The “European Space Agency” (ESA) LearnEO! Project (www.learn eo.org) is organizing an “Earth Observation” (EO) educational lesson writing competition.

The LearnEO! Competition aim is to use Earth observation (EO) data (from multiple satellite sensors with a primary, but not exclusive, focus on ESA missions), and other supporting data (e.g. in-situ and model results) to generate exciting, engaging and informative lessons that teach students how earth observation works and how to make the most of earth observation data. The objective of the competition is to:

- Develop new educational material to train the new generation Scientists,
- Foster the use of Earth Observation (EO) data, with main focus on ESA missions, for science and application across disciplines and regions,
- Encourage scientists to share their own data – including Earth Observation (EO), in-situ, model - and expertise through the development of community based lessons,

Article 1: Theme of the competition

Participants from all over the world are invited to take part in the LearnEO competition to develop lessons on the use of Earth observation (EO) space techniques.

The themes of the lessons must be chosen within Earth Science in the broadest sense (e.g. oceanography, geodesy, biology, atmospheric and cryospheric sciences). Lessons can focus on topics ranging from remote sensing application to illustration of processes.

Article 2: Prizes and publication

The prize for the best lesson is €5000. A second prize of €3000 and a third prize of €2000 will also be awarded.

Representatives of the winner Lessons will be invited to the award ceremony associated with an international event in September or October 2014. The date of the award ceremony will be notified to the winners.

The winning Lessons and a selection of lessons submitted for the Competition and deemed appropriate for publication by the competition jury will be published, with due credits to their author(s), on the LearnEO! web site.

Article 3: Participation requirements

In order to participate in the competition, at least the first author must be 18 years old as of 1st January 2014.
Participants can apply either individually or as a team (hereinafter individually or collectively as “Author”). In the latter case, the team will designate a legal representative (first author) to receive the prize on their behalf. To participate, the first author must register and submit a brief lesson outline on-line at www.learn-eo.org/compreg.php, providing name and contact details, as well as names and affiliations (where applicable) of any co-authors. The list of authors may be changed at any stage until submission, but if the first author changes, a new registration will be necessary. On successful registration the first author will be issued with a competition ID and password, which must be used by the author(s) to enter and edit the lesson outline on line, to ask questions regarding the competition or the Bilko software, access the answers to the questions asked by all registered participant, and to submit the full lesson. The user ID and password will also give access to an upload area for the full lesson, data and other resources, which will be kept separate from other competitors and will be accessible only to the authors and the LearnEO! team responsible for the competition, until such time as the lesson is formally published after approval by the jury and the lesson authors. Authors wishing to submit several lessons will have to register for each lesson.

Lessons submitted by partners in the LearnEO! consortium, members of the competition Jury, ESA employees involved in LearnEO! and their families are ineligible to participate in the competition.

**Article 4: Submission Process**

Lessons should be submitted on line in electronic format, using the unique ID and upload facility made available to the author on registration. Guidelines on the format, content and type of lessons are provided on www.learn-eo.org/competition.php

All lesson documents, data sets and tools must be placed in a single folder, and submitted in zip format with the filename provided to the author by the submission system, before upload via the submission system.

Participants will be able to ask questions on aspects of the Bilko software, lesson formats, and any other aspect of the competition that is not directly related to the scientific content of their lesson, using the facility provided on the web site for this purpose. All questions and answers will be made available to all registered users on this same web site.

If necessary, e.g. due to slow or intermittent Internet connections, material may be submitted on DVD. In this case Participants must contact the LearnEO! project office by e-mail at competition@learn-eo.org at least two weeks before submission deadline, in order to justify their request. Participants submitting by DVD must provide evidence that the DVD was posted before the submission deadline, and are responsible for checking that the DVD has been received.

**Article 5: Eligibility and pre-selection**

Eligible projects will be pre-selected by the Project team.

Lessons will be considered eligible if and only if:

1. the lesson is submitted within the deadline
2. the first author (at least) is over 18 on 1 January 2014
3. the lesson is submitted in English

The pre-selection will also check submitted lessons against the following criteria:

4. The lesson complies with the LearnEO! lesson format
5. The Bilk software is used for hands-on activities.
6. The lesson is complete and self-contained, i.e. all necessary information and data must be provided with the lesson
7. The lesson includes Earth observation data from one or more of the ESA mission, either uniquely or in combination with data from other sources
8. The author(s) agree to publication under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported Licence (see http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).
9. The lesson has not been previously published in lesson form elsewhere
10. The lesson contains only material that is either original or appropriately credited and referenced and compatible with the Creative Commons licence.

The number of submissions per participant is not limited.

**Article 6: Selection of the winning lessons**

The winners will be selected among the eligible lessons by a jury composed of ESA employees and a Peer Review Board made of professional in geosciences. Winning lessons will be selected based on the following criteria:

1. Scientific quality of the lesson
2. Scientific value of the lessons in meeting the objectives of the competition,
3. Clarity of the lessons, including learning objectives, activity instructions, background material and model answers,
4. Suitability and pedagogical standard for the stated target audience and level of expertise (i.e. beginner, intermediate, advanced user)
5. Appropriate use of synergy between satellite sensors or between satellite and other data
6. Innovative content, approaches and topics
7. Overall quality

The decision of the jury is final. The jury will reject any Lesson that does not comply with the requirements of the competition (article 1, article 3, article 4, article 5)

**Article 7: Calendar**

Deadline for submission of Lessons: January 31st, 2014

Selection of the winners: June 30th, 2014

Award ceremony: September or October 2014

LearnEO! project reserves the right to change the above calendar without indemnity or right of review of any kind. Any modification to the above calendar will be notified on the LearnEO! website.

**Article 8: Ownerships of the Lessons**

The legal ownership of the Lessons shall - remain with the Author of the Lesson. In case of lessons developed by teams, the team's participants will jointly own the Lessons.

The right to use the Lessons shall be governed by the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported Licence (see http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/). The
Authors shall only use material compatible with the terms and conditions of this licence. The responsibility of making sure this is the case rests solely with the applicant.

The winning lessons and any other lesson accepted for evaluation and considered appropriate for publication by the LearnEO! Competition Project team and jury will be published on the LearnEO! web site.

The Author(s) by participating in the LearnEO competition grants ESA a free, irrevocable, worldwide licence to publish, translate, disseminate on the LearnEO website and/or ESA portal and/or any other supporting medium the lessons created and submitted to the LearnEO! Competition. In such case the publication by ESA will mention the author's copyright and refer to the Creative Commons licence.

The European Space Agency reserves the right to use the contributed material for presentation and media use and to reproduce it for the promotional purposes of the LearnEO project.

By submitting a lesson that the Participant confirms it has read and accepted all articles of the terms and conditions of the competition.

Article 9: Responsibility

The LearnEO! project shall not be held responsible for the cancellation, postponement or modification of the competition due to unforeseen circumstances. nor will they be responsible for any theft, loss, delay or damage to submitted material, whether online or by DVD. Authors must keep a copy of their submission, and are responsible for checking that their material has been accepted by the submission system, so that it can be downloaded by the jury using the appropriate password. Any problems with a submitted lesson must be communicated to the LearnEO! Competition Project team within 1 week of the submission by e-mail at competition@learn-eo.org.

Article 10: Governing jurisdiction and governing law

The Participants agree that the courts of Paris are the most appropriate and convenient courts to settle any dispute arising from or connected to this competition.

The LearnEO! competition is governed by the laws of France.

Article 11: Acceptance of the Competition Terms and Conditions

By submitting a Lesson that the Participant confirms it has read and accepted all articles of the terms and conditions of the competition.