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**OAD Annual Call for Proposals 2017**

**Stage 2 Application**

*If you need support for accessibility, please write to us at projects@astro4dev.org and we will send you the documents in text format.*

*Although the OAD is a global office, English is the official working language of the OAD. We request that all applications be submitted in English. The OAD can provide translation assistance through its Language Centers and its global network of volunteers. If you need assistance with translations, please contact us at projects@astro4dev.org atleast 2 weeks before the application deadline.*

*Welcome to Stage 2 of the OAD Call for Proposals 2017. Please note that only selected proposals are invited to Stage 2. If your proposal was selected for Stage 2, you will receive an email with information to access the Stage 2 application. Kindly read through all the information presented on this page before proceeding to the application form.*

**Call for Proposals - Two Stage Application**

The 2017 Call for Proposals is divided into two stages of application. An open Stage 1 while only selected proposals from Stage 1 are invited to the next stage. Detailed information is provided below for the Stage 2 process. Stage 1 information here

**Getting Started**

Before you apply, please visit the “[Getting Started](http://www.astro4dev.org/getting-started/)” section that will provide the background on Astronomy for Development, resources and links to assist you with project design, monitoring, evidence and evaluation etc.

**Stage 2 Application**

Selected proposals are now invited to submit a more comprehensive Stage 2 application, incorporating the feedback received in Stage 1. After this initial submission, the OAD and the Regional Offices will assess the proposals and engage with the proposers to work together on revising the proposals.

The Regional Offices and Language Expertise Centers (ROADs/LOADs) will be able to suggest ways of improving a proposal to be locally relevant, thus ensuring support from possible local collaborators who could strengthen the project. The OAD, alongside the ROADs/LOADs, will review the Stage 2 proposals to check whether the projects are truly innovative (checking previously funded OAD projects and other initiatives addressing similar concerns) and/or whether the project idea is supported by current evidence. Proposals that donot fall under a relevant regional office or a language center will work with the OAD. External experts, where necessary, would provide useful additional guidance on the assessment of projects, including a perspective on which projects are most likely to make an impact on development.

Based on the discussions with OAD and the Regional Offices, proposers modify Stage 2 application and submit to OAD by September 15. The Task Forces then review these modified Stage 2 proposals and make the final recommendations on the projects to be funded and the funding amounts for each project. Upon approval by the OAD Steering Committee, all applicants are notified of the results.

**Timeline**

The timeline below will be followed for Stage 2 of the 2017 call:

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| **Stage 2** |
| 30 June 2017 | Selected proposals invited for Stage 2 |
| 1 July 2017 | Selected teams begin working on Stage 2 applications |
| July - September 2017 | OAD and Regional Offices work with proposers to review/revise proposal, in consultation with external experts where relevant.  |
| **15 September 2017** | Revised proposals submitted to OAD by **15 September** |
| 31 October 2017 | Task Forces and other experts submit their funding recommendations to the OAD Steering Committee, after review of proposals |
| 15 November 2017 | Funding recommendations by Task Forces approved by OAD Steering Committee |
| 15 December 2017 | All projects notified and grant agreements sent to successful projects |
| **Funded projects implementation** |
| 31 January 2018 | Grant Agreements signed and funds transferred |
| July 2018 | Mid year report from all projects |
| 31 December 2018 | Final Report from projects on completion of implementation |

**Eligibility Criteria**

Please verify that you agree to/abide by the following before beginning your application. [Contact us](http://www.astro4dev.org/contactus/) in case of queries.

* The proposed project should address a problem or challenge related to development.
* The project should use Astronomy as a tool to address this problem.
* One or more project deliverables should be ready by the end of the implementation year (2018); proposals are welcome for projects that run over several years, although funds will only be released annually according to the proposed budget per year and subject to a review of progress.
* All distributable project resources, materials, etc. should be released to the public under an appropriate license (e.g.[Creative Commons](http://creativecommons.org/)) allowing free use and adaptation.
* Proposers should be able to provide a verified bank account through which funds can be paid if the project is selected for funding.
* All projects should adhere to the [Principle of Universality of Science](https://www.icsu.org/publications/about-icsu/icsu-universality-of-science-2006/icsu-and-universality-of-science-2006) as defined by ICSU, the parent body of the IAU.
* All project team members listed in the proposal should have discussed the proposal and are committed to executing the project. The project team should be prepared to provide verification of qualifications and/or reference letters if requested by the OAD.
* The proposers should obtain all necessary permissions and authorizations, as required by their national laws, to carry out their work, such as written parental consent when working with minors, permission to use copyrighted material etc.
* The project team should support the evaluation of their project by the OAD (if an evaluation is feasible and if the project is selected for evaluation)
* Proposals should ideally be submitted via the online Application Form. All proposals received will be acknowledged by email. However, if one is unable to submit one’s proposal online for any reason, they may [contact us](http://www.astro4dev.org/contactus/) at least a week before the deadline to arrange for an alternative submission method. This includes anyone with visual or other impairments who may require assistance.
* If you require assistance in translating your application, please contact us immediately and at least 2 weeks before the deadline so we may make suitable arrangements
* Application forms should be complete and received at the OAD before the deadline.
* Projects can be proposed by a single person or by a team of people.

**Grant Amount**

The IAU earmarks approximately**€110,000 per year** for this open call for project proposals, with individual project grants generally ranging between €500 and €15,000.

**Sustainable Development Goals**

The following is a list of the 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/) or SDGs (successors to the Millennium Development Goals) adopted in 2015. Projects are encouraged to think about how astronomy could be used to further progress in relation to some SDGs.

1. **Poverty**– End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. **Hunger**– End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
3. **Health**– Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
4. **Education**– Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. **Women**– Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. **Water**– Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. **Energy**– Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. **Employment & Economic Growth**– Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
9. **Infrastructure & Innovation**– Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation
10. **Inequality**– Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. **Urban Safety & Welfare**– Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. **Production & Consumption**– Ensure sustainable production and consumption patterns
13. **Climate Change**– Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. **Marine Conservation**– Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. **Environment preservation**– Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss
16. **Peace, security, equality**– Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. **Implementation**– Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

**Examples of projects using astronomy to address some of the SDGs:**

* Summer schools, teacher training, etc. could work towards goal 4 (Education)
* Using astronomy to support a sense of common humanity may contribute to goals 16 (Peace, Security) and 10 (Inequality)
* Projects that build science/technology skills and human capital could further goals 8 (Employment) and 9 (Infrastructure & Innovation), as well as 17 (Implementation)

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| **Selection Criterion** | **Corresponding questions on application (guideline only – information relating to a particular criterion may come from other questions also)** | **Scoring** |
| 1. Clear description and relevance of the problem or challenge that the project will try to address. | 5. Project Summary11. Please describe the challenge that your project aims to address  | Based on their description, how relevant is this challenge or problem in terms of needs in the target location? (1-10)  |
| 2. Level of need for proposed activities in the region/project location. | 7. Which countries will your project target?8. In which languages will your project be delivered and/or written?11. Please explain how this challenge is related to need(s) or developmental gap(s) in the target region16. Who are your target audience? |
| 3. Likelihood that the project will make a positive impact in addressing the problem/challenge | 3. Project Summary12. How does your project aim to address this challenge using Astronomy?13. What are the intended outcomes of your project and how will you measure them?19. Project Deliverables | What are the chances that this project will actually make a positive impact in addressing that challenge/ problem? (also consider feasibility of idea, potential measures and team credentials)  (1-10) |
| 4. Feasibility of the project (i.e. what are the chances that this project will be successfully completed?) | 9. Team Credentials18. Project Schedule19. Project Deliverables20. Budget |
| 5. Innovation and creativity, improving on what has been shown to work | 14. How does your project innovate and/or build on lessons/experiences learned from others? | Has this project come up with some interesting new ideas or built upon existing ideas in a constructive way? (score low if they are simply reinventing) (1-10) |
| 6. Replicability (can the project be repeated by others?) and Scalability (does the project have potential to be expanded across the world?) | 5. Project Summary18. Project Schedule19. Project Deliverables20. Budget | Can this project be expanded upon, either by repeating it or by increasing size of the target audience? (1-10) |
| 7. Consideration of potential risks (e.g. safety and security, financial, unintended consequences on target audience, etc.) | 15. Describe potential risks and how will you address these? | Has the project considered all potential risks and addressed them accordingly? (1-10)  |
| 8. Appropriate consideration of diversity (e.g. gender, (dis)abilities, culture, etc.) | 16. Who are your target audience?17. Please explain how audience Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility have been considered in your proposal | Has this project given sufficient consideration to issues of diversity and inclusion wherever possible? (1-10) |
| 9. Cost-effectiveness (i.e. amount of positive results expected from total project cost). | 13. What are the intended outcomes of your project19. Project Deliverables20. Budget  | For the amount requested do we get value for money in terms of the deliverables that they aim to achieve? (also consider whether IAU funds are leveraging other funds) (1-10) |
| 10.  Importance of IAU funding for leveraging funding from other sources. | 20 e. Please describe how and if the IAU funds will help you acquire other external funding |
| 11. Input from the OAD and the ROADs/LOADs | Comments from the OAD and the Regional Offices based on interaction with the proposers during Stage 2 | What is the feedback from the OAD and Regional Offices? (1-10 )  |

**Reporting guidelines for funded projects**

If your project is funded by the OAD, you are required to submit a final report at the end of the project along with any materials, resources that you may have produced for the project. Regular updates are also highly recommended during project implementation. Projects are typically implemented between January (when funding is received) and December. It is expected that one or more deliverables should be completed at the end of the year.

Our reporting guidelines can be found at [this link](http://www.astro4dev.org/funded-projects/report-guidelines/). The OAD is continuing to develop these to make reporting easier for project implementers and more useful for future project proposers. More information on reporting guidelines and conditions of the grant will be provided at the time of selection.

**------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------Final Stage 2 application to be submitted by 15 September 2017**

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