

## Call for expression of interest - Investor Network Database

### 1. Introduction

The Space Strategy for Europe recognized that investments in ‘downstream’<sup>1</sup> space developments are necessary to demonstrate the important role of space in achieving the key objectives of EU policies.

A huge contribution to the development of policy driven innovations is in hands of the start-ups and SMEs. They bring innovative solutions to challenges like climate change, resource efficiency and social cohesion and help spread this innovation throughout Europe’s regions.

In the EU there is a strong need to increase the number of successful start-ups and scale-ups also in the space sector. The new Space Entrepreneurship Initiative aims to create efficient and effective environment for EU small businesses, make them grow and scale up in the single market<sup>2</sup>. The need for supporting the growth of start-ups and SMEs was expressed during a set of consultations with stakeholders (Industry, Universities, Member States).<sup>3</sup>

In order to respond to the user needs, the EUSPA has progressively implemented activities that aim at support start-ups, R&D projects, funding opportunities, innovation centres and user communities to facilitate the development of innovative applications based on European space technology.

A Memorandum of Understanding (‘MOU’) signed between the EUSPA and the European Investment Bank (‘EIB’) in September 2019 is bringing together the expertise and experience to explore new investment support for the European space-based economy. The common objective is to create high-skilled jobs in the EU and improve the day-to-day lives of Europeans by supporting innovative companies and accelerating the development of new applications that use European global navigation satellite systems and earth observation data. Within this MoU the EUSPA agreed with EIB to create a Space Venture Capitalists database that will be publicly available.

Cooperation with Investors will support the space-based entrepreneurship to increase the downstream competitiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> In particular, space ‘downstream’ means all those activities based on space technology, or using a space-derived system in a space or non-space environment, that may result in an application, product or service to the benefit of the European economy or society.

<sup>2</sup> SME Strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-sme-strategy-march-2020\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication-sme-strategy-march-2020_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup>

[https://www.gsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/european\\_gnss\\_downstream\\_research\\_innovation\\_priorities\\_and\\_consultation\\_results.pdf](https://www.gsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/european_gnss_downstream_research_innovation_priorities_and_consultation_results.pdf)

## **2. Scope and Purpose**

The EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA) is launching the current call for expression of interest in order to establish an investor network interested to invest in European innovative companies working in space downstream domain.

The list of investors interested in investments in Space will be published on the EUSPA website in order to facilitate the contact between the space companies and investors.

Creation of the database will allow to startups/SMEs to make connections to investors that may be interested in their product(s).

The list of investors interested in investments in Space will be published on the EUSPA website in order to facilitate the contact between the space companies that seek private funding and the investors.

The information about investor network members will be kept for 7 years.

## **3. Registrations**

In order to register to the investor network database, please submit the following information using the email address [entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu) clearly indicating in the object of the email "Call for expression of interest – Investor Network":

- Company name
- Market segments of interest
- Short description of the investor
- Link to the investor website
- Name, last name, email address of point of contact

The call for expression of interest does not foresee deadline for registration.

## **4. Data protection**

Privacy statement on the protection of personal data in relation to the establishment and management of the investor network:

All personal data are dealt with in compliance with the applicable rules on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (currently Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725).

The following data protection information notice outlines the criteria by which the EUSPA collects, manages and uses the data in relation to the establishment and management of the investor network.

**Identity of controller and data protection officer:**

- Controller: EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), Head of the Market Downstream and Innovation Department; [entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu)
- DPO: EU Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), Data Protection Officer; [dpo@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:dpo@euspa.europa.eu)

**Purposes of processing:**

- the establishment of a database of investors interested in investing in European innovative companies working in space domain;
- the communication with the investors' contact points in relation to space activities (e.g. companies success stories, information about events)
- the publication on the EUSPA website of the database, **excluding any personal data** (as explained in the section directly below).

**Data/Categories of data concerned:**

Entities interested in registering in the investor network database must submit via email certain information to the EUSPA, as explained in the Call for Expression of interest.

The only personal data requested in the frame of the registration is the name, last name and email address of the interested entity's contact point. **It is underlined that such personal data will not be published on the EUSPA website.**

**Recipients/Categories of recipients of the data processed:**

- Staff of the EUSPA Market Downstream and Innovation Department and Communication Department
- Data processors: EUSPA may engage the following external contractors which are bound by personal data protection rules equal to those applying to the EUSPA:
  - a limited number of staff of the EUSPA contractors in charge of the communication services;
  - a limited number of staff of the EUSPA contractors in charge of supporting market development activities;
  - a limited number of the EUSPA contractors in charge of the provision of hosting services for the EUSPA's servers

**Legal basis/Lawfulness of the processing:**

Processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Art. 5(1)(b) of Regulation 2018/1725): The processing is necessary for the compliance with a legal obligation to which the EUSPA is subject and, more specifically, to Article 14(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December

2013 on the implementation and exploitation of European satellite navigation systems (GNSS Regulation).

**Information on the storage locations and retention period of personal data:**

- Personal data is stored electronically on the servers of the EUSPA contractors mentioned above which are located in the EU.
- Personal data is retained for 7 years. Once the retention period is over, personal data are destroyed.

**Data subjects have the right:**

- To obtain confirmation as to whether or not his or her personal data are being processed, access the data and obtain detailed information on the processing;
- Of rectification of inaccurate personal data;
- Of erasure of personal data if the statutory provisions are met;
- Of restriction of processing if the statutory provisions are met;
- To lodge a complaint to the European Data Protection Supervisor at [EDPS@edps.europa.eu](mailto:EDPS@edps.europa.eu) should they consider that the processing operations do not comply with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

Any request for the exercise of any of the abovementioned rights shall be addressed to the EUSPA Market Downstream and Innovation Department at [entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu) ; data subjects are kindly requested to describe their requests explicitly.

**Contact information:**

- Regarding the processing of your personal data: [entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:entrepreneurship@euspa.europa.eu)
- Regarding the interpretation, application or breach of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, please contact the EUSPA Data Protection Officer (DPO) at [dpo@euspa.europa.eu](mailto:dpo@euspa.europa.eu).