

# Open call for obs4MIPs Steering Panel members

**Application deadline: 23:59 UTC 25 July 2025**

The Earth System Modelling and Observations ([ESMO](#)) Working Group on Observations for Researching Climate ([WGORC](#)) is seeking applications from enthusiastic individuals with a background in observations and/or climate modelling to join the obs4MIPs Steering Panel.

## Scope

Since the inception of [obs4MIPs](#), delivery of large-to-global-scale [CMIP](#)-aligned gridded products has been the priority. CMIP related research is increasingly focused on regional scale, requiring higher resolution observational data, and in-situ station reference data products. This is an exciting time to join the Steering Panel as obs4MIPs expands to meet these evolving user requirements. There are three types of membership positions included in this call:

- Co-chair (1 position)
- Member – domain expertise in geospatial, high resolution and regional datasets (up to 5)
- Member – reference dataset preparation e.g. json files, coding, Github repositories (up to 5)

We are particularly interested in candidates that have skills and interests to contribute at a technical level to deliver obs4MIPs datasets. These can include dataset proposal reviews for the science orientated members and for technical members, support for dataset preparation as per the guidelines in [ODS2.5](#) (currently being updated to ODS2.6).

We welcome applicants with expertise in land surface, oceans, sea ice, impacts and adaptation and Earth System. [Technical](#) understanding of in-situ observations, preparing data for model evaluation (e.g. using [CMOR](#) or development of CMOR-like tools such as [ESMValTool](#)) and understanding of observational data and associated uncertainties are particularly welcome.

## Responsibilities of obs4MIPs Steering Panel members

- [C](#)ontribute to meetings, guiding progress in the delivery of obs4MIPs
- Report on areas of responsibility and adopt actions as needed.
- Work with other Panel members to develop presentations and publications as relevant.
- Be available ~~t~~to respond to requests for support from Panel co-chairs.
- Promote the work of the obs4MIPs within their own networks and wider community.
- Commit to embracing diversity, demanding equality, and building capacity for the future within obs4MIPs, in line with WCRP principles.
- Members are expected to conduct themselves according to the [WCRP Code of Conduct](#).

## Purpose and objectives of the obs4MIPs Steering Panel

The goal of the obs4MIPs Steering Panel is to enable the research community to more effectively use observational products to support/facilitate Earth System Model (ESM) evaluation, research and development. **Full details of the objectives and tasks of the Panel can be found [here](#)**

## Eligibility Criteria

To supplement the expertise of current Panel members, applicants should have a minimum of one or more of:

- Post-graduate qualification in climate modelling / climate model analysis
- Post-graduate qualification in observational data collection and preparation
- Experience of working with data published to the [Earth System Grid Federation](#)

Applicants should be willing and able to participate in dataset preparation. In addition, Panel members **must**:

1. Be employed by an organisation or institution.
2. Not previously served as a WCRP activity panel member in the past six years.
3. Not be a current voting member of any working group or panel under ESMO e.g., WGCM (Task Teams and ex-officio positions excluded).

## Time commitment

There are meetings every two weeks for dataset proposal review and quarterly for all other Steering Panel related matters. Panel members are expected to commit appropriate time to this activity with a minimum commitment of 5% FTE. Most meetings will be online, with some out-of-hours working required to meet the challenges of time zone coordination. All appointments to this Steering Panel will be a term of four-years with up to two, two-year extensions possible.

## Selection process and criteria

All open calls for obs4MIPs Panel members will follow a four-stage selection process:

1. Blind review of applications to generate a shortlist, which will then be reviewed in line with WCRP principles. Please adhere to guidance provided on the application form e.g., removing photographs, any personal details and publication list from your Curriculum Vitae.
2. A full review of the shortlisted candidates application will be considered at this stage. The obs4MIPs Panel co-chairs will use the selection panel to produce a final, prioritised shortlist.
3. For co-chair positions only, candidates will be asked to supply contact details for a supervisor/line manager who can confirm their support for the application.
4. Prioritised shortlist submitted as a recommendation to the WGCM for final approval.

Selection procedures align with the relevant clauses (14–19) in the obs4MIPs Panel [Terms of Reference](#). All selection panel members will be asked to identify if they have any conflicts of interest

with regard to the shortlist of candidates. They can still assess all shortlisted candidates, but their scoring and views can be disregarded by the selection process for the final prioritised shortlist.

## Remuneration

obs4MIPs Panel members **are not paid**. Financial support to travel and participate in person to relevant meeting may be available on a case-by-case basis.

## How to apply

Please read the Terms of Reference and complete the [application form](#). You will be asked to identify three of the Steering Panel objectives where you can contribute.

The deadline for applications/nominations is **23:59 UTC, 25 July 2025**.

## Contact information

Please contact the CMIP-IPO ([cmip-ipo@esa.int](mailto:cmip-ipo@esa.int)) if you have any questions or require further information.