



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND THE CO-ORDINATION
OF POST COVID-19 STRATEGY



The Malta Council for
Science & Technology

**NATIONAL
SPACE FUND**



Space Research Fund 2021

A scheme in collaboration with
the European Space Agency

Space Research Fund



Scope

Financial support for R&D&I in the downstream Earth Observation (EO) sector to tackle societal challenges in Malta.
Capacity building measure to jump start the EO sector.

Who can apply?

All Maltese Legal Entities:

Private Entity or
Public Entity or
Public Research & Dissemination Organisation

Research Streams

Stream 1: (TRL 1 to 4)

Stream 2: (TRL 5+)

Up to €150,000

de minimis or GBER or State Aid Not Applicable

Project Duration

20 months across two stages.

Eligible Costs

Personnel (Salaries)
Specialized Equipment
Consumables
Subcontracting
and more

Typical Consortium Compositions

Sole Beneficiary
Public – Private
Public – Public
Private – Private

Space Research Fund – Types of Personnel

A multidisciplinary team is required:

- Remote Sensing Competencies – people who can interpret EO data.
- Scientists – varies **according to thematic area chosen** e.g. agronomists, geologists, environmental.
- Engineers – **designing and deploying in situ sensors** (land, sea or air), weather stations etc.
- ICT personnel with **Artificial Intelligence** and **Computer Vision** competencies.
- Personnel with **specific licences** (such a drone flying permits).
- **Expertise from abroad** – Earth Observation is at an embryonic stage in Malta. Participation of foreign companies and/or consultants is allowed by a reasonable justification (subcontracting).





sentinel-1

→ **RADAR VISION**



sentinel-2

→ **COLOUR VISION**



sentinel-3

→ **A BIGGER PICTURE**



sentinel-4

→ **EUROPEAN AIR MONITORING**



sentinel-5p | sentinel-5

→ **GLOBAL AIR MONITORING**



sentinel-6

→ **SURFING THE SEAS**

IMP: Utilization and exploitation of existing European Union EO infrastructures.

[Click here: Discover our satellites](#)

Typical Applications

Diverse data = diverse thematic areas, e.g.:

- Atmospheric Monitoring (air quality and atmospheric composition)
- Marine Environment Monitoring (marine safety, sustainable fisheries, sea surface temperature)
- Land Monitoring (Land-use, precision agriculture, cultural heritage)
- Climate and weather monitoring
- Emergency (Mapping of floods, search and rescue)

Agricultural monitoring



Biodiversity and environmental protection



Blue economy and related sustainable development



Climate and weather monitoring



Emergency response and crises management

Funded Thematic Areas

2018

- Data fusion and hydrodynamical modelling of the Maltese coastal areas.
- Developing crop patterns to optimise agricultural processes.

2019

- Detection of Chlorophyll and Total Suspended Matter around Malta.
- Cultural Heritage.
- Air quality monitoring and weather prediction.

2020

- Monitoring of Land Change in Coastal Areas
- Detection of water usage in agricultural processes.

[Visit our website for more information about the projects.](#)

**NATIONAL
SPACE FUND**



Stage 2: Evaluation

	Stream 1 Technology Concept Research (TRL 1 to 4)	Stream 2 Applied Technology Development (TRL 5+)
Beneficiary <i>(sole or consortium)</i>	It is recommended that the beneficiary or consortium includes at least one research or knowledge dissemination organisation .	The beneficiary or consortium preferably includes an end user of the technology under development. Furthermore, it is recommended that the beneficiary or consortium includes at least one industrial entity .
Research Prospects and Impacts	Prospects of the proposal have a medium importance . It is recommended that the proposal makes reference to an eventual case study or end-user of the research being proposed.	Prospects of the proposal have a high importance under this stream. A credible route to commercialisation which promises a saleable product rooted in the needs of the end user is important.



Content Evaluation Criteria

Excellence, Impact and Implementation

	Stream 1 Technology Concept Research (TRL 1 to 4)	Stream 2 Applied Technology Development (TRL 5+)
Excellence	40%	25%
Impact	30%	45%
Implementation	30%	30%
Total	100%	100%

The criteria is the same for both streams





GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH,
INNOVATION AND THE CO-ORDINATION
OF POST COVID-19 STRATEGY



The Malta Council for
Science & Technology

27 July 2021

SAT-FIRE

Public Engagement Event



Image: © ESA. All Rights Reserved



L-Università
ta' Malta



esplora®

Thanks for listening

- More information can be found here:

<https://mcst.gov.mt/space-directorate/space-research-fund/>

- Any queries do not hesitate to contact:

space.mcst@gov.mt

