



2nd Geo-INQUIRE Transnational Access Call

1. Scope and call conditions

The 2 Geo-INQUIRE call for Transnational Access to research infrastructures is open to receive applications from interested users **from 22 May until 17 July 2024, 17:00 CEST**. Application for access should be submitted online through the Geo-INQUIRE website.

The access provided through Geo-INQUIRE is free of charge for the selected users, and include all the access costs necessary to perform the proposed research, such as equipment, support personnel at the installation, consumables, training for external users, among others.

Specific installations provide financial travel and subsistence support for the users to visit the installation. To understand if this type of support is available at the installation of choice and under which conditions, users must contact the installation prior to the application.

For questions regarding the submission of proposals, you can contact geoi_ta@gfz-potsdam.de. For any questions regarding the installations and viability of projects, please consult the contact person in the installation of your choice.

The call is open to researchers, technicians, students and other specialists working in the fields of research covered by the installations. However, other scientific fields will also be considered, if the proposed projects are feasible and relevant for the Geo-INQUIRE research topics. Information about the capabilities and research topics of each individual installation are described at the Geo-INQUIRE website.

2. Eligibility rules

Transnational Access (TA) will be provided to selected user groups (teams of one or more researchers), hereto defined as users. Users must apply through their home organisation (place of work). No applications from private persons will be accepted.

The principal investigator (PI) and the majority of their team members must work in a country other than the country where the installation of choice is located. Access to users (or the majority of team members) working in countries other than an EU Member State or Horizon Europe associated country is limited to 20% of the total access provided.

Access will be granted only to users that are allowed to disseminate the generated results through open access means. The resulting data, products, services, among others, should be fed back into Geo-INQUIRE supported Virtual Access (VA) services with the latest version of the CC-BY license, no longer than 6 months after the conclusion of the access and no later than 30 March 2026. The same applies to resulting publications. Exceptions may apply and will be granted by the relevant Geo-INQUIRE Consortium bodies, if the users are working for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME).



3. Application procedure

Before submission, potential applicants are strongly advised to email the contact person associated with the installation of choice to seek guidance on the feasibility of their project. User groups requesting access must apply in written form by completing the application template and providing the requested documentation. All documentation must be provided in one single pdf file through the application tool at the project website. Only applications submitted via the website will be considered for evaluation. The PI is responsible for the submission and will be the contact point between the installation and the applicants. Therefore, the PI must provide their first name, last name, email address, attach the application form and accept the terms and conditions.

Documentation necessary:

- Application form filled in by the PI
- Short CV of the PI and team members, showing their capability of performing the experiment
- In case of PIs which are undergraduate students or PhD candidates, a support letter from the supervisor.

4. Evaluation procedure

Applications will be evaluated in a two-step procedure.

First step: Feasibility evaluation

This step will be performed by the installations providing access, within their Technical Evaluation Boards (TEBs). Each TEB will:

1. perform an eligibility assessment: completeness of the application, compliance with the access rules and conditions and ethics self-assessment;
2. establish if the project is technically, logistically, and financially feasible, given the resources offered by the specific installation;
3. assess if there are any Health, Safety and Environment aspects which need to be considered (restrictions), e.g. if substances that visiting researchers may use are allowed;
4. evaluate the technical capability of the team to carry on the project, considering their preparedness and defined time schedule, given the training that will be provided by the specific installation and the technical and scientific support available.

Each application will be evaluated as: **Positive** (pass the technical evaluation), **Revision requested** (adjustments are necessary), or **Negative** (did not pass the technical evaluation). If revision is requested, the applicants will be informed about the necessary adjustments and will have 2 weeks to update or withdraw their application. Revised applications will be evaluated as Positive or Negative after the adjustments.

Second step: Scientific excellence of the proposal

All the applications that passed the first step, will be evaluated by the Transnational Access Review Panel (TARP), based on the scientific merit of the proposal and quality of the applicants. Each application will receive a score from 3 to 16, according to the following criteria:

1. Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project (score 1 to 6): Scientific objectives, innovation of the proposal, impact of the proposal for the scientific community, publication plan.



2. Methodology and implementation (score 1 to 6): Scientific methodology and implementation plan, data distribution as Virtual Access (VA).
3. Quality of the PI and the team (score 1 to 4): Curriculum Vitae of the PI, expertise and complementarity of the team members

A threshold of 8/16 is required to pass to the second step of the evaluation.

After the final ranking inclusion criteria (next section) will be applied as appropriate.

5. Inclusion criteria

Geo-INQUIRE promotes diversity and inclusion within the scope of the project, including the applications for Transnational Access. Therefore, applications from female PIs and applications from PIs working in one of the widening countries, associated countries and outermost regions of Horizon Europe will be given special attention during the evaluation process. Widening countries are Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. Associated countries include Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom. Outermost regions include La Réunion, Mayotte, Canarias, Azores, Madeira, Saint-Martin, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Guyana.

Special requirements about accessibility and mobility, visa limitations, etc. can be added to the application form.

6. Installations providing access within the call

ECCSEL-ERIC: CO2 Capture, Utilisation, Transport and Storage (CCUS)

Access Provider	Installation Name	Installation ID	Country	Unit of access
OGS	PITOP	TA1-44-2	Italy	Day
SOTACARBO	Sotacarbo Fault Lab	TA1-44-3	Italy	Week

High Performance Computing for the simulation of geophysical phenomena and probabilistic hazard analysis

Access Provider	Installation Name	Installation ID	Country	Unit of access
LMU	Ch-SeisSol-ExaHype-TA@LMU	TA2-531-1	Germany	Week
INGV	Ch-OpenFOAM-TA@INGV	TA2-531-2	Italy	Week
NGI	TS-BingClaw-TA@NGI	TA2-532-1	Norway	Week
NGI (UMA, INGV)	Ch-PTHA@NGI (Ch-PTHA@NGIUMA, Ch-PTHA@NGIINGV)	TA2-541-6/ TA2-541-7/ TA2-541-8	Norway (Spain, Italy remote)	Week
LMU	Ch-Cyber-PSHA@LMU	TA2-541-9	Germany	Week
BSC CNS	Ch-Cyber-PSHA@BSC	TA2-541-10	Spain	Week
CINECA	Leonardo @CINECA, Galileo100@CINECA	TA2-55-1/ TA2-55-2	Italy	CPU H



Testbeds

Access Provider	Installation Name	Installation ID	Country	Unit of access
ETHZ	Experiments at BedrettoLab (TA)	TA3-82-1	Switzerland	Week
INGV	Pool Instruments	TA3-83-1	Italy	Day
INGV	Sedimentology Lab	TA3-83-3	Italy	Day
INGV	Lithothèque	TA3-83-4	Italy	Sample
INFN	INFN-INGV FO cable	TA3-83-5	Italy	Day
GFZ	DAS installation	TA3-83-6	Italy	Day
UNINA	Plug-in sensors@Irpina	TA3-84-1	Italy	Week
NOA/CNRS	Corinth Rift Lab – Optic Instruments	TA3-88-1	Greece/France	Week
NOA/CNRS	Corinth Rift Lab – GNSS	TA3-88-2	Greece/France	Week

7. Terms and conditions to be accepted by users submitting applications

Terms and conditions for participants in Geo-INQUIRE transnational access, communication and dissemination activities: <https://www.geoinquire.eu/about/terms-and-conditions>.

Access Providers and their organisations are responsible for the transfer of funds (such as user travel and subsistence support) based on their regular internal accounting practices. The Geo-INQUIRE Consortium itself has no competence over such transfers. Only transfers among legal entities are allowed.

Users must provide a report after completion of access about the work developed, outcomes, and feedback questionnaire.

