

Access to Space for All Initiative HyperGES 2nd Round Q & A Webinar





Access to Space for All Initiative



*The goal of the **Access to Space 4 All Initiative** is to provide research and orbital opportunities for UN Member States to access space and to ensure that the benefits of space, in particular for sustainable development, are truly accessible to all*

SPACE AGENCIES



RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES



PRIVATE SECTOR



**17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS**





Access to Space for All Initiative



HANDS-ON COMPONENT

Hands-on opportunities under three tracks



TOOLS COMPONENT

Collection of free and open tools to bridge the hands-on and education components



EDUCATION COMPONENT

Theoretical foundation to participate in the hands-on and utilize the tool component

HYPERGRAVITY AND MICROGRAVITY

Building capacity for conducting experiments in orbit



Hands-on opportunities in hypergravity and microgravity from ground to orbit



Open source tools bridging hands-on and education components



Educational material for building up experiments

SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT

Building capacity that enables the development, deployment, and operation of satellites



Hands-on opportunities for satellite deployment



Open source tools bridging hands-on and education components



Educational material supporting the whole life-cycle of satellites

SPACE EXPLORATION

Broadening the engagement in space exploration



Hands-on opportunities to engage in space exploration



Open source tools bridging hands-on and education components



Educational material for space exploration

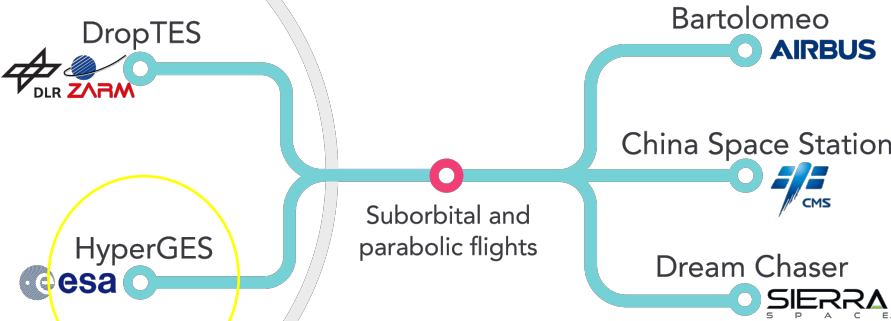


Access to Space for All Initiative

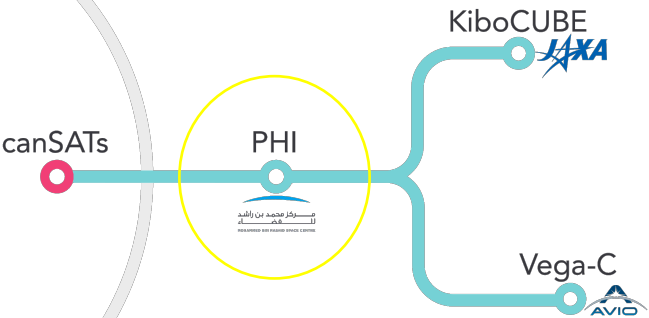
Applications are open!
HyperGES: 28 February 2022
PHI: 17 April 2022



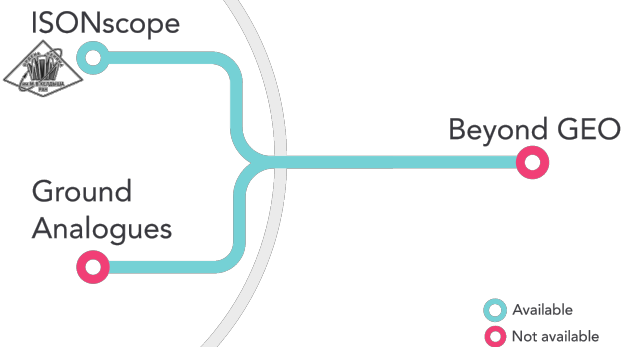
HYPERGRAVITY / MICROGRAVITY TRACK



SATELLITE DEVELOPMENT TRACK



SPACE EXPLORATION TRACK



Available
Not available



What is HyperGES?

- A cooperation programme between United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and the European Space Agency (ESA) which started from 2019, implemented under the Access to Space for All Initiative.
- Aims to provide opportunities for scientists and researchers with a team of students from Member States of the UN, with particular attention to developing countries, with opportunities to conduct their own hypergravity experiments at the Large Diameter Centrifuge (LDC) facility located at the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) in Noordwijk, the Netherlands.



Why HyperGES?

- Experiments in hypergravity environments can be used to advance research in different scientific fields such as biology, medicine, material science and fluid dynamics and represent an achievable entry point to acquire new knowledge and technology.
- The LDC facility is a unique facility that accommodates 80kg of payload. It allows experiments in gravity conditions that range from 1g to 20 g and is flexible in terms of experiment scenarios, duration and possible equipment to use.
- International air tickets will be funded by UNOOSA and technical support/local accommodation will be provided by ESA.



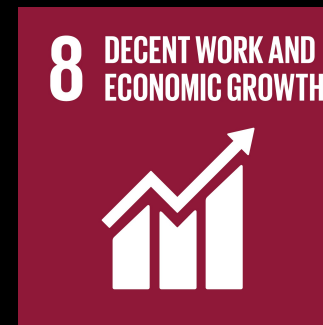
HyperGES for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

HyperGES contributes to the SDGs below by fostering innovation and supporting education and training on skillsets for developing cutting-edge technology.

SDG 4 "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all";

SDG 8 "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all"

SDG 9 "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation"



SPACE4SDGS

Q and A





HyperGES



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs

Q: How do you apply to the 2nd Round?

Find the documents at

https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/HyperGES/HyperGES_Rounds.html



PLEASE READ!!!!!!

- Announcement of Opportunity
- Application template



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs



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HyperGES Rounds

OPEN FOR APPLICATION (2nd Round): from 1 September to 28 February 2022

<NEW> Detailed Webinar for 7th Round Application

Thursday 16 September 2021 10:30 & 16:30CEST Register from [here](#).

2ND ROUND DOCUMENTS

- [Announcement of Opportunity \(.pdf\)](#)
- [Application template \(.word\)](#)

REFERENCE MATERIALS

- [ESA Large Diameter Centrifuge Summary](#)
- [LDC Experimenter User Manual](#)
- [LDC Technical Constraints](#)
- [Examples of past experiments](#)
- Webinar materials: See Hypergravity/Microgravity Webinar series [here](#)

Previous Rounds



The Winner for the 1st round is the team from Mahidol University, Thailand. The title of the project is "Watermeal, the Future Food Source for Space Exploration", which is to study the effect of hypergravity on watermeal, the smallest and fastest-growing flowering plant on Earth. It will help unlock various possibilities for future application of the plant as a food and oxygen source for space exploration and on the other planet which may have higher gravity than on Earth.

[read more](#) ➔

Our Work

Secretariat of COPUOS

Programme on Space Applications

UN-SPIDER

International Committee on GNSS

UN-Space

UNISPACE+50

Space Law

Benefits of Space

Space4Health

Access to Space for All

Space for Persons with Disabilities

Space4Youth

Space4Water

Space4Women

World Space Forum

Worldwide Space Agencies

Capacity Building Activities

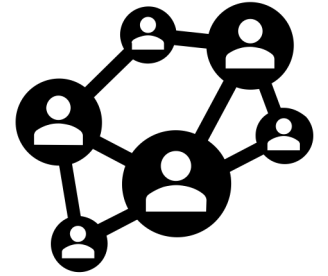


Q: What are some materials that can help when building the applications?

CHECK OUT WEBINARS!!!!!!!

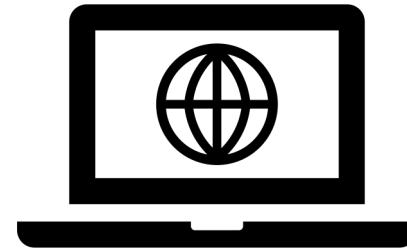
- 1) Tips for Access to Space for All Application: Various webinars that can help you such as communication/awareness raising of your project, space law/regulations, and innovative technology such as Artificial Intelligence

https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/accspace4all_tips.html



- 2) Series on Conducting Research and Development in Hypergravity/Microgravity: 9 webinars that provide you with an overview of the fundamentals, special characteristics, and advantages of hypergravity/microgravity environment and further insights on the types of research, their applications and how to develop experiments for the unique environment.

https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/accspace4all_tips.html





Q: When is the deadline?

1. **Thematic area:** Access to Space for All -Hypergravity/Microgravity Track
2. **Title:** United Nations/European Space Agency Fellowship Programme on the Large Diameter Centrifuge Hypergravity Experiment Series (HyperGES)
3. **Subject:** Realization of a scientific and/or technological experiment in hypergravity conditions at the Large Diameter Centrifuge facility in the Netherlands.
4. **Implementation:** HyperGES is being supported by the European Space Agency (ESA), hosted by the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) as part of ESA, executed by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), and implemented through strong collaboration among UNOOSA, ESA, ESTEC, potential applicants and their organizations from Member States of the United Nations.
5. **Duration:** Approximately one year following the deadline of applications.
6. **Deadline for applications: 28 February 2022**

Completed application forms must be submitted to UNOOSA by the deadline, via email to unoosa-access-to-space@un.org. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications after selection.



Q: What is the programme schedule?



Application phase (from announcement of opportunity to application deadline):

- Applicants to prepare their applications, following this Announcement of Opportunity (AO), the reference documents and the template of the application form along with this AO.
- Applicants to have their application forms signed and themselves endorsed appropriately.
- Applicants to submit their completed application forms by the requested deadline.

Selection phase (within 2 months):

- The Selection Board to make selection on a winning research team.
- UNOOSA to announce the results and notify the selected research team (SRT) and non-selected applicants of their selection results.
- The SRT to confirm with UNOOSA their participation.
- ESA expert to contact SRT to initiate their experiment preparation.

Preparation phase (within 7 months):

- The SRT to prepare their experiment in cooperation with ESA/LDC experts.
- The SRT to submit their first Experiment Progress Report (EPR) to ESA.
- The SRT and ESA/LDC experts to conduct the Critical Design Review (CDR).
- The SRT to submit their second EPR to ESA.
- The SRT to transfer the experiment and relevant equipment to ESA.

Experiment phase (within 2 weeks):

- Experiment integration at the LDC facility prior to the experiment series.
- Hypergravity experiment series at LDC facility under different g-levels as defined.

Reporting phase (within 2 months):

- The SRT to submit their Final Experiment Report (FER) to the Selection Board.
- ESA/LDC experts to submit their Feedback Report to the Selection Board.

Publication phase:

- The SRT to publish experiment results in journals, proceedings, and other media, if possible.
- The SRT to present experiment results at conferences, workshops, and other occasions, if possible
- The SRT members to include the experiment results in their Bachelor thesis, Master thesis, PhD thesis, or another form of associated research projects, if possible.

The SRT shall update UNOOSA and ESA with any information regarding the publications.

Winners are requested to include in their peer reviewed publications, contribution to congresses and other forms of written dissemination with the following sentence:



Q: What is the eligibility criteria?

8. **Expected profile of applicants:** Heads of research institutions or groups, who are university/institution professors or postdoctoral researchers, with a team of Bachelor, Master and/or PhD students.
9. **Number of selected applicants:** One academic supervisor (Team Leader - Prof./PhD) with several students, who are all from Member States of the United Nations with particular attention to developing countries. However, only up to four team members, including supervisor, can be funded by UNOOSA and ESTEC, in which case the supervisor shall indicate the names of four team members to be funded in their application forms.

12. Eligibility criteria

The HyperGES fellowship programme is open to research teams from entities that are located in Member States of the United Nations with particular attention to developing countries. Each team should consist of one academic supervisor (Team Leader - Prof./PhD, not a student), and several Bachelor, Master and/or PhD students.

It is further required that the proposed experiment be an integral part of the students' syllabuses, that is, part of a Bachelor thesis, a Master thesis, a PhD thesis, or another form of research project associated with the applicants' studies at their respective universities.

The final number of team members who will participate in the experiment on site at the LDC facility depends strictly on the requirements of the experiment and is subject to approval by the Selection Board of the HyperGES Fellowship Programme. The Board reserves the right to change or limit the team size if considered necessary.

Changes to the composition of the team are NOT allowed once the application has been submitted. If, for exceptional reasons, changes are absolutely necessary, they will be subject to the approval of the Selection Board. Priority will be given to teams that have not previously participated in an experiment at the LDC facility and/or research projects that have never been conducted at the LDC facility.

The applying academic supervisors (Team Leader) will supervise the work of the students. This person must belong to the same entity as at least one of the students and will be expected to endorse the entire application (including the experiment proposal and team composition) by signing the application form, take care of development process of the team, and bear responsibility for the execution of the experiment.

In addition to the endorsement of the application form by the Team Leader, each Team Member (Team Leader and each student) must be able to show that they have their respective institutions' support through a Letter of Endorsement from their respective institutions. When seeking the Letter of Endorsement, the complete application forms should be presented to their institutions. Team Members belonging to same institution may provide one Letter of Endorsement from that institution.



Q: What is the selection criteria?

13. Selection criteria

The Selection Board will consist of members nominated by UNOOSA and ESA. The Board will assess all applications against the following criteria:

- 1) The scientific and/or technological value of the proposed experiment,
- 2) The relevance of hypergravity in the proposed experiment,
- 3) The relevance of the LDC utilisation in the proposed experiment,
- 4) The general feasibility of the proposed experimental setup and procedure,
- 5) The involvement of the proposed experiment in the students' syllabuses,
- 6) The organisation realising the planned research project,
- 7) The availability of financial resources to support development, preparation, transportation, and shipping experiment,
- 8) The overall presentation of the experiment proposal
- 9) The communication and dissemination plan
- 10) Inclusiveness (e.g. in case of proposals with the same score, the shares of men and women in the teams will be compared. The proposal with higher participation of women will rank higher.), and
- 11) the link between the project and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Access to Space for All Initiative

Q: What is an example of the link between the SDGs?





Q: What kind of support will be given by UNOOSA/ESA?

16. Financial and technical support

1) *International air tickets*

UNOOSA will offer the selected research team financial support exclusively for travel purposes. This may include the provision of the necessary administrative arrangements and defraying the cost of most economical economy class round-trip air tickets, in accordance with the United Nations rules and procedures, for up to four team members between their international airports of departure and Amsterdam (close to Noordwijk), the Netherlands. En-route expenses or any changes made to the air tickets must be the responsibility of the participants.

2) *Technical support and local accommodation*

ESA/ESTEC will offer local hotel rooms and meals free of charge for up to four members of the selected research team in each cycle during their stay in Noordwijk, the Netherlands for the on-site integration and experiment series.

ESA/ESTEC will be in charge of and operate the LDC facility itself and support the LDC experiments including their preparation and on-site integration. In addition, ESA/ESTEC will provide scientific and technical consulting, service and support to the selected team for smoothly completing the experiment cycle.

3) *Experiment preparation and other costs*

The selected research team will bear the expenses for the experiment development, preparation, transportation and shipping as well as insurance of the experiment. Funding to cover these costs must be obtained by the selected team, through private means or through national or international institutions. Applicants and their respective entities are therefore strongly encouraged to find additional sources of sponsorship.



Q: How do you submit the application?

17. Application to the programme

The fully completed application documents of the letter of endorsement from the head of the entity (Document 1) and HyperGES Mission Application (Document 2) must be submitted to OOSA by 28 February 2022 23:59 CET by email to the following address:

unoosa-access-to-space@un.org

In the email, applying entities are requested to attach scanned copies of the Document 1 and the cover page of Document 2 as pdf-file (.pdf) and the entire document of the Document 2 in pdf. Please note that the OOSA email account only accepts emails with a size limit of up to 10 M bytes. Submission of all necessary documents (Document 1 and Document 2) is mandatory.

UNOOSA and ESA will then proceed to evaluate each submission. At UNOOSA's, or ESA's sole discretion, additional information may be requested from applicants, if necessary, to assist in the evaluation of an application. Selected applicants will then be notified with the results of the selection process. All awards are final and made at the sole discretion of UNOOSA and ESA not subject to challenge or review and, are contingent on the successful applicant's agreement to the terms and conditions of the donation agreement of UNOOSA and ESA.

18. United Nations Privileges and Immunities

Nothing in or relating to this Announcement of Opportunity shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs.

Thank you!

unoosa-access-to-space@un.org

