

Improving the Open Call - how do we organise better

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Mechanism within the EO Programme to conduct highly innovative research and development projects (150k€ and 12 months) with deadlines for proposals every four months under specific themes:

- 1. Grand Science Challenges,**
- 2. Artificial Intelligence for EO,**
- 3. EO for a resilient society - EO for environmental threats/sustainable development goals,**
- 4. Regional initiatives,**
- 5. EO for Civil Security Applications.**

It is well thought of by MS:

‘The Open Call for innovative science projects in EOEP-5 and Future EO-1 S1 is highly successful, having attracted more than 500 submissions, with 130 projects funded or around 30 per year at a maximum budget of 150K each. However, this maximum cap may be limiting the breadth of possible scientific innovation.’

Rec 16: The panel recommends that ESA finds the means to increase the budget for the Open Call for innovative science projects, at programme level and for individual projects.

How we can collectively (ESA, MS, Community) improve the Permanently Open Call for the FutureEO Segment 2 (S2).

- How can we change the Open Call so it works for all sides (MS, ESA, Bidders) without impacting the innovation/openness.
 - The Open Call is already a major task to manage (3 boards/year with over 150 bids to review i.e. approximately 50 per board), it really helps if we have proposals that respect the format!
 - What are the constraints/programmatic borders such that expectation in terms of the return is realistic
 - What makes a 'good' proposal (innovation, risk, achievability)

Open Call Agora Panel

- Delegate from a Member State – **Michael Bock**
- Project Opinions - CYMS: **Francois Salout**
- Project Opinions – SeasFire: **Ioannis Papoutsis**
- Representative from EOP-Phi – **Sveinung Loekken**
- Representative from EOP-S – **Diego Fernandez**
- Mediator – **Stephen Plummer (EOP-S)**

12:55 – 13:00 Welcome and Introduction to The Panel (**Stephen Plummer**)

13:00 – 13:10 The Open Call – Facts and Figures (**Diego Fernandez**)

13:10 – 13:15 What makes a Good Proposal (**Ioannis Papoutsis**)

13:15 – 13:20 What makes a Good Proposal (**Francois Salout**)

13:20 – 13:25 The Open Call – How can we do better (**Michael Bock**)

13:25 – 13:30 The Open Call – Issues for discussion from ESA (**Sveinung Loekken**)

13:30 – 13:55 Open discussion (**Stephen Plummer**)