Rules of Participation

Preamble

The Copernicus Hackathon Programme is part of the European Union Copernicus Start-up Programme, originated to stimulate the generation of new business ideas based on Copernicus data and services.

The Copernicus Hackathon Programme is implemented by Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen (hereinafter "Coordinator") on behalf of the European Commission (hereinafter "EC").

The Food Security and Resilience Copernicus Hackathon is organised by University of Leicester (hereinafter "Organiser").

1. **Objectives**

The Copernicus Hackathon Programme pursues the following objectives:

- Increase the number of users of Copernicus data and services
- Stimulate the generation of new business ideas based on Copernicus data and services
- Raising awareness of the opportunities offered by Copernicus data and services
- Train potential users on how to access and use Copernicus data and services
- Support the development of a thriving Copernicus downstream eco-system, by favouring cooperation between multiple stakeholders and maximise the socio-economic benefits of Copernicus

The Food Security and Resilience Copernicus Hackathon furthermore aims at identifying solutions in support of a common goal of food and water security, community cohesiveness and greater awareness of critical societal issues and challenges.

2. **Date and location**

The Food Security and Resilience Copernicus Hackathon will take place on 19th and 20th September 2019 at the David Wilson Library, on the University of Leicester main campus.

Participants are expected to participate also in any pre-event trainings proposed by the Organiser. Details are available on the event web page, at https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

The latest version of the detailed event agenda can always be found at https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

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3. Who can join?

All Participants to a Copernicus hackathon shall be of legal age and resident of one of the Copernicus participating countries (EU Member States + Norway and Iceland). Participants shall have skills relevant to software development, including computer programmers, graphic and interface designers, GIS and EO experts, project managers and thematic experts (agriculture, energy, forestry, oil & gas…).

4. Event logistics and related cost

Participation to the Copernicus Hackathon is free of charge. Meals will be provided for the whole duration of the Copernicus Hackathon.

Participants are requested to arrange for their own travel and accommodation. Travel and accommodation grants are available for eligible participants. For details please contact LeicInnovation@le.ac.uk.

The participants shall bring their own devices with Wi-Fi capability. The Organiser will provide the credentials for accessing internet resources for the duration of the Copernicus Hackathon.

Participants have to accept and respect Library Regulations.

5. Registration

Participants are requested to register for the Copernicus Hackathon before 8th September 2019 at https://copernicushackathonleicester.eventbrite.co.uk.

Participation is limited to 60 participants. The Organiser may decide to close the registration before the deadline in case the maximum number of participants is reached.

Participants can register alone or in teams of six.

If not already registered as teams, the Organiser will match the Participants before or during the Hackathon to ensure that each team is composed of participants with a mix of relevant skills as mention above.

6. Challenges

This Copernicus Hackathon will address a number of challenges around the theme of food and water security for a sustainable future. A public call for participation will invite relevant stakeholders, academic staff, hackathon mentors and participants to submit their proposed challenge. A panel will select the best proposals. More information can be found at https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

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7. Technical support and training

The Copernicus Hackathon will offer business and technical training before and during the event. For this Organiser will provide the Participants with access to relevant coaching and IT infrastructure (hardware, software, API…) throughout the Hackathon, to facilitate access and use of Copernicus data.

Separate conditions may apply for usage of such coaching and IT infrastructure. More information can be found at https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

8. Expected output

The Copernicus Hackathon shall constitute a coding experience during which Copernicus data is actually accessed and used. The expected output shall thus go beyond mere concept presentations.

9. Evaluation

The Organiser will appoint a selection board, to select the best team at the end of the Hackathon.

The solutions presented to the selection board will be evaluated based on the following evaluation criteria:

- Relevance to the hackathon topic. Weight: 25%
- Interest of the project (Is the project innovative? Does it create value for the users? Is it feasible technically?). Weight: 50%
- Quality of the team (technical and business expertise, understanding of the thematic area, commitment to the project). Weight: 25%

All experts appointed for the evaluation will sign a declaration of secrecy and non-interest with the Organiser.

10. Awarding of Prizes

A prize will be given to the best team at the end of the Hackathon.

One seat in the Copernicus Accelerator (a one-year coaching scheme organised by the EC) will be provided for the winning team.

In addition, the Organiser and local partners may award additional prizes, as advertised at https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

Each winner is responsible for all federal, state, local, provisional and other taxes.

11. Confidentiality & Ownership of the Results

Participants will own the intellectual property rights to all their developments made during the Copernicus Hackathon. Ownership of the teams' output shall be with the teams' Participants, who will jointly own the app concepts / draft developments.

It is up to the respective teams to protect the developments in the relevant legislations, as far as the apps are in a development status allowing such protection.

The Participants need to ensure that the output of their group work will be an app which will be clearly "free-standing", i.e. based on a software programme which is developed "from scratch" by the Participants and does not contain already existing software from third parties. That will ensure that the later commercial use of the app(s) will not encounter any problems in terms of intellectual property rights belonging to a third party.

The Organiser confirms to not disclose any confidential information acquired through the organisation of a Copernicus Hackathon to any third party. The Organiser furthermore ensures that all experts and mentors involved in the Copernicus Hackathon commit to a non-disclosure agreement.

12. Data Protection

The Organiser will handle and protect personal data of all Participants within the frame of the Data Protection Law in the EU - General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR. The personal data of all Participants are handled exclusively in a Member State of the European Union or in a Contracting State of the Agreement on the European Economic Area. Any transfer of personal data to a third country is excluded.

The Participant allows the Organiser to transmit their contact details to the EC and the Coordinator to inform them of all matters related to the Copernicus Hackathon Programme and of any other issues the Coordinator and the EC deem relevant and appropriate.

By participating in the Copernicus Hackathon, all participants acknowledge that the EC, the Coordinator and the Organiser may use their names, country of origin, comments, likenesses, photos and videos (incl. photos/videos taken of the participants during the Copernicus Hackathon), and non-confidential descriptions of their apps developed during the Copernicus Hackathon in publicity or advertising concerning the Copernicus Hackathon or otherwise in any medium now known or hereafter devised (including the Internet or other interactive networks) at any place and time without further compensation or right of review and agree to waive their rights with respect to any such publicity and advertising.

The obligations related to personal data protection shall continue to be in effect for an unlimited period or as long as prescribed by applicable law.

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13. User satisfaction

Participants agree to complete a short user satisfaction questionnaire after the Hackathon.

14. Miscellaneous

The award decisions shall not be subject to legal challenge. The decisions rendered by the expert appointed by the Organiser shall be final and binding for all Participants of the Copernicus Hackathon. Participants shall have no right to a justification of such decisions.

The European Commission, the Coordinator and the Organiser reserve the right to modify these terms, including any of the deadlines set forth herein, at any time.

Participation in the Copernicus Hackathon shall be governed by laws of England and Wales. Place of jurisdiction shall be the courts of England and Wales. This agreement is subject to the laws of laws of England and Wales. In case of any dispute related to this agreement, the courts of jurisdiction are courts of England and Wales.

15. Contact

For more information please visit: https://copernicus-hackathon.le.ac.uk/.

If you have any further questions, please send them to LeicInnovation@le.ac.uk.

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