

International Bilateral Fund Request for Information

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Executive Summary:

The UK Space Agency (UKSA) is an executive agency of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and provides technical advice on the government's space strategy, supporting the UK space sector to deliver the government's vision.

The [Integrated Review](#) and Pillar 2 of the [National Space Strategy \(NSS\)](#) highlight the UK's ambition to "increase our bilateral and multilateral partnerships with other spacefaring nations, forging the best relationships to achieve our goals in space.". To support our international ambitions, there are a range of funding opportunities, including the International Bilateral Fund (IBF), which will (subject to business case approvals) open in April 2023 and carry across until March 2025. The IBF is designed to fund UK space projects which focus on both the UK's strategic priority countries, as referenced in the National Space Strategy, and emerging space nations.

The objectives of the IBF are to:

- Build stronger relationships with international partners and become a trusted partner of choice
- Increase UK space sector inward investment and exports
- Develop UK capabilities in collaboration with our international partners.

The fund will leverage £20m worth of investment across [UKSA's eight priority areas](#) to deliver on our value proposition to catalyse investment, build and develop UK missions and capabilities, and to champion space on the international stage.

The IBF could include projects which, for example, tackle global challenges like climate change or support projects which focus on sustainability or low-earth orbit capabilities.

This IBF-RFI will help guide UKSA's next steps and aid our understanding of potential projects that the sector is currently exploring or would like to explore, with international partners. We are seeking responses from organisations willing to conduct the work in the UK to meet the objectives of the National Space Strategy.

The programme team will be running a Webinar on 23 November 2022 from 11h00 – 12h00 to provide further background information and address any questions you may have. Further details of how to register are listed below.

If you believe this opportunity will be of interest to you or your organisation, please complete the questionnaire below by 16.00 5 December 2022 in no more than 2 pages of A4 and email to ibf@ukspaceagency.gov.uk quoting IBF-RFI in the subject line.

I am grateful in advance for the time and effort taken in replying to this request for information.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Boyall

Director of International

UK Space Agency

How the information you provide will be used and treated:

- Responses received together with wider available information will be used to guide UKSA's next steps for the IBF and to gain an understanding of potential projects that the sector is currently exploring or would like to explore, with international partners.
- Information that you provide, not already in the public domain, will be treated as commercially sensitive information. This means that access to this information will be stored in a protected digital folder restricted to UKSA staff involved with the purpose of this RFI.
- If the UKSA wishes to share your information with any international partners, it will consult with you first and shall ensure that confidentiality agreements with such international partners are in place.
- The RFI participation process, including how to send your response appears in the section directly after the questionnaire below. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with UKSA via the following email if you would like us to take additional steps to receive or store your response: ibf@ukspaceagency.gov.uk
- All personal data will be protected according to UK General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) rules.
- All responses collected will be deleted by 31 December 2028 when we expect all initial activities regarding the purpose would have expired. The information gathered will not be used beyond the stated purpose without explicit permission.

RFI Terms:

- This RFI is intended to be a request for information only. No contractual obligation is expected to arise from this RFI process.
- This RFI does not commit the UK Space Agency to pay any cost incurred in the preparation or submission of any response to the RFI.
- Responding (or failing to respond) to this RFI will not prejudice you from participating in any future calls for information or to tender proposals.

RFI Participation Process:

- Please provide answers to the below RFI questions on a submission of no more than two-pages A4.
- The two-page submissions should be sent as either a Microsoft Word or PDF (Portable Document Format) to: ibf@ukspaceagency.gov.uk with "IBF-RFI" as the subject line.
- The deadline for responses is 16.00, 5/12/2022.
- The programme team will be running a Webinar from 11h00 – 12h00 on 23 November 2022. Please register for the event [here](#). The link will open at 8am 2nd November 2022 for registration.
- If you need more time or if you have any questions/queries about the process, please contact ibf@ukspaceagency.gov.uk
- An email confirmation of receipt from UKSA will be sent within a one-week period to the designated point of contact.

IBF RFI Timings	
IBF RFI Issued	1 November 2022
Briefing	23 November 2022
IBF RFI Deadline	5 December 2022

Questionnaire:

Please provide answers to the following questions in the two-page submission:

1. Please provide a single point of contact for your company / organisation, as well as basic details about your company/organisation, including:
 - a. Location of company/organisation/institution
 - b. Approximate number of employees in the company/organisation/institution
 - c. Primary activities (e.g. component manufacturers, academia, space applications etc.)
2. Please indicate the international partner of interest for your proposed project (we will only be seeking to fund projects that involve international collaboration):
 - a. Name the country(s)
 - b. Describe how this partnership can meet the objective of building stronger relationships with international partner and helping the UK to become a trusted partner of choice.
3. Please provide a brief description of your proposed project, including:
 - a. Theme (e.g. Earth Observation, Space Surveillance and Tracking etc)
 - b. Objectives of the project (TRL raising, fundamental science, demonstration etc)
 - c. Indication of the maturity of the project/concept.
 - d. Indicative costs
 - e. duration
4. Please identify which UKSA priority area the project relates to and how the project will catalyse investment into the UK space sector, support missions and capabilities, or champion space. Please refer to the UKSA [Corporate Plan](#) for details on UKSA priorities.

Privacy Notice:

This notice sets out how we will use your personal data, and your rights. It is made under Articles 13 and/or 14 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

YOUR DATA

The data

We will process the following personal data:

Names and contact details of employees involved in preparing and submitting responses to the Request for Information.

Purpose

We are processing your personal data for the purposes of the Request for Information (RFI) described within the accompanying RFI.

Legal basis of processing

The legal basis for processing your personal data is Consent.

Recipients

Your personal data may be shared by us with other Government Departments or public authorities where necessary as part of the RFI exercise. We may share your data if we are required to do so by law, for example by court order or to prevent fraud or other crime.

As your personal data will be stored on our IT infrastructure it will also be shared with our data processors Microsoft and Amazon Web Services.

Retention

All responses collected including personal data will be deleted by 31 December 2028 when we expect all initial activities regarding the purpose would have expired. The information gathered will not be used beyond the stated purpose without explicit permission.

Automated decision making

Your personal data will not be subject to automated decision making.

YOUR RIGHTS

You have the right to request information about how your personal data are processed, and to request a copy of that personal data.

You have the right to request that any inaccuracies in your personal data are rectified without delay.

You have the right to request that any incomplete personal data are completed, including by means of a supplementary statement.

You have the right to request that your personal data are erased if there is no longer a justification for them to be processed.

You have the right in certain circumstances (for example, where accuracy is contested) to request that the processing of your personal data is restricted.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data where it is processed for direct

marketing purposes.

You have the right to withdraw consent to the processing of your personal data at any time.

You have the right to request a copy of any personal data you have provided, and for this to be provided in a structured, commonly used, and machine-readable format.

COMPLAINTS

If you consider that your personal data has been misused or mishandled, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner, who is an UK independent regulator. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
0303 123 1113
casework@ico.org.uk

Any complaint to the Information Commissioner is without prejudice to your right to seek redress through the courts.

CONTACT DETAILS

The data controller for your personal data is the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). You can contact the BEIS Data Protection Officer at:

BEIS Data Protection Officer
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Email: dataprotection@beis.gov.uk

END