

# **CAA2025**

## **ECHOES Cascading Grants Call 1**

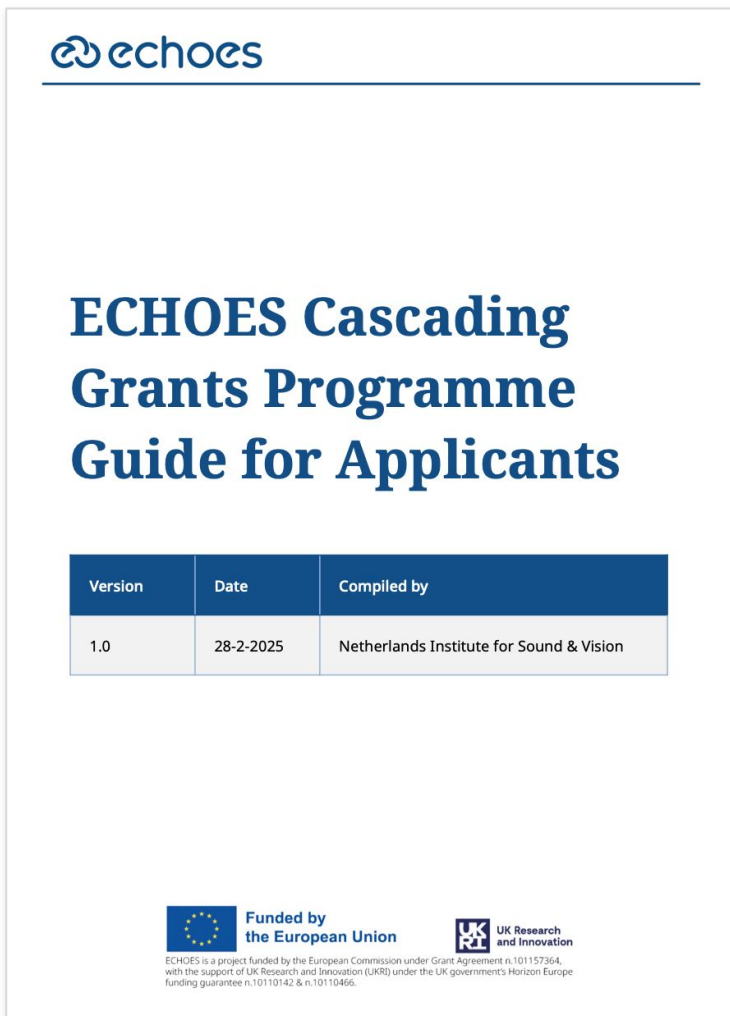
### **- Data**

**Monday, 05 May 2025**

ECHOES Team represented by:  
Agiatis Benardou (DARIAH)

But also on behalf of Sally Chambers, Johan Oomen, Rachel Somers Miles

# Guide for Applicants



<https://bit.ly/echoesapplicationguidecall1>

# Setting the Scene: Context & Scope

# Why, for whom?

Stimulate the **uptake** and **use** of the ECCCH by a diverse range of **Cultural Heritage Institutions** (CHIs)

But is this it also of interest to us  
**archaeologists?**

# Sure! And here is why:

- **Funding for archaeological datasets:** Archaeological finds and related digital assets (e.g., images, 3D models, analytical data) are explicitly eligible.
- **Support for FAIR and ethical data reuse:** The call emphasizes making data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) and encourages ethical standards (e.g., CARE principles), aligning with best practices in archaeological data stewardship.
- **Opportunities to enhance research visibility and impact:** Datasets integrated into the Cultural Heritage Cloud will be accessible to a broader academic and public audience, potentially increasing reuse, citations, and cross-disciplinary collaboration.
- **Interdisciplinary collaboration encouraged:** The call welcomes consortia that include CHIs, researchers, SMEs, and civil society actors—an ideal setup for archaeologists working with museums, libraries, or digital humanities specialists.
- **Data enrichment and technological innovation:** Projects can include generating new data or enhancing metadata —supporting archaeologists in digitization, training, and virtual exhibition initiatives.

# Stimulate the **uptake** and **use** of the ECCCH by a diverse range of Cultural Heritage Institutions (CHIs)

## **Call 1** **Data**

12 projects, 60k per project

Applied research projects that would benefit from making use of the ECCCH to process, analyse and visualise and share heritage data.

We are looking for collaborations between heritage science researchers and CHIs

Results: use cases & datasets

**Examples: stratigraphic records, GIS maps, processing excavation records, 3D artifact modeling etc**

## **Call 2** **Engagement and Collaboration**

20 projects, 30k per project

Encourage 3rd parties to join the ECCCH community and promote the benefits of the cloud at the sector level to different CH communities.

Skills development for individuals or teams, grounded in examples of tangible or intangible heritage, such as the digitisation of a CH corpus or object(s), publication and opening of a dataset, or enhancement of a collection,

## **Call 3** **Data and Vertical Applications**

18 projects, 60k per project

9 projects on data (see call 1)

9 projects will focus on developing, integrating and testing Vertical Applications. These will complement the Virtual Applications of the ECHOES project, using existing tools. A Cultural Heritage Institution will lead a consortium, with software development either in-house or by SMEs.

## For example:

Projects could include **enhancing digitised excavation archives or linking stratigraphic layers with GIS systems.**

Archaeologists can partner with CHIs to apply cloud services to **field reports, 3D scans of objects, or integrated excavation datasets...**

# Stimulate the **uptake** and **use** of the ECCCH by a diverse range of Cultural Heritage Institutions (CHIs)

## Call 1 Data

12 projects, 60k per project

Applied research projects that would benefit from making use of the ECCCH to process, analyse and visualise and share heritage data.

**Call Published:**  
February 2025

## Call 2 Engagement and Collaboration

20 projects, 30k per project

Encourage 3rd parties to use the ECCCH to enhance their community and to benefit of the heritage.

**Call Published:**  
September 2025

## Call 3 Data and Vertical Applications

18 projects, 60k per project

9 projects on data (from call 1)

**Call Published:**  
January 2027



# Current Call: Key Dates

- Application Portal Open for Submissions: **22 APRIL 2025**
- Stage 1 Deadline for Proposals: **15 MAY 2025 @ 23:59 CEST**
- Internal Evaluation of Stage 1 Proposals: **JULY 2025**
- Stage 2 Deadline for Full Proposals: **SEPTEMBER 2025**
- Communication of Results to Applicants: **Until mid-OCTOBER 2025**
- Indicative Project Starting Date: **DECEMBER 2025 / JANUARY 2026**

# Stage 1 Application Platform Open:

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

via

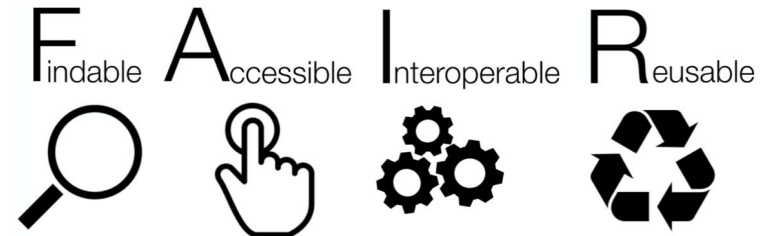
<https://www.echoes-eccch.eu/first-call/>

# Application Content

A large, abstract graphic in the background consists of several thick, white, wavy lines that overlap and curve, creating a sense of movement and depth against the light gray background.

# Data

- **The proposal should outline the use scenario for the dataset:** Which community (or communities) will use this dataset? What will they use it for? (e.g. to facilitate academic research, enhance educational materials, enable virtual exhibitions etc.) What is the expected outcome at the end of the project?
- **How will the results of the project benefit the wider Cultural Heritage community?**
- Making the data **Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR)** for a **concrete use case**, is the most important principle to contribute this data to the Cultural Heritage Cloud.



# Data

**While some digitization could be acceptable, it should not be focus of the proposals. The goal should be enhancing availability of datasets instead.**

**Proposers should describe the cultural heritage dataset in detail.**

In principle, **any type of digital cultural heritage data** can be submitted.

**Various dimensions** need to be considered when describing the dataset including:

- **Content** (e.g. **archaeological finds, archival documents, manuscripts, newspapers, monuments, analytical data, social media data etc.**) including details about time period, geographical coverage and subject matter (**temporal/geospatial precision, fragmentary data**) etc. Any ethical considerations related to the dataset (see, e.g. [CARE Principles](#)) should be described.

# Data

**Technical details** including but not necessarily limited to:

- **data type** (e.g. digitised, born-digital heritage, intangible heritage),
- **size** (e.g. estimated number of files / objects per dataset),
- **volume** (e.g. in MB or GB), file formats (e.g. jpeg, tiff, xml, warc, svg, text etc.)
- **metadata formats** to describe the data, including availability and quality of metadata
- **vocabulary (-ies), ontology (-ies) or schemas** used in producing the data descriptions,
- possibility of the dataset to be used for **training AI models**, e.g., availability of labels.

**Availability and licensing:** availability of the data (in a repository, through an API, metadata via OAI-PMH, etc.) and licensing and IPR issues, the licence (e.g. <https://rightsstatements.org/>) under which data is made available, etc.

# Alignment with the Cultural Heritage Cloud (Conceptual Model and Data Availability)

Proposers are asked to provide a scenario of how the project would like to **make use of the Cultural Heritage Cloud**.

Please describe the approach you would take to align your cultural heritage data to ensure **compatibility** and **interoperability** with the Cultural Heritage Cloud. Additionally, explain how the data from your project will be made accessible.

Outline your plans for the **long-term availability of the data** and a **clear plan for the sustainability** of the project's outputs within the digital heritage community.

# Data Access & Licensing

**Availability and licensing:** availability of the data (in a repository, through an API, metadata via OAI-PMH, etc.) and licensing and IPR issues, the licence (e.g. [https:// rightsstatements.org/](https://rightsstatements.org/)) under which data is made available, etc.

- Is it expected that all provided data will be fully open or restricted access is also possible (e.g. due to sensitive data)?
- Are open licenses (e.g. CC-BY) mandatory for all datasets, or are more restrictive licenses (e.g. CC-BY-NC) acceptable?
- **Sensitive site locations or unpublished archaeological data** may require restricted licensing—these can still be included with access controls.



# What makes a proposal eligible?

**Submitted by a Cultural Heritage Institution (CHI)** from an eligible country (EU or Horizon Europe associated).

**Coordinator is a public or private legal entity**, registered and documented.

**Proposal submitted on time**, in English, using the correct online template.

**All required sections completed**, including legal documents and partner information.

**Follows participation limits** (1 coordinated project + 2 additional; max €60k total funding).

**Dataset described** with relevant technical details (type, size, formats, metadata, licensing).

**FAIR data principles acknowledged**, and ethical concerns addressed (e.g. CARE principles).

# ...but what is it that makes it *successful*?

**Clear, compelling use case** that demonstrates real benefit to the broader Cultural Heritage and/or archaeological community.

**Specific target users or communities** are identified, with well-articulated **needs** and outcomes.

**Goes beyond digitisation** to enable accessibility, reuse, interoperability, and sustainability of datasets.

**Strong alignment with ECHOES and the ECCCH architecture**, including use of open standards, modular design, and future-proof workflows.

**Collaborative, interdisciplinary consortium**, potentially involving archaeologists, museums, digital humanists, and SMEs.

**Demonstrates technical readiness**, with realistic plans for long-term accessibility, and open licensing or controlled access.

**Shows innovation or added value**, such as linking datasets (e.g. with GIS), enabling 3D virtual exhibitions, or integrating data for cross-disciplinary use.



# Making the Cultural Heritage Cloud Work for Archaeologists

- The CCCH should **build on existing archaeological datasets, tools, and workflows**—whether from excavation archives, digital repositories, or long-standing recording systems used in the field.
- It must reflect the **real-world needs of heritage communities**, including archaeologists working with diverse data types, from site surveys to radiocarbon results and 3D scans.
- Projects should **account for the evolving architecture of the ECHOES platform**, ensuring flexibility as the system grows and integrates new tools.
- To maximise impact and reusability, your data should be **interoperable with widely used formats** (e.g., RDF), disciplinary metadata standards (e.g., CIDOC CRM), and **accessible through open APIs**.
- Proposals should aim for **modular, flexible designs**—think of systems that can easily connect to GIS platforms, field recording apps, or museum catalogues via REST APIs and adaptable data models.
- **Detailed integration guidance will be provided**, helping ensure your data can plug into the broader digital infrastructure and remain usable in the long term.



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