CNRS

Project Charter

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Data-Terra EOSC Node

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PROJECT SUMMARY

Data-Terra is the French multi-organism national Research E-Infrastructure for the scientific domains related to the Earth system, environment and biodiversity, organised into five federated domain data-hubs, including the French contributions to European infrastructures and ERICs (ESFRI). In addition Data-Terra develops and deploys transversal services and expertise with a specific focus on satellite observations. As such, it structures a comprehensive and complementary national landscape of thematic infrastructures and also contributes to other European hubs, such as Copernicus, as data and service provider. As part of the French national Roadmap of Research Infrastructures supported by the Ministry of Research and Higher Education, Data-Terra is recognized as being of strategic importance at the national scale and as a major French contribution to the European Research Area (ERA).

A robust cross-domain approach in order to achieve major transitions and meet the sustainable development goals (SDGs) is the strategic objective of the national Roadmap of Research Infrastructures built around four major action pillars: i) taking into account the evolution of science frontiers to address the major research and development challenges; ii) providing access to long-term high-quality and trusted multi-domain and multi-source FAIR data together with reference data and metadata models to support interoperability; iii) consolidating the national scientific ecosystem by filling the gaps among research domains through sharing procedures (data discovery, access, processing, visualisation, protocols, etc.) and supporting a common approach concerning access to infrastructure capabilities (openness, availability, etc.); and iv) enhancing interaction with the European and other relevant international actors.

Furthermore, Data-Terra has been identified as the *"Centre de Référence Thématique"* for Earth, Climate, Environment and Biodiversity in the framework of *Research Data.Gouv*, the French initiative for open research data and open science. It recognises the positioning of Data-Terra internationally and its contribution to the definition and adoption of standards for the description, the dissemination and the interoperability of data towards target research communities. Furthermore, Data-Terra is also a partner of the AI Factory France that aims to bring together a diverse AI ecosystem by encouraging collaboration between research and industry. AI Factory France is led by GENCI, with academic and innovation partners such as the CNRS, among others. AI Factory France covers several important sectors in France, including defense, energy, aerospace, digital continuity, education, agriculture, finance, humanities, robotics, health, materials science, mobility and earth sciences, the last covered and coordinated by Data-Terra RI.

The build-up phase of the EOSC Federation is definitely in-line with the national flagship project, Gaia Data, whose main objective is to implement a network of distributed and integrated infrastructure capacities of data and services for the Earth system, climate, environment and biodiversity research communities. This will allow to integrate, adapt and support EOSC EU node and third-party services therefore accelerating the enrolment of Data-Terra into the EOSC federation and in turn enabling Data-Terra to drive the French national digital infrastructure roadmap to be based on EOSC-EU interoperability framework requirements.

Data-Terra RI key functions contributing to the EOSC ecosystem:

1. **Single access**: The Data-Terra SSO (Keycloak, Idp: EduGain, ORCID) can be easily connected to other federations that rely on OIDC or SAML protocols.
2. **Federation of resources:** The Data-Terra resources federated catalog and registry services can be integrated to the Federation catalog and extended to enhance semantic interoperability to offer a knowledge portal based on Knowledge Graph.
3. **Inter-domains collaboration:** Data-Terra can provide seamless access to high-quality, FAIR multi-domain data for the Earth system, climate, environment and biodiversity.
4. **Virtual community spaces:** Data-Terra provides containerized VRE built to process Earth

system and Environment data (Jupyter Notebooks, Galaxy). Thematic VRE are set-up and validated by Data-Terra's data and services hubs.

5. **Integration of services:** Data-Terra leverages and provides access to national digital infrastructures capacities, and can thus drive EOSC-oriented co-development of national infrastructures by deploying and supporting EOSC EU Node and third parties' services.

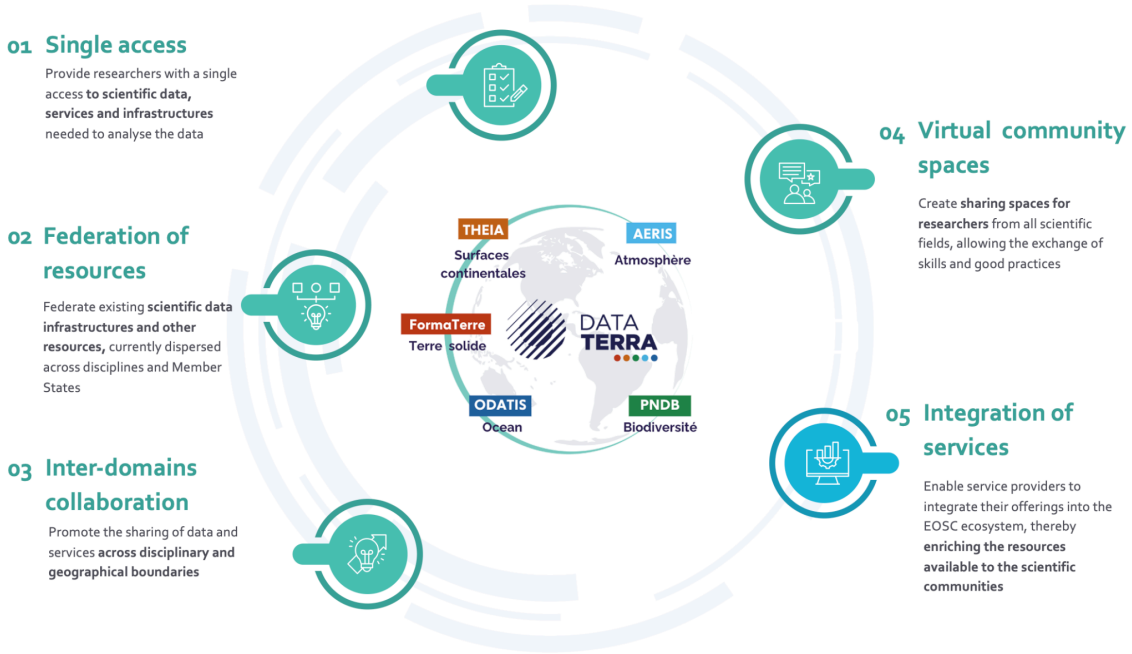


Figure 1: Key functions contributing to the EOSC ecosystem

2. VALUE PROPOSITION

The overall contribution of Data-Terra to the EOSC federation is based on an "e-Infrastructure node" model approach that is being designed and deployed since 2021 through the 8-year funded national project Gaia Data as well as the INFRAEOSC project FAIR-EASE (ID: 101058785) on one hand, and a science-driven software platform of federated data and computing services across a continuum of distributed national data and computing resources to provide access and cross-analysis services to the multi-domain FAIR data (observation, simulation, experiments) of the Earth, Climate, Environment and Biodiversity systems in support to interdisciplinary research on the other hand.

The complexity of Earth, climate, environmental and biological systems and processes as well as the great improvement in multi-modal and multi-source data resolution and precision imply that every scientific approach on a specific area or dimension of the Earth system has to increasingly integrate information and data from many areas of investigation. It is today crucial to apply multi and interdisciplinary approaches requiring easy access to qualified long-term data from other fields, as well as to data products easily usable by non-specialists.
Bearing this in mind, major challenges are linked to the scientific-knowledge of the data from the measurements (space, airborne, in-situ) experiments, and numerical models, the uncertainties regarding future drivers of environmental transitions, and the effectiveness of sustainable measures in light of changing norms and values. These gaps and challenges concern particularly the quality and the veracity of data. The increasing requirements for data in terms of timeliness of data supply, availability at various spatial and temporal scales, length and stability of data records, and data product generation require compliance with quality standards on one hand; user-support and documentation, training materials are equally essential to make the usage of data close to the user requirements really effective and operational on the other hand.

Progress is necessary in terms of semantic and technical interoperability particularly between climate, environmental, and socio-economic data. From a technical point of view, despite all the effort that has gone into this already (e.g. OGC, INSPIRE) the current setup is still suboptimal in a number of ways. Collaborative Open Science through the EOSC Federation looks thus essential to addressing complex challenges whose solutions prioritise integrity, provenance and trust, and require cross-domain integrations. Building analysis workflows, processes, and data flows across scientific domains and the continuum of digital infrastructures remains technically difficult and practically resource intensive, creating barriers to whole-systems change.

Considering the general objective and the previous assumptions, the major contributions to the EOSC Federation can be related to:

- a seamless access to high-quality, trusted FAIR and AI-ready multi-domain and multi-modal (space, airborne, in-situ) data for the Earth, climate, environment and biodiversity system with rich metadata, semantic interoperability and provenance information;
- cross-domain data analysis workflows addressing emerging urgent multidisciplinary research challenges in relation to global changes, adaptation, extreme events characterisation and societal impacts enhancing the linkages with other Data-Spaces and Data-hubs at the European and global scales;
- a federated layer towards the environment-oriented ESFRI/ERICs in coordination with other thematic and national nodes of the EOSC Federation, as well as with European organisations such as Copernicus, ESA, and EUMETSAT.

Five (5) different categories of beneficiaries of the Data-Terra EOSC Node contribution to the EOSC Federation have been identified. In the table here-below the 5 target users' profiles are listed, their requirements described as well as the additional contribution from the EOSC Federation perspective.

Target Users	Users' requirements	EOSC Federation additional contribution
Scientists	The primary target users are the researchers and scientists from the Earth system, environment, climate and biodiversity domains that need to access and process a large amount of heterogeneous multi-source and multi-domain data for addressing cross-cutting scientific challenges.	Provide capabilities to design, execute, disseminate and assess multi-domain research workflows in collaborative environments.
Research Data providers	Earth and environmental sciences require a large panel and volume of data from satellite, in-situ observations, models, omics experiments and so on. Actually, data that result from these observations and models are still managed and preserved separately in domain-dependent repositories performed by both national and European infrastructures with an increased level of FAIRness, but this does not mean data models are harmonised. Metadata and data	Improve an integrated, transparent and seamless access to the huge amount of data across a continuum of interoperable and distributed infrastructures at national and European levels.

	still need mapping, processing and/or conversion in order to become usable in cross-disciplinary applications.	
Research Infrastructures	Research Infrastructures are serving specific needs coming from target research environments. Nowadays, there is a growing need for new types of science-driven Research E-Infrastructures linked with specific challenges, like climate change and environmental sustainability and transitions, cutting across scientific disciplines.	Provide a federation layer for environment-oriented research infrastructures.
Citizen-scientists	Citizen scientists participate more and more largely in the scientific endeavour, including formulating research questions, conducting experiments, collecting and analysing data, interpreting results, making new discoveries, and/or developing or deploying technologies and applications, but they need a gateway to facilitate the access to scientific tools and high-performance or cloud computing infrastructure without needing programming or data science skills.	Implement a citizen science gateway to connect citizens to research data annotation / classification based on cloud technologies, together with science knowledge-based validation.
Policy-makers	Governments need reliable data for policy-making, environmental management, and assessing regulatory compliance. A trusted environmental data requires an effective system of data-sharing and information systems as well as reliable data and analytics products.	Support easy access and guidance to quality assurance information for non-expert users.

3. USE CASES

These Use-Cases aim to demonstrate the value contribution to the EOSC Federation through enrolling and onboarding capabilities towards the Federation, namely the EOSC EU Node and other nodes, both thematic and nationals. The UCs have already reached a technical maturity (TRL) which makes them suitable for deployment in an operational environment.

Following the recommendations from the Kick-off meeting of the building-up phase of the EOSC Federation in Brussels (September 17-18, 2025), we propose an additional Use-case aiming to produce a demonstration of connected EOSC Nodes in view of the upcoming EOSC Symposium in November. Considering the very short period of time available for reaching out to all the Nodes potentially concerned, the proposition here-after needs further discussions. Some adjustments on the content and processes could be considered in order to align scope and milestones among the Nodes concerned and their UCs. Indeed, the objective is also to foster linkages among UCs in order to consolidate the perception of the Federation as a system of systems. This new UC will run in parallel to the others already proposed (UC_01 Galaxy for

the Earth Sciences, and UC_02 Volcano Space Observatory) and their implementation benefit from each other, event though, in this first phase of the building-up of the EOSC Federation we are going to focus our efforts on the new UC **"multi-node demonstrator: Earth and Life Sciences"** as well as on the UC on **"Galaxy for the Earth system"**. Both UCs have in common some milestones.

UC_03: "multi-node demonstrator: Earth and Life Sciences"
The outcome of this UC as a demonstrator of multi-node collaboration and UCs synchronisation could be a high-quality video to be presented at the EOSC Symposium 2025 in Brussels at the beginning of November (either as a talk or in a booth).

Scientifically this UC brings together different perspectives from the Earth, Climate and Life Sciences research communities.

Use Case ID	Use Case Description	Federation Contributions & Value to Users
03 multi-node demonstrator	*"How imaging data technologies for Earth and Life sciences contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"*. Imaging technologies are critical in most disciplines of both the Earth and Life sciences. They are of great importance for supporting new discoveries in relation to environmental transitions, climate change, health and food security, plant biology and marine ecosystems. The main objective is to consider a common research challenge and thus demonstrate how the Federation can bring an added value to the users from both Earth and Life Sciences research communities.	**Multi-node synchronisation:** - Data-Terra (CNRS); - Blue-Cloud (CNR); - LifeScience (Elixir, BioImagining); - EUDAT; - SURF; - NFDI; - EU node; - Other national nodes.

In-Scope:

- Put into an **ELN** (eLabFTW or RSpace) some metadata to send to the core facility to obtain data;
- Show the data producer (Microscope, 10x, Satellite …);
- Back to ELN, that now has a link to the data;
- ELN link to **Galaxy:**
    - redirect from the ELN to Galaxy workflow run form; or
    - open Galaxy, go to eLabFTW/RSpace, and import data to Galaxy;
    - optional: If the data is already in an RO-Crate, we could demonstrate the Galaxy importing Wizard. This one would recommend workflows, tools and trainings based on the RO-Crate content;
    - test if we could download some reference data from other repos;
    - test if we could show how to connect Galaxy with OwnCloud, ideally, EUDAT B2Drop, to download some data;
- Indicate that we are running a workflow shared on **WorkflowHub**;
- Log-in into Galaxy with:
    - **EGI-Checkin** and maybe "MyAccess ID";
- Jobs are scheduled in Galaxy (jobs are grey);
- Zoom out, show the European map and the Jobs dashboard (Galaxy job radar) - show logos of the EOSC Nodes that provide a Pulsar endpoint;

- Show that jobs are running in **Italy, France, Germany, the Netherlands, EU-Node, EGI** and others …. a testbed Pulsar from the French Node can be available;
- Zoom back into Galaxy (jobs are now green);
- Show a detailed jobs page and the indicator where the jobs have been running - maybe with the Galaxy sketchbook side-by-side;
- Export data
    - o export the results to:
        - **Zenodo**, as **RO-Crate (FDO)**;
        - Omero;
        - some **EGI** powered S3 (?) **EUDAT** (?).

Use Case ID	Use Case Description	Federation Contributions & Value to Users
01 Galaxy for Earth Sciences	The *Galaxy for Earth Sciences* Use-Case aims to provide a robust and scalable computational framework to support earth system sciences within the EOSC Federation. This work will continue the one started within the INFRAEOSC project FAIR-EASE. This use case focuses on: ● Enable researchers to process and analyse large-scale environmental datasets using Galaxy workflows. ● Use, improve, and enhance the interoperability of the dedicated user environment *Galaxy for Earth Sciences* - created within FAIR-EASE - to integrate EOSC resources. ● Support new communities in bringing standardized tools, workflows, and training to the scientific community, ensuring accessibility and reproducibility of research. ● Foster cross-domain analysis and collaboration within the Galaxy for Earth Sciences.	**Multi-node scientific workflows**: We will connect the user environment across different EOSC nodes, leveraging high-performance computing (HPC) and cloud infrastructures to execute distributed workflows. **Data Access & Management**: We will connect the user environment with EOSC services, providing better access to data via APIs, S3 buckets, and direct links. **Collaboration & Sharing**: Facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration by improving Galaxy's interoperability and connecting Galaxy users across different European research infrastructures. **Training & User Support**: Implementation of tutorials, webinars, and training sessions to assist researchers in effectively using Galaxy for Earth Sciences.

In-Scope:

Core Functions

- A dedicated Galaxy user environment for Earth sciences.
- A support in developing & integrating New Tools & Workflows to meet the needs of researchers in environmental and Earth sciences.
- Galaxy integrated features such as AAI check-in, Data access & storage, Helpdesk, AI tools.
- A connected network of Distributed Computing Resources, integrating with services like One Data, and Pulsar.
- Interoperability with European (EOSC or other) and national services such as Blue-Cloud, and ENVRIHUB services.

Stakeholder Support

- Researchers in Earth System Sciences who require scalable computing resources.

- Research Infrastructures looking for integration of scientific workflows and connection with other IR.

Integration

- EOSC Nodes & Federated Resources: The Use case will consist primarily to integrate resources from other EOSC services (e.g., compute, data storage, data access).
- Galaxy Interoperability**:** Ensure compatibility with other services and standards, such as WorkflowHub & RO-Crate, to allow sharing and reusability of best-practice workflows.
- Training & User Engagement**:** Collaborate with the Galaxy training community to provide ongoing user support.

Out of Scope:

Excluded Activities

- Direct funding of hardware or cloud infrastructure (relies on EOSC and external national and European funding sources).
- Development of new data storage solutions (leverages existing EOSC storage resources like One Data).
- Support for research domains outside of Earth system sciences.

Limitations

- Compute capacity depends on the availability of external collaborations (e.g., EGI, IFB, EuroHPC).
- Initial focus on European stakeholders, with potential expansion to a global audience in the long term.

Dependencies

- Successful enrolling of EOSC EU node services and standards
- Successful onboarding and enrolling with EOSC nodes like Blue-Cloud.
- Long-term funding sustainability, potentially requiring an ELIXIR-equivalent stamp for Earth sciences.

The Volcano Space Observatory UC will continue to be implemented following the initial time frame. Any improvements resulting from the implementation of the other UCs will be considered and eventually applied to this UC.

Use Case ID	Use Case Description	Federation Contributions & Value to Users
02 Volcano Space Observatory	The *Volcano Space Observatory (VSO)* Use-Case aims to evaluate new ways of handling processing services in the Volcano Space Observatory. It is an interactive web platform dedicated to near real time and retrospective tracking and analysis of volcanic events, using atmosphere and solid Earth data. Data coming from the marine domain are not supported at the moment but would be added during this phase.	Scaling up the platform in the EOSC federation would permit us to solve technical bottlenecks met while processing inSAR data. **Data Access & Management**: ● Evaluate faster access to Copernicus datasets, ● Evaluate data processing on other European Federated infrastructures, ● Evaluate access and processing in WeKEO DIAS. **Multi-node scientific workflows**: Access to marine data for integration in the platform through the Blue-Cloud EOSC Node.

		The goal is to provide users with faster services using interoperable APIs.

In-Scope:

The UC aims to evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of new ways of accessing and processing data in different infrastructures:

- Testing dedicated data access on the Copernicus Data Store,
- Running containerized InSAR processes on the WeKEO DIAS,
- Access to ARGO data through the BlueCloud EOSC Node.

The targeted users are the researchers coming from the atmosphere, solid Earth and marine domains, and the developments are supported in the framework of the Data-Terra French Research Infrastructure.

Out of Scope:

The triggering of inSAR processes on new infrastructures mentioned above is only the evaluation and prototyping of the method. The operational implementation in the platform is uncertain at the moment. Indeed, some of the mentioned platforms have not been tested yet and some of them can have unsolvable limitations, like data access policies issues, security considerations, or costs. It is evident that if one of the solutions tested appears to be a breakthrough, we will go forward in implementing it in the framework of the operational platform. It has also been mentioned to develop a daily alert mechanism of extreme events. This is highly prospective. Some work on that could be done during the build-up phase but it will probably take more time.

4. EXTERNAL DEPENDENCIES & KEY RISKS

At this stage some both internal and external potential risks have been identified. In relation to these risks some mitigation actions have already been planned and scheduled. In the case additional risks emerge the project's team will be able to identify potential solutions and mitigation mechanisms. This list of risks will be periodically reviewed and updated.

External Dependencies & Risks	Actions	Deadline
Failure of the operational/technical resources (including human resources) on the short and medium term in support of the EOSC Federation.	The CNRS, legal entity of the EOSC node, and the other national Research Performing Organisations (RPO) involved in the implementation of the Data-Terra EOSC node project have already identified the resources (technical and human) that will be fully oriented to the EOSC Federation (10 FTE) covering all the dimensions concerned by the project. In case of failure, Data-Terra will be able to identify additional resources to allocate to the EOSC Federation.	March 2025
UC services development and integration timeline is unrealistic.	Both UCs, VSO and Galaxy Earth UCs, have been initiated in the framework of the INFRAEOSC project FAIR-EASE (2022-2025) and they have already reached a TRL making them able to be deployed in an operational environment. The	March 2025

	additional developments planned will be backed by national infrastructure capabilities already available.	
Infrastructure requirements can't be fulfilled.	Data-Terra as a national node will leverage national digital infrastructures capacities (France Grilles/EGI, GENCI/EuroHPC, National Data Centres, MesoNet project). Since the beginning, France Grille/EGI will be onboard.	March 2025
Timeline in adopting/contributing to the federating capabilities is unrealistic.	The technical solutions adopted by Data-Terra are based on international standards supporting interoperability. Data-Terra will take over actions towards the adoption and the integration of the solutions and recommendations from EOSC.	September 2025
The technical compliance with the EOSC EU Node is more complex than expected.	The operational/technical team from Data-Terra will leverage internal capabilities in order to boost the technical compliance with the EOSC EU Node, namely on the building blocks such as: identity management, resources catalog and registry services, application workflow management, monitoring and accounting, service management system, data management and infrastructures services. Several actions in view of technical solutions and functionalities synchronisation will be planned from the beginning.	December 2025
The services don't meet the users' expectations.	The services have been co-developed taking into consideration the user's requirements, technically and scientifically. They have been already tested against some of the target communities. The services deployed by the Data-Terra EOSC Node will continue to interact with users through dedicated training sessions, webinars and communications at the European level in order to be better adapted to the user's expectations. Training materials will also be available for users.	March – December 2025
Users' feedback on additional features and changes with regards to the services deployed.	Based on the co-development methodology in tight collaboration with the user's communities, potential updates will be taken into	December 2025

	consideration in line with the "in-scope" roadmap of the UCs in order to add new features. A continuous improvement of the services is already considered in order to expand workflows, improve interoperability frameworks and support user's capabilities.	
Failure in the multi-node collaboration.	Data-Terra already established collaborative frameworks with some of the entities supporting the EOSC nodes during the build-up phase. Collaborative mechanisms will be reinforced and a permanent dialogue mechanism established. Meantime new opportunities in terms of multi-node collaboration will be explored.	March 2025 – March 2026

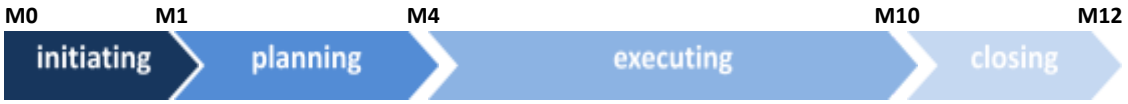
5. CONTRIBUTIONS [DELIVERABLES (INCLUDING DOCUMENTATION)]

ID	Deliverable Name	Deliverable Description
1	**IT Governance documentation** Project Chart V1 and updated versions. Technical Architecture plan: synchronisation with the EOSC Federation and EOSC EU Node. Demonstrators (Use-Cases) description.	Documents and reports concerning IT governance and planning such as the blueprint architecture alignment with the technical organisation of the EOSC EU Node; the demonstrators (UC) description around cross-domain workflows promoting a multi-node approach.
2	**Policies and procedures** IT security plan. Risk registry and follow-up. Report on service agreements.	Documents and follow-up mechanisms for risk assessment and mitigation; rules of procedure in terms of IT security in compliance with international standards and EU rules; report on service agreements (SLA, OLA).
3	**Operational review, verification and test sessions** Verification, validation and testing plan towards the EOSC Federation (EOSC EU Node and other nodes). Quality assurance report.	Operational deliverables and demonstrators on the validation of the services enrolled and onboard as well as in relation to the EOSC federating capabilities taking always into account the quality assurance dimensions.
4	**Stakeholders and communities' engagement strategy** Dissemination plan. Training materials.	Document reporting dissemination and engagement activities towards user's communities; training material in relation to the UCs services and tools.
5	**Thematic Tools and services**	Virtual common environments, platforms, documents.

	Evaluation of the multi-node integration options from demonstrators.	
6	**Sustainability and exploitability** Technical and financial sustainability plan.	Document reporting on the technical and financial sustainability of the Data-Terra EOSC Node into the EOSC Federation and new perspective for the second phase.

6. TIMING AND MILESTONES

The Data-Terra EOSC node project will start after the EOSC Federation build-up phase kick-off meeting mid-March in Brussels and it will be running until March 2026 (duration: 12 months). The entire cycle of the project has been structured following the PM^2 phases methodology: i) initiating; ii) planning; iii) executing; and iv) closing.



Initiating phase (M0-M1):

- Edit the Project chart (V_1);
- Refine the stakeholders and communities' needs;
- Identify potential synergies into the Federation (other nodes);
- Identify potential multi-node demonstrator (UC) in view of the EOSC Symposium 2025;
- Identify potential synergies with other organisations and initiatives, beyond the Federation;
- Set-up project coordination tools.

Planning phase (M1-M4):

- Assign roles and responsibilities more largely in Data-Terra including other national partners (i.e. France-Grille/EGI);
- Develop technical roadmap (architecture and implementation phases) in collaboration with the EOSC EU Node and other EOSC nodes;
- Size computing and storage requirements and identify additional infrastructures capabilities;
- Upgrade FitSM internal expertise;
- Elaborate users' engagement plan.

Executing phase (M4-M10):

- Conduct meetings with other nodes for improving collaborations;
- Conduct meetings with the EOSC EU Node around synchronisation on federating capabilities;
- Elaborate IT security plan and follow-up of risks registry;
- Execute the technical roadmap with regards to the general operational architecture against the EOSC Federation;
- Interact with user's communities in order to evaluate tools and services (UCs).

Closing phase (M10-M12):

- Evaluate and validate the services enrolled and onboard;
- Validate service agreements with other nodes and organisations;
- Capture lessons and recommendation on the EOSC Federation build-up phase;
- Define the sustainability model for the Data-Terra EOSC Node and eventually in coordination with the EOSC Federation nodes;
- Disseminate results and promote the services against the major user's communities;
- Onboard new communities;
- Organise a closing meeting to enter the new implementation phase of the Data-Terra EOSC Node.

ID	Milestone Description	Target Delivery Date
1	Synergies with other nodes and beyond	April 2025
2	Additional national partners of Data-Terra onboard	June/July 2025
3	Internal meetings to finalize the operational/technical roadmap towards the EOSC Federation and the EOSC EU Node	June/July 2025
4	Infrastructure capacities onboard	June/July 2025
5	EOSC Symposium demonstrators	November 2025
6	Regular meetings with other nodes	January 2026
7	Regular meetings with the EOSC EU Node	January 2026
8	Webinars (2) for communities' engagement / perspective	January 2026
9	New communities onboard	March 2026
10	Testing services' functionalities	March 2026
11	Technical and financial sustainability model	March 2026
12	Build-up phase closing meeting (Data-Terra) and new perspectives	March 2026

7. CONTACTS

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