



Our World From Space Phase 2

A National Science Engagement Programme

Invitation to Participate

Deadline for Applications 30th September 2025



Association for
**Science and
Discovery Centres**



A programme run by ASDC and funded by [UK Space Agency](#)

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Introduction

ASDC is launching the second phase of *Our World from Space*, a national STEM programme exploring and sharing the relevance of UK space science for the future health and sustainability of our home planet. The first phase of the project ran from April 2023-March 2025, with the aim to leverage learning and connections from ASDC's wider suite of national STEM programmes to celebrate, engage and inspire audiences with UK Earth observation science, innovation and skills. To date, the programme has had a significant national reach, engaging with over 263,847 individual participants across the UK. From schools in the Outer Hebrides to community groups in coastal towns of Devon, *Our World From Space* nurtured a new understanding of space science's role in our everyday lives and for the future health and sustainability of our planet.

Out of 263,847 participants so far, 71% were families and members of the public, while only 2% came from community groups. In this next phase, we invite you and your delivery partners to strengthen connections with regional communities, especially reaching marginalised audiences traditionally underrepresented in STEM and the space industry and research¹. From October 2025 to February 2026, this short but powerful grant programme will bring together the expertise of the *Our World From Space* cohort and others, to continue delivering and evaluating these high-quality space engagement activities and their impact for UK communities.

ASDC invites up to 15 members from across the full network to engage audiences with the theme of *Our World from Space*. You are encouraged to select your own range of approaches to delivery, leaning into your place-based knowledge and partnerships for how to best engage with those target audiences.

Grant programme Vision:

To inspire and empower a society that embraces the value and relevance of space science for everyday life and the sustainable future of our planet.

Grant programme Mission:

To build upon the content themes, approaches and learning from *Our World From Space*, reaching diverse audiences across the UK by leveraging the ASDC network to engage and inspire young people, their families and key influencers with cutting-edge UK space science.

¹ There are evidenced gender inequalities within the space sector workforce. Race and ethnic inequalities persist, alongside underrepresentation from people with disabilities and people from lower socio-economic backgrounds.

From global themes down to hyper-local case studies, successful grantees will use awe, wonder and inspiration, alongside immediate relevance, to increase audiences' understanding, engagement and sense of ownership in relation to space science.

Successful programmes will specifically challenge perceptions of space science being “not for me” and will focus on the impact and relevance that space science has for daily life, as well as for the most pressing challenges our society and world face today.

ASDC will provide participating centres with resources and activity ideas shared through a digital handbook. The handbook covers all the key topic areas for delivery and brings together relevant resources collated together in one place.

Scope: *Our World From Space* will be delivered by up to 15 ASDC members from across the full network.

Timeframe: October 2025 - March 2026, with the delivery period taking place from end of October 2025 and wrapping up by the end of February 2026.

Funding: The programme is funded by the UK Space Agency and is part of their Space to Inspire programme. Phase 1 was also co-funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, part of UKRI.

Is your organisation eligible to apply?

Organisations will be eligible to apply for funding if:

- They are a member of ASDC and will remain a member for the duration of the programme (valid membership until March 2026)
- They have been in existence for at least one year
- They can commit to the targets outlined in this document
- Participation in *Our World From Space* phase 1 is desirable but not a requirement if you feel the themes and goals fit well for your organisation
- This programme is not open to ASDC Associate Members

Programme key goals

1. To leverage the resources and community partnerships of ASDC and the ASDC network for a national programme of community engagement with UK space science.
2. To provide 9000 interaction hours across the UK where school-aged children, their families, community leaders, teachers and/or key influencers are engaged, inspired and involved in UK space science.

3. To promote knowledge and understanding of the value of space for the future sustainability of planet Earth.
4. To effectively support science capital with a personalised and localised approach that promotes the relevance of UK space science everyday life.

Key target audiences

- School-aged children and young people (with a target age of 7-14) from diverse backgrounds, including those traditionally underrepresented in the space industry, or as defined by regional audience understanding from participating centres and museums.
- The key influencers of school-aged children, such as parents/grandparents/families, carers, peers, youth and community leaders and teachers.

Key content areas for *Our World From Space* Phase 2

The overarching theme of this programme showcases the value of space science for the sustainable future of planet Earth. It includes the content and resources within the *Our World From Space* handbook of information and activities, which cover 'Space for Earth' in the following key areas:

- Climate
- Atmosphere
- Oceans
- Biodiversity

We expect content areas to include Earth Observation, experimentation on board the ISS that links to future sustainability for Earth, Satellite data applications, relevant international missions (e.g. Biomass), and UK space expertise/careers that contribute to the understanding of environmental sustainability.

Areas of wider UK space science can provide additional content for engagement activities, for example, UK Spaceports and launch, space-debris removal, and robotic and human exploration of Mars and the Moon.

To highlight the relevance of space science to daily life, a strong proposal will consider a 'from global to local' narrative, including how the unique characteristics of a particular region, community partnership, or interests of a group might influence these content areas to ensure the areas explored are meaningful for participants.

The ASDC Project Team

This programme will be directed, and project managed by the Association for Science and Discovery Centres. Please see below the members of the team running this programme and their roles.

Cait Campbell	Project Director	cait.campbell@sciencecentres.org.uk
Vicky Hull	Project Manager	vicky.hull@sciencecentres.org.uk
Rachael Tapping	Head of Communications	rachael.tapping@sciencecentres.org.uk

What is on offer for participating Science and Discovery Centres and Museums

The programme will offer selected organisations the following:

1. A £9,000 grant to assist with delivery at each centre, which may be spent on staff time and other delivery costs.
2. An additional £1,000 grant to purchase new equipment most relevant for their methods of engagement and the themes of the programme*. An equipment list will be provided along with the *Our World From Space* digital handbook. This includes a chapter on each of the Key Content Areas: Earth observation, Climate, Biodiversity, Clean Air, Land, Oceans, Biodiversity, and Satellite Technology and Applications.
3. Branding and guidelines for delivery of *Our World From Space*.
4. Ongoing support, to help and assist with equipment, materials, collaborations, programming and evaluation should it be needed.
5. A developed and replicable evaluation programme that produces an academically robust evaluation report delivered at the end of the project period. The external evaluator will be working closely with each organisation to design a bespoke evaluation process. Evaluation support meetings will be offered to all grantees.
6. Two Community in Practice meetings, open to the wider STEM public engagement sector and space sector across the UK.

The Grants

The grants of £9,000 may be used to contribute to staff time, science expertise (in-house and external), for scientist or developer involvement, photography, software, hardware, or other costs your organisation needs to make a great success of this project.

An additional £1,000 is available to purchase new pieces of kit to engage your community groups with your chosen content.

The grant claims are on the following dates:

Stage	Date to invoice ASDC for Grant	Conditions	Grant amount
Grant payment 1	October 2025	Paid after signature of the grant agreement	£6,000
Equipment Grant	October to December 2025	To apply for at the end of your development stage once you have decided what kit is required/desired.	£1,000
Grant payment 2	March 2026	On completion of your project, submission of your evaluation data and submission of your final report at the end of February 2025.	£3,000

Note: this is a grant. If your organisation feels VAT needs to be charged, then it must be within the total amount claimed.

Commitments of selected organisations

The selected organisations will need to commit to the following:

1. To reach children and young people aged 7 – 14 from diverse backgrounds, including those traditionally underrepresented in the space industry, or as defined by regional audience understanding.
2. To achieve a total of 600 interaction hours.*
3. To ensure that the activities are delivered focusing on the vision, mission, key goals and key audiences.
4. To inspire audiences who may not ordinarily engage with STEM, to enjoy, contribute to, question and critically think about STEM, making the link between STEM and their everyday lives and interests.
5. To collect the specified metrics data throughout the delivery period and include in your final report.
6. To submit an interim and a final report on the dates given and to share information with ASDC for the purposes of reporting in a timely manner.
7. To submit all required evaluation, on the dates given. The format will be light touch along the lines of other ASDC national STEM programmes to create a multicentre dataset. Attend an exit interview with the evaluator and ASDC project manager.

8. To provide a minimum of 3 decent photographs of delivery such as during workshops, events, school visits, and confirm permissions to be able to use these photos for reports and ASDC websites.
9. To market the family shows and all *Our World From Space* activities and materials in accordance with the guidelines using the correct logos and branding.

Evaluation

Building on learning and experience in the first phase of *Our World From Space*, the evaluation will focus on enhancing participant data collection and feedback. Delivery partners will be asked to capture the below which aligns with the first phase of *Our World From Space*:

- Metrics e.g., numbers, gender %, IMD data,
- Description of activity e.g., workshops, venue, dwell time
- Perceived relevance of content to everyday life
- Value of UK space science and careers for the future sustainability of planet Earth

Delivery partners will be asked to submit an interim report at the beginning of January 2026 and then a final report at the end of February 2026.

The two interim reports will be 'light-touch' and include:

- Metrics sheets (number of interactions, participants, demographics of audience engaged).
- Updates on types of engagement (e.g. development meetings, methods of engagement with youth panels, events taking place with wider communities).
- Summary of professional reflections (utilising journal tools provided for practitioners) to capture the development of the programme, learnings, changes and unexpected outcomes.
- Photos with relevant permissions to be used on ASDC website, social media and in the final report.

Survey evaluation tools will be provided, but a responsive and flexible approach will be offered, to ensure the evaluation questions can be delivered through instruments and approaches that are most appropriate for you and your audiences, while still meeting the national programme key goals. 1-2-1 evaluation support meetings will ensure the evaluation is equitable and un-intrusive for community groups, to avoid taking away from their experiences with space science.

*** Interaction Hours**

UK Space Agency now require all their programmes to report on Interaction Hours, interaction hours are calculated by multiplying the number of participants by the dwell time

in hours of the engagement. For example, the interaction amount of a 30-minute workshop for 30 school kids would be $30 \times 0.5 = 15$ interaction hours. We will be asking you to include these calculations in the metrics table and report on them on a quarterly basis.

There is flexibility on using approximations for the dwell time as this can be difficult to record in the moment especially when at an event. Please contact the ASDC project manager if you have any question on this.

Project Delivery Schedule and Key Dates

2025	
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project announcement and Invitation to Participate issued Development of proposal ideas with science centres and youth/community partner taking place Optional phone calls with the project manager to support development of your proposal Proposal application deadline 30th September 2025
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review panel and successful proposals selected All successful and unsuccessful projects notified Contract signature and issuing of first grant upon receiving the signed contract Evaluation support meetings held and evaluation plans complete and in place Delivery of <i>Our World From Space</i> Phase 2 begins
October to December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunity to apply for Equipment grants for new or refreshed kit Optional training induction meeting for new delivery partners
December 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project partners to attend a check-in meeting with Project Manager Community in Practice meeting 1 – UK Space Science Expert guest speakers to discuss key updates in UK Space sector. Held online and open to all members and wider space sector
2026	
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of <i>Our World From Space</i> continues Interim reporting due by 9th January 2026. To include metrics, staff reflections and delivery photos
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community in Practice meeting 2- UK Space Science Mini grants available for space themed activities Delivery of <i>Our World From Space</i> Phase 2 finishes Final participation data collated, final reports due, delivery photos, case studies and video assets collated Final grants issued to participating organisations

March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation data analysed and final report written by ASDC and submitted to UK Space Agency • Final project celebration disseminated through ASDC digital channels and wider networks.

Application Process

We have funding available for a maximum of 15 organisations. The participating organisations will be selected through a competitive process. Organisations wishing to apply should fill in the accompanying application form. We will not be holding a Bidders' Q&A, therefore, if you have any questions about the information shared here or the application form please contact the Project Manager Vicky Hull Vicky.hull@sciencecentres.org.uk

How to apply

- Complete the *Our World From Space* Phase 2 Application Form.
- Please send this to us as a word document.
- Please save your application form in the following format: 'OWFS Phase 2 Application [name of your centre].
- Please email your application to admin@sciencecentres.org.uk and ensure you get an email response saying your application has been received (re-send or call us if you do not).
- If you need an extension, please contact the Project Manager, Vicky Hull at least 48 hours in advance of the deadline.
- If you are unsure whether to apply or have any questions, please contact Vicky Hull vicky.hull@sciencecentres.org.uk

Deadline for Applications: Tuesday 30th September 5.00pm

Our commitment to you

At ASDC we promise to practise the following principals in the ongoing communication, monitoring and administration of these grants and aim to be transparent at every stage:

Equity: We are open to challenges of the structures we have in place that may contribute to these opportunities being less equitable across our sector. We commit to addressing all those within our power and remain transparent on decision-making processes, including who received funding and under what conditions these decisions were made.

Humility: We do not presume to know the best methods or approaches to address these grant criteria within your context and will openly challenge explicit and implicit power-dynamics emerging from these presumptions within our funding partnership.

Evidence: Where it is within our power, ASDC commits to using evidence to inform and justify all decisions on funding criteria and will value evidence-informed, professional proposals.

Service: Through listening to the sector, we aim to ensure that grant seekers are being provided for with this fund and, wherever possible, the grant proposal processes we have in place support the needs of the grant seekers above the needs of the funders.

Diligence: We encourage open and honest feedback on our process, are willing to listen, consider timelines, provide 1-2-1 support and will work to the best of our ability to allow for grant seekers to make the best of this grant opportunity.