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# ESA Phi-Lab Spain

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# Phi-Lab Spain: Pioneering climate resilience

Phi-Lab Spain NET aims to drive **innovation** in the space sector by supporting disruptive projects and fostering the transfer of **space technologies** to address **climate resilience** and accelerate their market application.



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# ESA Commercialisation Network

Disruptive research  
innovation projects

Phi-Lab NET

Start-up creation &  
incubation services  
for entrepreneurs

ESA BICs  
NETWORK

Commercial innovation  
projects integrating space  
technologies

ESA  
BROKERS  
NETWORK

**BOOSTING INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALISATION**



Image "Ariane 6 takes flight"  
©ESA - S. Corvaja

# ESA Phi-Lab NET

Each country has a different focus

- AT: Industrial innovation for the upstream domain
- CH: Deep tech innovation (quantum, data, materials)
- ES: Space technologies and their application to boost climate resilience
- FI: Sensors / GIS computing & digital geospatial services (EO, PNT, GNSS)
- IE: Space-optimised hardware from materials discovery to high-volume manufacturing
- NL: EO, critical PNT infrastructure, secure satellite communication
- NO: Arctic requirements and needs
- PL: Robotic and AI for autonomy
- SE: AI and edge computing
- UK: Space enabled sustainability technologies

Each Phi-Lab creates a sustainable ecosystem for innovation, providing comprehensive support to selected Economic Operators, including intellectual contributions and a range of services under one

## ESA PHILABNET MAP

### LEGEND

- Large Phi-Lab
- Medium Phi-Lab



# Phi-Lab Spain Structure



1

Barcelona Headquarters

2

12 consortium members spread across Spain

3

Calls for proposals

4

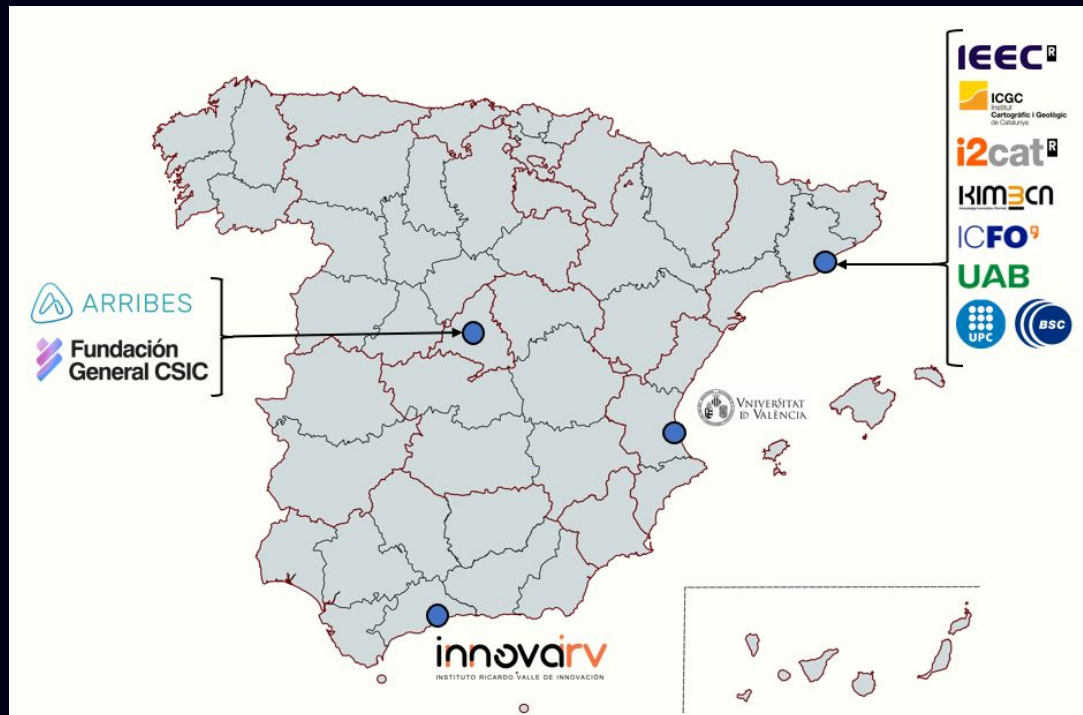
European network



Located in Barcelona (RDIT Building, Mediterranean Technology Park (PMT), Baix Llobregat Campus – UPC)

# Consortium and co-funding

- ❑ Main co-funding: Generalitat de Catalunya through the Space Strategy
- ❑ In-kind contributions from core partners.



# Offering

## SUPPORT AND COACHING

IP management, research mentoring & technical support and business coaching

## ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURES

Space data, laboratories and other specialised facilities with expert advice.

## KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH CAPABILITIES

Consortium with extensive R&D expertise across space industry nationwide.

## NETWORK

Benefit from Phi-Lab network: partners, ESA Phi-Lab NET, ESA Brokers and ESA BICs.

## FUNDING

Innovation seed funds for Economic Operators to research projects.

# Funding opportunities

- **ESA funds** - open call to select research projects, evaluations distributed over the first 4 years
  - Total budget: **4.4 M€** for research projects over 6 years
  - Cut-off dates until 2028 (or until funds are exhausted)
  - Typical funding levels: 200.000€ - 400,000€
- **Local funds** (from the Space Strategy of Catalonia)
  - Use Cases: **150k€** for 3 uses cases
  - Payloads development: **900k€**
  - Access to NewSpace Lab: **115k€**
  - Support to industrial PhD: **30k€**

# Funding - ESA Funds

- **Total budget:** €4.4 million for research projects over 6 years.
- **Cut-off dates until 2028.**
- **Funding per project:** €200,000 - €400,000.

## Funding percentages by type of participant:

- SMEs: Up to 80% of costs.
- Universities/research institutions (non-commercial), as subcontractors:
  - 100% funding, limited to 30% of the total project budget.
  - For more than 30%: the additional amount would receive co-financing of up to 50%.
  - Institutions with commercial interests are subject to the rules for SMEs/non-SMEs.
- Large Enterprises/Other entities: Up to 50%.

# Call details

- **Next cut-off date:** 24 February 2026

## Eligibility Requirements:

- Legal entities in an **ESA Member State**.
- For entities outside Spain, the project must demonstrate a **benefit for Phi-Lab Spain or Spain**
- Up to 30% of ESA Innovation Seed funding is available to foreign operators. International applications can participate as part of the consortium only as subcontractors.
- Full compliance with tax and social security obligations and declaration of no double funding (through other ESA, EU programmes, etc.).
- Technology maturity - Proposals should demonstrate that the maturity of the technology is sufficient to realistically achieve the envisaged innovation, within the scope of the activity → TRL 2 – 6.

2nd Cut-Off date



More information

# Call details

## New Requirement: Contact the ESA Phi-Lab Spain Team

- You **SHALL CONTACT** the ESA Phi-Lab Spain team prior to submitting your proposal (at least one week before the final submission date):  
[opencall-esaphilabnet-spain@ieec.cat](mailto:opencall-esaphilabnet-spain@ieec.cat)

## Other Requirements/Recommendations:

- The project is expected to be led by commercial economic operators (priority for SMEs).
- In the case of a consortium, the prime contractor is solely responsible for the management of funds.
- Maximum duration of 24 months (no minimum duration).
- Keep the length of the proposal to the defined number of pages in the template.

2nd Cut-Off date



More information

# Open Call documentation

## Contents

- ESA Phi-Lab NET Spain Open Call Invitation To Tender
- ESA Phi-Lab NET Spain Draft Research Contract
- ESA Phi-Lab NET Spain Research Proposal Application Template and Cover Letter

Open call



Information, docs  
& proposals  
submission

## Proposal Submission through the form available at the same address

- Proposal Application Cover Letter
- Proposal Application following the Template
- Identification Document of the legal representative of the Applicant Organization
- SME Identification document (Applicants identified as SME must include an official statement or proof confirming their SME status)

# Evaluation criteria

| Criteria                                                     | Weighting Factor | Sub-Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Background and Experience                                    | 25%              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Experience Team composition</li> <li>b) Partnerships and Support Entities</li> <li>c) Vision</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Research and Technology Developments                         | 30%              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Relevance for the Call</li> <li>b) Suitability of technology for targeted application</li> <li>c) Understanding of and leveraging on the State of the Art (SoA), novelty of the proposed research</li> <li>d) Maturity and feasibility for target application and feasibility</li> <li>e) Relevance of the proposed R&amp;D approach</li> </ul> |
| Commercial Opportunities and Potential Socio-Economic Impact | 25%              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Potential Market Segment</li> <li>b) Potential Product/Service</li> <li>c) Potential Customers/Users</li> <li>d) Value Proposition</li> <li>e) Potential Socio Economic Impact (including sustainability)</li> <li>f) IPR strategy</li> </ul>                                                                                                   |
| Activity and Management Proposal                             | 20%              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Relevance of the work to achieve objectives</li> <li>b) Milestones/Cost-planning / Work break down.</li> <li>c) Involvement of customers</li> <li>d) Management of the research project</li> <li>e) Fit with the Philab</li> </ul>                                                                                                              |

# Timeline for the next cut-off date

New documentation upload  
October 2025

2nd Cut-off date  
24 February  
2026

TEB March 2026

Project Negotiation  
April - July 2026

Projects KO  
~July 2026

# ESA Phi-LabNET Spain

## *SpaceTech for Climate Resilience*



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**LinkedIn**: @ESA Phi-LabNET Spain

More information at: <https://esaphilabnet-spain.ieec.cat/>



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