution will be paid out after the end of the reporting periods if the work is completed. The work to be completed includes the activities described as part of the objectives,

Milestones, and Deliverables that are linked to the Work Packages of the Proposal (Annex I – Technical Description).

A detailed budget for each entity participating as Coordinator/Beneficiary/Affiliated Entity and per each Work Package is required at Proposal stage (Annex II – Estimated Budget). The detailed budget of the Proposal should be based on cost estimations, and it will be the basis to define and justify the lump sum. The cost estimations must be an approximation of the actual costs projected to be incurred by the Coordinator, Beneficiaries and Affiliated Entities and they must be:

- in line with the same general eligibility rules as in Grants based on actual costs, as defined in the Grant Agreement Template Clauses 6.1 (a), (d), and (e).
- in line with the Coordinator's, Beneficiaries' and Affiliated Entities' normal practices.
- reasonable/not excessive.
- in line with and necessary for the activities proposed.

Cost estimations that are clearly overestimated or underestimated will lead to a decreased score in the evaluation of the Proposal under the award criterion concerned (See sub-section 8.5). Following the result of the evaluation and the recommendations of the evaluators, the overall lump sum is fixed in the Grant Agreement. Once awarded, lump sum contributions will not require costs reporting.

7.2 Budget categories

The budget categories are:

- A. Personnel costs;
- B. Travel, accommodation and subsistence;
- C. Computing;
- D. Other direct costs;
- E. Subcontracting;
- F. Indirect costs.

Indirect costs are a 25% flat-rate of the total direct costs (A, B, C and D), excluding the direct costs for subcontracting (E).

Subcontracting costs can be up to 20% of the total costs (direct + indirect). Exceptionally, if duly justified in the Proposal, the 20% cap may be exceeded. If the contribution of the Subcontractors is critical for the Project Implementation, please also consider involving them as Beneficiary. Subcontractors may be identified in the Proposal, but this is not mandatory. It is sufficient that the tasks to be subcontracted and the corresponding estimated costs are clearly described in the Proposal. The identification of specific Subcontractor(s) may take place during Project Implementation, in accordance with applicable procurement principles and subject to the relevant checks and formal approval by ECMWF.

The estimated budget of the Project must be expressed in EURO. In case the 'total costs' differ from the 'requested ECMWF contribution', specify what is funded from other sources (see 'Annex I – Technical Description', Section 3 table 'Additional resources and contributions not costed on the proposal budget').

7.3 Maximum Grant amount

The maximum Grant amount awarded by ECMWF may differ from the requested ECMWF contribution in the Proposal. Request for changes – if any – will be part of the Grant Agreement Preparation stage.

8 SELECTION PROCESS

ECMWF evaluates each Proposal based on the information provided by the proposed Participants in the Application submitted in reply to this Call for Proposals, and the answers provided in the Submission Portal.

The selection process has two phases:

- Checks on admissibility and eligibility criteria for participation, for exclusion, and financial capacity assessment;
- Evaluation of award criteria, including estimated budget and operational capacity.

At any stage, ECMWF may ask proposed Participants to provide additional information/supporting documents and/or to clarify the documents submitted in connection with the Proposal.

The proposed Participants must be and remain eligible for the entire duration of the Project (see sections 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 below).

8.1 Admissibility criteria

- Applications must be submitted before the Call deadline.
- Applications must be submitted electronically via the Submission Portal which can be accessed via <https://procurement.ecmwf.int>. Paper submissions are not possible.
- The Coordinator – on behalf of and mandated by all the other proposed Participants – must respond to all items in the online questionnaire in the Submission Portal, providing, where applicable, the application form, supporting documents and any other required document.
- Applications must be submitted using the forms provided in the submission system and in the Call Package.
- Applications must be complete and contain all parts and supporting documents required.
- Applications must be readable, accessible and printable.
- Page limits will apply to ‘Annex I - Technical Description.’ The limit for ‘Annex I - Technical Description’ is 35 pages (excluding the cover and ‘Appendix 1 – Operational Capacity of Project Applicants’). If ‘Annex I - Technical Description’ exceeds the 35-page limit, excess pages will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.
- Applications must be written in English.

8.2 Eligibility criteria

Entities eligible for funding

According to the Contribution Agreement between the European Union and ECMWF referred to in section 1.3 above, participation in this Call for Proposals shall preferably be open to legal entities established in the Countries (namely the Member States of the European Union and in Copernicus participating states) in accordance with the conditions laid down in the EU’s Space Programme Regulation. It is currently ECMWF’s expectation that, in practice, legal entities established in other

countries may exceptionally be eligible and subject to specific scientific or other requirements (as specified in this Call for Proposals for Action 2025-1, as well as express prior approval by the European Commission). This applies to all proposed Participants. Accordingly, ECMWF is required to reserve the right to exclude legal entities from calls at any point in time. All proposed Participants must meet all eligibility criteria throughout the entire duration of the Grant award procedures as well as throughout the entire duration of the implementation of their Grant Agreements signed with ECMWF.

Multi-beneficiary Grants

In addition to the criteria above, only legal entities forming a consortium are eligible to participate in Action 2025-1 provided that the consortium includes, as Beneficiaries, two legal entities independent from each other and each established in a different Country. As Affiliated Entities do not sign the Grant Agreement, they do not count towards the minimum eligibility criteria for consortium composition. In addition, for Action 2025-1 Countries needs to be geographically proximate (see section '6. Types of Grants').

Entities eligible to participate with no funding

ONLY under Action 2025-1, if duly justified in the Proposal (see section 3.3) and upon approval of the European Commission, the following entities are eligible to participate as Associated Partners:

- Legal entities established in the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Switzerland and Türkiye.

8.3 Financial and operational capacity

Financial capacity

Applicants must have stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the Project throughout the period during which the Project is carried out. The Applicants' financial capacity is assessed based on the 'Declaration Form for Economic and Financial Capacity', included in the supporting documents of the Call Package. The 'Declaration Form for Economic and Financial Capacity' must be submitted by all Beneficiaries and Affiliated Entities with the Proposal. If ECMWF considers that the financial capacity is not satisfactory, it may require: further information; an enhanced financial responsibility regime, i.e. joint and several responsibility of Affiliated Entities; prefinancing paid in instalments; or propose no prefinancing; request that the Applicant concerned is replaced or, if needed, reject the entire Proposal.

Operational capacity

Applicants must have the know-how, qualifications and resources to successfully implement their tasks in the Project and contribute their share (including, when appropriate, sufficient experience in comparable projects). This assessment of operational capacity will be carried out during the evaluation of the award criterion 3 'Management and efficiency of the implementation'. It will be based on the competence and experience of the Applicants and their project teams, including their operational resources (human, technical and other) or, exceptionally, the measures proposed to obtain the necessary competence and experience by the time the tasks are implemented. If the evaluation of this award criterion leads to a score above the applicable threshold, then the Applicants are considered to have sufficient operational capacity. For this assessment, Applicants are required to provide the following information in 'Annex I – Technical Description' of the Application Form: description of the proposed Participants; and, for Coordinator, and for each of the Beneficiary, Affiliated Entity, and Associated Partner (refer to 'Appendix 1 – Operational Capacity of Project Applicants'), up to five most

relevant previous projects, connected to the subject of this Call for Proposals and list and CVs of the key personnel involved in the Project. Additional supporting documents may be requested if they are needed to confirm the operational capacity of any Applicant.

8.4 Exclusion criteria

European Union (EU) Early Detection and Exclusion System (EDES) Database

The purpose of [EDES](#) is the protection of the European Union's financial interests against unreliable persons and entities applying for EU funds or having concluded legal commitments with the European Commission, other European Union Institutions, bodies, offices or agencies. In particular, the EDES ensures:

- The early detection of persons or entities which pose a risk to the European Union's financial interests.
- The exclusion of persons or entities from receiving European Union funds (Article 137(1) of the EU Financial Regulation).
- The imposition of a financial penalty on a recipient (Article 140 of the EU Financial Regulation).
- The publication, in the most severe cases, on the European Commission's internet site of information related to the exclusion and where applicable the financial penalty, in order to reinforce their deterrent effect (Articles 142 of the EU Financial Regulation).

ECMWF makes use of the EDES to verify whether individuals or organisations are suitable entities to receive funding from the European Union. The grounds for exclusion are listed under article 138(1) of the EU Financial Regulation. They include:

- Bankruptcy and insolvency situations.
- Non-payment of taxes or social security contributions.
- Grave professional misconduct.
- Fraud, corruption, participation in a criminal organisation etc.
- Serious breach of contract.

The proposed Participants including, where relevant, any other relevant third party that would participate in the Project or receive payment from the Beneficiaries in connection with the Project – must confirm that they and persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control in their organisation are NOT listed on the EDES database and must accept that the ECMWF will reject any proposed Participants who are so listed.

European Union (EU) Restrictive Measures

Restrictive Measures (sanctions) are the tool in the EU's common foreign and security policy (CFSP), through which the EU can intervene where necessary to prevent conflict or respond to emerging or current crises. Entities subject to EU restrictive measures are not eligible to participate in any capacity, including as Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners, or Subcontractors.

ECMWF, as the entrusted entity for the implementation of the Copernicus Climate Change Service and the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service, must ensure that any of the (proposed) Participants is not included in the list of EU Restrictive Measures.

Consequently, the Coordinator must ensure that none of the Beneficiaries, Affiliated Entities, Associated Partners, Subcontractors, and any person who may receive, directly or indirectly, funds under the Project are included in the lists of EU Restrictive Measures. This requirement is specifically detailed in the Grant Agreement Template.

As a minimum – by using the www.sanctionsmap.eu website – the Coordinator must undertake the following checks of all proposed Participants:

- Country check (country of registration of the legal entity / holding company (if applicable));
- Organisation / holding company check (using search function);
- Individual check (using search function).

The Coordinator and the other proposed Participants must complete the ‘COP Restrictive Measures Form’ available in the Call Package as per the instructions thereof.

The proposed Participants should note that, as this forms part of ECMWF’s obligations to the European Commission, failure to complete and return this form may lead to exclusion from the grant procedure.

EU Conditionality Measures

Conditionality Measures are additional protections for the EU budget when breaches of the rule of law principles affect or risk affecting EU financial interests introduced in 2021. Conditionality Measures may be put in place in the context of the general regime of conditionality for the protection of the EU budget established by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget. This conditionality regime allows the EU to take measures – for example suspension of payments, suspension of implementation, termination or prohibitions on entering into new legal commitments with Concerned Entities – to protect the EU budget.

ECMWF, as the entrusted entity for the implementation of the Copernicus Climate Change Service and Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service, is required to ensure Conditionality Measures are duly applied vis-à-vis concerned entities. Further requirements with respect to Conditionality Measures are detailed in the Grant Agreement Template.

The proposed Participants must confirm and ensure for the whole duration of the Grant Agreement that none of them or any other third party – that would participate and receive payment in connection with the Project – is affected by the Conditionality Measures described above, and must accept that ECMWF may reject any proposed Participant or any other third party that are so affected.

8.5 Award criteria

If admissible and eligible and if the financial capacity assessment and exclusion criteria checks are satisfactory, the Proposals will be evaluated and ranked against the following award criteria: 1. Excellence; 2. Impact; 3. Management and efficiency of the implementation.

1. **Excellence** refers to the extent that the proposed work and outputs correspond to the description of the specific objectives of the Action and the overarching objectives of CAMS and the NCP. The following aspects will be taken into account: Soundness of the concept; Use of CAMS products, methods and good practice; Synergies with national and, if relevant, transboundary and transnational priorities and activities; proposed outcomes.

2. **Impact** refers to the extent that the proposed work corresponds to the description of the expected impacts of the Call and more specifically the specific impacts identified for the Action. The following aspects will be taken into account: Pathways to impact; Communication and user outreach activities; Feedback to CAMS on user requirements; Sustainability and quality of impact.
3. **Management and efficiency of the implementation** refer to the management and implementation plan and will determine the efficiency of the Proposal to obtain excellence and impact. The following aspects will be taken into account: Project management and quality assurance; Capacity and complementarity of the proposed experts; Quality and effectiveness of the work plan and appropriateness of allocated resources; Risk assessment and mitigation actions; Diversity and inclusion. The estimated budget of the Proposal (Annex II – Estimated Budget) and the operational capacity of the proposed Participants ('Appendix I - Operational Capacity of Project Applicants', included in 'Annex I – Technical Description') will be also assessed against the proposed activities under this criterion.

Scores and weighting

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the criteria 'Excellence', 'Impact' and 'Management and efficiency of the implementation' (and not for the different aspects listed for each criterion).

For full applications, each criterion will be scored out of 5. Equal weighting will be applied to the three award criteria. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold applying to the sum of the three individual scores will be 10. Proposals that pass the individual threshold AND the overall threshold will be considered for funding, within the limits of the available Call budget.

8.6 Evaluation procedure

Ranking

Proposals will be checked for formal requirements - admissibility, eligibility, financial capacity and exclusion checks - and then evaluated, for each Action and, when applicable, topic separately, by an evaluation panel composed of qualified experts for the award criteria and then ranked according to their quality score. As a result, each Action/topic will have a separate ranking list.

For Action 2025-1, ECMWF aims to award the highest-scoring Proposal under each of the three topics; in addition, a fourth Grant may be awarded to the Proposal that scored the highest amongst the remainder of the Proposals across all three topics. In the event of equal scores for this fourth Grant, the tie-breaker criteria set out below will apply.

For Proposals with the same score within the same Action and, when applicable, topic, a priority order is determined as follows:

1. Proposals submitted by Applicants that are based in Countries that have not yet been awarded an ECMWF CAMS NCP-related contract or Grant;
2. Proposals with the highest score under criterion 2 'Impact';
3. Proposals which addressed well the measures for diversity and inclusion (see sub-section 3.5 of 'Annex I Technical Description').

If a distinction still cannot be made, the evaluation panel may decide to further prioritise by considering other factors related to the objectives of the Call. These may include, for example,

enhancing the quality of the project portfolio through synergies between projects. These factors will be documented in the panel report.

At any stage, ECMWF may ask proposed Participants to provide additional information/supporting documents and/or to clarify the documents submitted in connection with the Proposal. ECMWF reserves the right to withhold the allocation of any or all available funds or to reallocate such funds among the Call for Proposals' Actions, and when applicable, topic, in a manner differing from that specified in section 2 and 3 (i.e., as per the Indicative number of funded Proposals), based on the Proposals submitted and the evaluation results.

Evaluation results

At the end of the evaluation all Applicants will be informed of the evaluation results via an information letter.

The following are the possible outcomes of the selection process:

- Main list: the Proposal will be invited for Grant Agreement Preparation stage;
- Reserve list:
 - ECMWF will establish a reserve list comprising Proposals which, although not initially recommended for funding due to insufficient budgetary resources or comparatively lower evaluation scores, have reached the minimum evaluation threshold of 10/15 points overall (above threshold).
 - A reserve list Proposal may be invited to Grant Agreement Preparation if: (i) additional budgetary resources become available; (ii) a selected Proposal from the main list does not successfully complete Grant Agreement Preparation; or (iii) ECMWF Service Director decides to reallocate the available budget.
 - Applicants on the reserve list may be contacted with a view to being invited to the Grant Agreement Preparation.
 - No action is needed from the side of the Applicants on a reserve list. A notification will be sent to the remaining Applicants at the closure of the reserve list when there is no remaining budget.
- Below threshold: the Proposal cannot be funded because the total score obtained does not reach the minimum evaluation threshold of 10/15 points overall.
- Ineligible/inadmissible/excluded/insufficient financial capacity: the Proposal failed to comply with eligibility, admissibility, exclusion criteria, or financial capacity checks, and will be rejected.

Please note: invitation to the Grant Agreement Preparation stage does NOT constitute a formal commitment to funding. Various legal checks are still needed before the Grant can be awarded (e.g. exclusion check, etc.).

Timing

The timing for evaluation and Grant Agreement Preparation is as follows:

- Information on the outcome of the evaluation: around 4 months from the deadline of the Call for Proposals.

- Indicative date for the signing of Grant Agreements: around 6 months from the deadline of the Call for Proposals.

8.7 Debriefing and review procedure

During the selection process, proposed Participants will be notified, via information letter sent to the Coordinator, only if there are issues with admissibility, eligibility, financial capacity and exclusion checks. At the end of the selection process, all the proposed Participants will be informed about the evaluation results of the Proposals via an information letter sent to the Coordinator.

Upon receipt of an information letter, proposed Participants may request a debriefing and/or a review if there is an indication that there has been a procedural shortcoming or a manifest error of assessment in the evaluation of the Proposal.

The debriefing and review request must focus solely on aspects related to the selection process. Applicants may raise concerns regarding procedural irregularities, factual errors, manifest errors of assessment, or abuse of power. However, mere repetition of the Proposal content or disagreement with the evaluation outcome or reasoning are not considered.

For detailed guidance please consult the 'Grants Debriefing and Review Procedure' provided here: <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about/grants>.

9 SUBMISSION PROCESS

9.1 Overview of the Call Package

The Call Package is composed of this Call document and:

- Application Form;
- Supporting Documents;
- Grant Agreement Template;
- Guidelines for Applicants.

In addition, the Coordinator will have to fill an online questionnaire on the Submission Portal, once registered. A copy of the online questionnaire is provided with the Call Package.

The Proposal is composed of three parts:

- Annex I - Technical Description (where the technical proposal is presented in maximum 35 pages), including 'Appendix 1 – Operational Capacity of Project Applicants' (page limit does not apply to Appendix 1).
- Annex II - Estimated Budget (where the detailed budget for each Beneficiary and Affiliated Entity and per work package is presented).
- Annex III - Administrative Information (administrative details for each Beneficiary, Affiliated Entity, Associated Partner and, if identified at application stage, Subcontractors).

With the Proposal, the supporting documents below are required:

- Legal Entity Form.
- Declaration Form for Economic and Financial Capacity.
- COP Restrictive Measures Form.

All proposed Participants are required to use the templates provided in the Call Package and available on the Submission Portal. For additional information on the Call Package, please consult the 'Guidelines for Applicants' available on the Submission Portal and here:

<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about/grants/copernicus-grants>.

The Coordinator – whether it is a mono- or multi-beneficiary Grant – must register on the Submission Portal at <https://procontract.due-north.com/register> (this can be done at any time). Please note that this Call comprises three Actions. Once the Call is open, the three Actions will be listed on <https://procurement.ecmwf.int>, each with its own dedicated link. The Coordinator must register interest separately for each Action for which they intend to submit a Proposal.

The Coordinator is responsible for submitting the Application Form and the supporting documents via the Submission Portal (as PDF or other formats allowed by the portal), on behalf of and mandated by all the other proposed Participants. Therefore, the Coordinator will have to confirm in the online questionnaire – available in the Submission Portal – that they have been mandated by all the other proposed Participants involved in the Proposal to act on their behalf in all matters pertaining to the Proposal including, but not limited to, submitting responses to the questionnaire and to upload the required forms and documents on their behalf.

Please note that registration must be completed as early as possible and, in any case, sufficiently in advance of the Call for Proposals deadline. As the registration process is managed by an external provider, delays may occur which are beyond our control. Failure to register in a timely manner may result in the registration not being processed on time. Late registrations are at the Applicants' own risk and without any guarantee of completion before the Call deadline.

More detailed information on the submission process, the application form and supporting documents can be found in the 'Guidelines for Applicants'.

The proposed Participants may also be asked at a later stage for further documents (e.g. for legal entity validation, financial capacity check, bank account validation, etc.).

ECMWF does not reimburse expenses incurred in connection with the preparation and submission of the Proposal. ECMWF accepts no liability whatsoever, whether in contract, tort or otherwise in relation to the Call for Proposals or in respect of any costs, damages or expenses incurred by Applicants or any third party.

10 CALL DEADLINE AND TIMELINE

The CAMS NCP Call for Proposals opens on	September 30, 2025
Last date for clarification requests	November 15, 2025
Last date for publishing clarifications	November 22, 2025
The deadline for the CAMS NCP Call for Proposals is	November 30, 2025, at 14:00 (CEST)
The outcome of the evaluation is expected between	March – April 2026
The signature of the Grant Agreement is expected between	May – June 2026

11 OVERVIEW OF KEY LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ELEMENTS

This section presents an indicative and non-exhaustive overview of key legal and financial elements relevant at Proposal preparation stage and – in case of award – at Grant implementation stage.

Non-cumulative award and no double financing

Each Beneficiary may not get more than one Grant per Action. The Applicants must specify in the application form any applications and awarded grants/tenders relating to the same Action or to the same work. The same costs cannot be funded more than once by ECMWF.

Retroactivity

No Grant may be awarded retroactively for projects already completed. The Project starting date and duration are fixed in the Grant Agreement. Normally, the starting date will be after the Grant has been signed. A retroactive starting date - prior to the Grant Agreement's signature - may be exceptionally granted for duly justified reasons, subject to agreement with ECMWF. However, it can never be earlier than the date on which the evaluation results notification (information letter) is sent to the Applicants.

No-profit rule

Grants must not have the purpose or effect of generating a profit within the framework of the Action. If there is a profit (i.e. surplus of revenues + ECMWF Grant over costs), it will be deducted from the final Grant amount.

Multiple submission and participation

Applicants are strongly encouraged to be involved in no more than one Proposal per Action, either by submitting it as prospective Coordinator or by joining it as part of a project consortium. While this is not a mandatory requirement, multiple participations are discouraged and will only be accepted if duly justified.

Legal commitments

By submitting Proposals in response to this Call for Proposals, Applicants are acknowledging that they are indicating their intention and willingness to enter into a Grant Agreement under the terms and conditions set out in the Call for Proposals and in the Grant Agreement Template. Submission of a Proposal implies acceptance of these terms and conditions. Successful Applicants shall be bound by the obligations, terms, and conditions of the Grant Agreement, including the obligation to provide accurate, sincere, and complete information throughout the grant procedure. However, ECMWF is under no obligation to award a Grant based on any Proposal received. The Proposal shall remain valid for nine months after the closing date for this Call for Proposals.

Pre-financing rate and payments

In case of award, there will be three payments: pre-financing; interim payment (mid-term); final payment.

Payments	Reporting period from Month	Reporting period to Month	Deadline for reporting	Deadline time to pay
Pre-financing	NA	NA	[Coordinator invoicing ECMWF as soon as possible after signature of the Grant Agreement]	After 60 days from receipt of the invoice
Interim payment	E.g. 1	E.g. 12	Within 60 days after the end of reporting period	After 60 days from the approval of the interim report
Final payment	E.g.13	E.g. 24	Within 60 days after the end of reporting period	After 60 days from the approval of the final report

The pre-financing payment may be granted for up to 50% of the estimated budget. The amount shall be determined on the basis of the outcome of the financial capacity assessment carried out by ECMWF. Different pre-financing rates can be applied by ECMWF in case of non-satisfactory outcome of the financial capacity assessment on the grant recipients.

The interim payment ceiling during the Grant implementation is 80% of the maximum Grant amount total budget. The remaining budget, if due, will be paid after the final reporting.

Ownership of the Results and intellectual property rights (IPR)

In Grants, Results are owned by the Beneficiaries that generate them. Therefore, ECMWF does not obtain ownership of the Results produced under the Project. However, ECMWF, the European Commission and other entities mentioned in Clause 2.3 of the Grant Agreement Template have the right to use the Results, Deliverables, reports and other documents relating to the Project for the purposes of the Copernicus Programme as well as for its own internal purposes. Furthermore, ECMWF, the European Commission and other entities mentioned in Clause 2.3 of the Grant Agreement Template have the right to use Beneficiaries' materials, documents and information (notably summaries for publication, Deliverables and any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) and Results for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes. For the terms and conditions on IPR, please refer to the Grant Agreement Template.

12 CONFIDENTIALITY AND DATA PROTECTION

ECMWF reserves the right to retain all documents submitted by the proposed Participants in response to the Call for Proposals. Any information in such documents that is proprietary and confidential to the proposed Participants will be handled confidentially by ECMWF provided it is clearly and specifically identified as such. Such obligation shall not apply if such information is or was obtained from other sources that do not bind ECMWF as to confidentiality or if the information is in the public domain.

ECMWF may make Proposals available for evaluation purposes to authorised people including its governing body, committees, and professional advisers in addition to ECMWF's own personnel under the same conditions of confidentiality.

The reply to any Call for Proposals involves the recording and processing of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) such as name, address, and PII included in the CVs. Please also note that all personally identifiable information processed by ECMWF will be treated in accordance with ECMWF Policy on Personally Identifiable Information Protection (PIIP) available at <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/privacy>.

Unless indicated otherwise, the questions and any Personally Identifiable Information requested that are required for evaluating the application in accordance with the Call for Proposal will be processed solely for that purpose.

13 REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATIONS AND CONTACTS

Please submit your queries via the Submission Portal. For more information on how to contact ECMWF via the Submission Portal, please refer to the 'Guidelines for Applicants to the CAMS NCP Call for Proposals 2025'.

14 ANNEXES

This Call for Proposals comprises:

- Application Form: Annex I - Technical Description; Annex II - Estimated Budget; Annex III - Administrative Information.
- Supporting Documents: Legal Entity Form for Public Entities; Legal Entity Form for Private Entities; Legal Entity Form for Individuals; Declaration Form for Economic and Financial Capacity; COP Restrictive Measures Form.
- Grant Agreement Template.
- Guidelines for Applicants.