

## ESA Digital Twin Component Expression of Interest FAQs:

**Q: I am not from an ESA member state, can I still participate in the ESA DTC EoI?**

A: There are no restrictions on the nationality of the institutions that can contribute to the call for EoI, however, only institutions from participating ESA member states can participate to the planned Invitations To Tender that will be published in late 2023.

**Q: Is there a minimum required TRL for proposed DTC projects, and what TRL level are DTC projects expected to reach?**

A: For this EoI there are no limits on the TRL of proposed DTC concepts, the future ITTs on DTCs will be available for both more developed concepts, and very early-stage concepts.

**Q: Can products resulting from past or current ESA funded activities be mentioned in the call?**

A: Yes, there are no restrictions.

**Q: Can we submit multiple DTC concepts?**

A: Yes, there are no restrictions.

**Q: We have already undertaken significant work towards the development of a regional Digital Twin, which includes the use of non-EO data. Is this within the scope of a lead DTC development action?**

A: There are no restrictions on the use of non-EO data.

**Q: We have a tool that can form the basis of a DTC. Can ESA help us identify potential partners to develop a DTC concept?**

A: As part of the DTE programme, different workshops and community events are planned where opportunities for networking will be promoted.

**Q: Will the contents of the EoI be made public, including names of consortium members?**

A: No, EoIs will be kept confidential.

**Q: In some cases, EO data is not extensive enough to develop a DTC as described in the call, can models be used to overcome any shortfall in data?**

A: Yes. As mentioned in the call, DTs may be based on an effective integration of EO data, models, AI and other processing elements.

**Q: We have several ideas for DTCs, can we combine them all into one EoI?**

A: Please submit a separate EoI for each DTC concept.

**Q: For the planned procurement, are multiple Lead EO DTC Development Actions and Early EO DTC Development actions planned, or will there be only one project per action?**

A: Multiple projects per action are planned.

**Q: Does the four-page limit for the EoI include references and letters of support?**

A: Ancillary material (cover pages, references, letters of support, etc) can be provided on-top of the four-page limit.

**Q: Will ESA DTC ITTs support development platforms and cloud computing services or can we include rely on such services being available?**

A: It is ESA's intention to require and stimulate the availability of integrated support functions both for software environment and for infrastructure on the ESA DestinE/DTE platform from the services operators. The access to public cloud environment is part of the platform commitment as well as many services for data access, analysis and transformation. The development and the operation of these services are parts of the ESA DestinE and of the ESA DTE programmes. Specific requirements identified by potential services as part of this EoI should be highlighted (nature: type of function and volume: system budget) as the DestinE/DTE platform is the target environment and cannot be substituted by any alternative for the ESA DTE.