

Guidelines for Copernicus Relays

Prerequisite:

Acquire and regularly renew your label to keep the status of a Copernicus Relay bestowed by the European Commission identifying yourself as an ambassador and local contact office of one of the most important programmes of the European Union in support of digitalisation. The programme links Relays to the expectation of supporting to capitalise on the investments into the European space programme Copernicus.

Vision:

- Become or be part of local **Copernicus Information & Application Hub** acting as a catalyser between the different actors;
- Contribute to, make available and promote an inventory and map local expertise and demand related to EO - best accessible online, in the easy terms of local application users and in local language;
- Support EO data to become part of a holistic process combining various data sources, be it from space (e.g., GNSS data) or from other sources.

What are the skills a Copernicus Relay needs?

- Organisational expertise;
- Understanding of Copernicus infrastructure & basic technical skills on data access and processing;
- Ability to follow developments on digital markets & its fast-changing environment (EO is part of Big Data);
- Embedding in relevant local business networks, public administrative structures, educational & academic as well as civil society sectors;
- Knowledge and experience with funding opportunities be it local, regional, national or European;
- Finding its niche and recognition in the local regional policy and strategy for digitalisation;
- Ability to reach out to the local regional ecosystem via existing networks & appropriate dissemination tools/channels;
- Ability to represent the EU Copernicus Program and its opportunities within your local/regional ecosystem and its stakeholder and to be(come) recognised as such.

Activities to offer:

- Awareness raising and promotion acting as a local link for EC opportunities;
- Training activities;
- Guide local stakeholders on e.g., data, opportunity, funding, contacts;
- Support to user uptake, depending on the target group:
 - Regional/sub-national authorities, including bigger metropolitan areas, it is
 - Political engagement;
 - Technical engagement;
 - SMEs, it is
 - Support to development, including business incubation and acceleration;
 - Copernicus Academy members, it is
 - R&D support, knowledge transfer promotion, training modules as well as mediation of contacts;



Create synergies between Copernicus Relays & Copernicus Academy members

- Promote the adhesion of new and already existing Copernicus Relays & Copernicus Academy members in the region to cover different areas of interest and roles, best under a local strategy and/or action plan
- Copernicus Relay & Copernicus Academy members should team-up, best along concrete locally relevant application cases and solutions
 - Copernicus Relays provide access and door opening for Copernicus Academy members to regional public authorities and small and medium-sized companies dealing with Earth Observation services & applications
 - Copernicus Academy members inventory academic and research knowledge relevant to Earth Observation/Copernicus applications and promote that to Copernicus Relays and their network of SMEs & public authorities, best in a searchable online directory/cloud.

